



## Kiss Me, Kill Me and Other True Cases

*Ann Rule*

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The dark side of love is no fairy tale....

And while we may like to believe that crimes of the heart only victimize those who aren't careful, this page-turning collection of must-read accounts will convince you otherwise. America's #1 true-crime writer, Ann Rule reveals how lovers become predators, how sex and lust can push ordinary people to desperate acts, and how investigators and forensics experts work to unravel the most entangled crimes of passion. Extracting behind-the-scenes details, Rule makes these volatile relationships utterly real, and masterfully re-creates the ill-fated chains of events in such cases as the ex-Marine and martial arts master who seduced vulnerable women and then destroyed their lives...the killer whose calling card was a single bloodred rose...the faithless wife who manipulated and murdered without conscience...the blind date that set the stage for a killer's brutality...and more. In every case, the victim -- young and innocent or older and experienced -- unknowingly trusted a stranger with the sociopathic skill to hide their dark motives, until it was too late to escape a web of deadly lies, fatal promises, and homicidal possession.

## **Kiss Me, Kill Me and Other True Cases Details**

Date : Published December 1st 2004 by Pocket Star (first published November 30th 2004)

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Author : Ann Rule

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## **From Reader Review Kiss Me, Kill Me and Other True Cases for online ebook**

### **Lorna says**

Interesting and fairly creepy. I'm amazed by the number of men who violently murdered their wives/girlfriends/etc., got out of jail 10-15 years later, and then got married again. WHO WOULD MARRY A MURDERER????!

The book mainly focused on the Pacific Northwest. I wish there had been more geographical diversity, although I understand that these are the cases Rule followed because that's where she's from. The serial killer from LA in the 1950's, Harvey Glatman, was really fascinating (and disturbing).

I would pick up another book by Rule.

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### **Kim says**

It was not my favorite book of her's, although I am a huge Ann Rule fan. I really felt like her age was showing, as she seems to use this book more to pay homage to good cops she has known, than to tell a cohesive story. There was a general "theme", at least to the main story: dna has made it possible to solve cold cases. Problem is, this isn't new news, and it wasn't made very interesting by Rule. And, Rule failed to discuss the huge range in sentences given to the offenders- from months on probation, to hundreds of years in jail, for similar crimes. I was left confused by the whole collection.

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### **Linda Sliz says**

Ok...going down a somewhat dark path these days. I liked the book...it reminds one to trust your gut and do not be afraid to say "No". Also you don't always have to be nice, especially if you feel the situation is wrong. The Author reminds women that they need to trust their instincts. It's a fine line from being self aware to paranoid...but in some cases it's better to be on the side of paranoia. Sad but true.

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### **Sheila Smith says**

I really enjoyed this collection of shorter true crime stories. I always feel like Ann Rule manages to write stories both interesting and informative without getting too fantastical or too clinical. She puts a bit of herself in there, which I also enjoy. A good collection of shorter true crime stories for those interested in that sort of thing.

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### **Katherine Addison says**

\*"Kiss Me, Kill Me": this is a wide ranging piece, more of an essay about cold cases than Rule's usual detailed examination of a single crime. She starts and ends with Sandra Bowman, who was brutally murdered in her own apartment just before Christmas 1968, and whose murderer wasn't identified until 2004. Along the way she examines the 1966 murder of Lonnie Trumbull (who Rule is convinced was murdered by Ted Bundy, although so far as I know there's only circumstantial evidence against him); Mary Annabelle Bjornson and Lynne Tuski (1969), murdered by John Canaday (who shares his name, ironically, with an art critic who wrote several crime novels); Eileen Condit (1970); Heidi Peterson (1974); Katherine Merry Devine (1973)--who Rule *also* thought had been killed by Bundy, but in 2002 DNA proved her killer was William E. Cosden, Jr., who was then already serving time for a 1976 rape (and had been found not guilty by reason of insanity in *another* rape/murder case in 1967); Hallie Ann Seaman (1975); Sylvia Durante (1979), murdered by William Bergen Greene, who claimed not guilty by reason of Disassociative Identity Disorder, although the evidence strongly suggests that he was a psychopath who happened to be a very talented actor--that was the jury's conclusion, anyway; Kristen Sumstad (1982), a thirteen-year-old raped and murdered by a fourteen-year-old, John Athan, who was convicted in 2004 because the police were able to get a saliva sample from a licked stamp; Mia Zapata (1993), murdered by Jesus Mezquia; and finally circles back to Sandy Bowman, who was murdered--DNA showed in 2004--by John Canaday. This is an excellent essay, maybe the best of Rule's shorter pieces that I've read.

\*"The Postman Only Killed Once": Walla Walla WA [she doesn't give a year and I can't find the case online]: man murders his 16 year old wife with a--fortunately poorly-thought-out and unconsummated--plan to stage more murders to make it look like there was a serial killer at work. He also made--poorly-thought-out and unconsummated--plans to bomb the lead detective's house when he realized police were getting close.

\*"What's Love Got to Do with It?": Seattle WA 1969: Audrey Ruud and Patrick Fullen lured Karsten Knutsen to their apartment, where they robbed and murdered him, then fled from Seattle to Sanibel Island, where they were caught. Fullen died in prison; Ruud was released after 22 years,

\*"Old Flames Can Burn": Seattle WA 1968: man strangles one of his female friends and almost stabs another to death because . . . ?

\*"The Lonely Hearts Killer": Los Angeles CA 1957: This essay is at least half a homage to Pierce Brooks, the detective who first put together the idea of a serial killer--a killer who targets strangers who (mostly) fit a certain profile. Brooks' archetype was Harvey Glatman, who posed as a photographer for true crime magazines in order to get his victims to willingly submit to being tied up. *And he took pictures.* Shirley Bridgeford, Judy Ann Dull, Ruth Mercado, and very nearly Lorraine Vigil are his known victims. (Dorothy Gay Howard, the Jane Doe of Someone's Daughter, may be another Glatman victim; she wasn't identified until 2009, five years after *Kiss Me, Kill Me* was published.)

\*"The Captive Bride": Seattle WA 1978: twenty-year-old woman murdered (shot nine times in the back) by the crazy abusive stalker husband she was trying to divorce; he served fourteen years, was paroled, and--hey--got married again, despite having insisted to the woman he murdered that he literally couldn't live without her. Rule ends this case with an impassioned plea to people trapped in abusive relationships to get out and get help.

\*"Bad Blind Date": Seattle 1970: Victoria Legg made a bad decision. She accepted a date with a man she didn't really know, because he looked like an ex-boyfriend whom she trusted. Turns out, her date was a guy out on the far end of the mentally disturbed spectrum--who may genuinely NOT have been able to tell right from wrong when he raped her and beat her to death. (M'Naughten is a lousy rubric for sanity, honestly.)

\*"The Highway Accident" (reprint from *A Fever in the Heart and Other True Cases*)

\*"You Kill Me---Or I'll Kill You": Silverton OR 1975: Rule is apologetic for including this case because it's both so gruesome and so grotesque. "Kent Whiteside" had a masochistic sexual fantasy about being gutted by a "naked beautiful slut." He picked a young woman (more or less at random as far as anyone can tell) and decided to force her to kill him by threatening to kill her. Problem was, as it turns out, he wasn't bluffing. He disemboweled her and a friend who had the bad luck to be sleeping on the couch. Almost unbelievably, the

friend survived. Despite pleading guilty to murder, "Kent Whiteside" was pardoned a few years later. Rule suggests that there was bribery or undue influence involved, which seems like a not unreasonable conclusion. \*'"Where Is Julie?": Bonneville WA 1987: Julie Weflen's disappearance is still unsolved.

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### **Tyler says**

Ann Rule's number one rule ; never miss a deadline, even if you have to publish your first draft while giving your editor the day off, never miss a deadline. The original title of this book while searching for a murder entendre song title that had not yet been taken was "Contractually Obligated #9". This volume in particular is rife with a distracting misuse and misunderstanding of colloquialisms and very common figures of speech, not normal for experienced writers of the English language.

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### **Alison says**

I'm really not sure which one of her books I read. I read a few in college but I had to stop because I started to get convinced that everyone's husband/boyfriend was out to kill them. These books totally terrify me.

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### **Stephan says**

I'm glad I started reading Ann Rule. With a whole series of true crime stories I am sure to always have something interesting to check out from the local library. This collection focuses on obsessed lovers, sadist sociopaths and those who felt rejected by those they wanted to be with. The clueless believe helping those in need at odd hours of the night is just "a neighborly thing to do", while those in the know will never open the door. If you're a true crime follower, and don't read Ann Rule, what are you doing with your life?

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### **Brian P says**

A collection of true crime cases with the first crime story actually spanning several cases to tell a tale of how the work of detectives has changed. There isn't a lot of cohesion between the tales and most although well written really have no substance other than a recounting of what happened

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### **Ruth Turner says**

I didn't find any of these stories particularly interesting. Lots of typos.

Dull and boring.

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### **Jessica says**

Another Awesome Book By Ann Rule. love Her Books.

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### **Danielle says**

I've read this book before. A collection of true crime short stories by Ann Rule, the queen of true crime books. It just reminds us of how evil people can be. I don't read as much as I used to, because I'm trying to have most positive things around me. These stories are about people who were "in love", when things went really wrong. Sick people.

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### **Jim says**

I know Ann Rule is popular, and I have read some of her work before, but I was disappointed in the writing. It was repetitive and, at least in the first section, maddening. It seems as if she wanted to go off on tangents. She could have tightened up the prose considerably, or have used an editor with a firmer hand. I was reading it with a lady friend who agreed, and asked that we move on to a different book.

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### **Heather says**

Fluff. It was alright. I like Ann Rule though.

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### **Mafalda Fernandes says**

Listened to the audio version of the book. This book features 10 different essays. The first one, also called "Kiss Me, Kill Me" was very complex and sometimes I felt a little lost because the author mentioned so many cases and names, and was always jumping between different facts, that it made it a little hard to completely follow the narrative (especially because I was listening to the audio format instead of reading). Almost all of these essays talk about violence against women and in some cases there is more information about the investigation, others about the trial and even others have more information about the victims or killers. I like Ann Rule's writing, and how vivid imagery she can create through her words. I wasn't expecting this book to have so many cases, maybe if I had known I would have read it in another format.

- 1) "Kiss Me, Kill Me"
- 2) "The Postman Only Killed Once"
- 3) "What's Love Got to Do with It?"
- 4) "Old Flames Can Burn"
- 5) "The Lonely Hearts Killer"
- 6) "The Captive Bride"
- 7) "Bad Blind Date"
- 8) "The Highway Accident"

9) "You Kill Me---Or I'll Kill You"

10) "Where Is Julie?"

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