



Forensic Science of CSI

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The CBS television show, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, has captured audiences - and ratings - with its unflinchingly realistic details of forensic science, tools, and technology. This fascinating new book - written by an acclaimed biographer with a master's degree in forensic psychology - goes behind the crime-solving techniques dramatized on the TV show to examine the reality of these cutting-edge procedures.

From DNA typing and ballistics, to bitemark and blood pattern analysis, here are detailed accounts of the actual techniques used in today's crime investigations. Prominent experts in the field offer rare glimpses into cases ranging from missing persons to murder.

For fans of the television show, as well as true crime buffs and science readers - this is the real thing.

"With the mind of a true investigator, Katherine Ramsland demystifies the world of forensics with authentic and vivid detail." (John Douglas)

"Fascinating...this book is a must for anyone who wonders how the real crime-solvers do it." (Michael Palmer, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Patient*.)

Author Biography: Katherine Ramsland has a master's degree in forensic psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She has published thirteen books, including biographies of Anne Rice and Dean Koontz, and has been translated into six languages. Her reference book on Anne Rice's work, *The Vampire Companion*, was a national bestseller. Next year Writer's Digest Press will publish *Mental Judgment: A Guide for Writers to Forensic Psychology*.

Forensic Science of CSI Details

Date : Published September 1st 2001 by Berkley (first published 2001)

ISBN : 9780425183595

Author : Katherine Ramsland

Format : Paperback 272 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Crime, True Crime, Science, Mystery

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From Reader Review Forensic Science of CSI for online ebook

Michelle says

A lot more detailed than I thought it would be. Even if you haven't seen the show, worth reading if you want a basic overview of forensics.

Jenna says

A little dry, though the "true cases" blurbs in bold were rather interesting. Some of the info may also be outdated by now...

Bridget Cameron says

Katherine Ramsland goes behind the scenes of some of the most brutal crime scenes recorded and debunks the rhetoric of forensic science seen in the series C.S.I (Crime Scene Investigation). She demystifies the world of forensics with vivid and authentic detail, giving the reader the true picture of what tests are done and what really happens.

Susan says

Very informative, though at this point the info is slightly out of date. A little too textbook-like for my taste, though that also means that the info is very well organized.

Beth Ramirez says

This book is by far one of my favorites in my collection. It is so informative that it pretty much answers all your questions before you even have time to ask them. If you were to take notes in a Forensics class this would be the end result.

fivethousandbooks says

although it's not a book about the tv show per se, it's a good refresher course on the basics of forensic science. some examples were also taken from the early episodes of the show.

Roberta says

I had hoped that this book was going to go into real detail about cases on the TV show. The book uses examples from early shows but there is a disclaimer on the cover that the book was not authorized or approved by anyone connected with the C.S.I. TV show. It references episodes by title which didn't really help me since I remember the cases they solved, not the name of each show.

It was still a pretty good read but if you are not interested in the TV tie-in you might prefer to go with a book like *Hidden Evidence: Forty true crimes and how forensic science helped solve them* by David Owen or *The Casebook of Forensic Detection* by Colin Evans. There is a glossary and a good list of references in the back of the book.

The author has a degree in forensic psychology from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and has published 15 books including biographies of Anne Rice and Dean Kootz. She spent a year as research assistant to former FBI profiler John Douglas when he was working on the book *The Cases That Haunt Us*. *Hidden Evidence: Forty true crimes and how forensic science helped solve them*

Kristina says

When I stole rescued *The Forensic Science of C.S.I.* by Katherine Ramsland from the "donations received" cart at the mediocre university library, my former employer, I didn't realize it was about the tv show C.S.I. I do not watch that show. I have never watched that show and have no interest in ever watching that show. While this looks like an interesting book describing the field of crime scene investigation for the intrigued layperson, I abandoned it fairly quickly for these reasons:

1. It's written for fans of the tv show C.S.I. The author frequently cites specific episodes and explains how detective so-and-so or CSI dude whosiwhatsit is practicing excellent (or not) forensic techniques.
2. The C.S.I. tv show shout-outs are very frequent.
3. I don't know these C.S.I. characters and don't give a shit how they relate to the book.
4. I'm now bored and anyway, the book was published in 2001 and is more than likely wildly out of date.

While I do find the area of forensic science very interesting, I'd rather read a book that was published more recently. However, if you are a fan of the tv show C.S.I., you may want to read this.

John says

liked the show & liked the book

Nichole says

It was informative but it wasn't anything I didn't already know. I was looking for more detail

Harvey says

- although I've never watched an episode of the T.V. Series, this well-researched book is a fascinating study of forensic science by an author who has a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology.

Kathy Petersen says

Ramsland takes the television series - one of my favorites - as a framework for talking about the actual science that solves, or attempts to solve, crimes. It's hardly profound and sometimes repetitious (well, how many different ways can you describe the contents of a scene-of-the-crime kit?) but generally interesting whether or not you're a fan of the plethora of crime shows that utilize this particular branch of detection.
