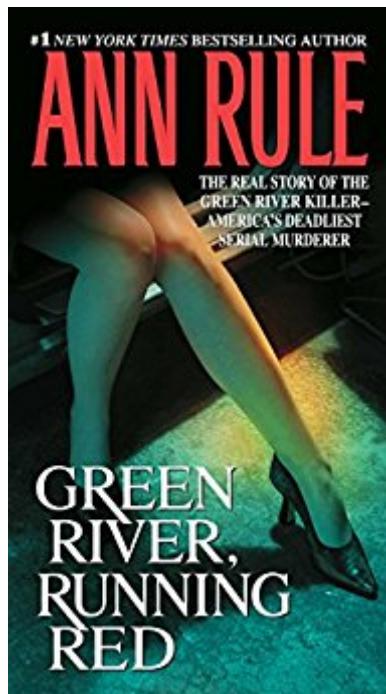


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Green River, Running Red: The Real Story Of The Green River Killer--America's Deadliest Serial Murderer



Synopsis

In the most extraordinary book Ann Rule has ever undertaken, America's master of true crime has spent more than two decades researching the story of the Green River Killer, who murdered more than forty-nine young women. The quest to discover the most prolific serial killer in American history has been an intimate part of Ann Rule's life, with some of the corpses found only a mile or so from where she lived and raised her own daughters. She did not know the killer, but he apparently knew her and attended many of her book signings. For twenty-one years, the killer carried out his self-described "career" as a killing machine, ridding the world of women he considered evil. His eerie ability to lure his victims to their deaths and hide their bodies made him far more dangerous than any infamous multiple murderer in the annals of crime. A few men -- including a law student, a truck painter, and a taxi driver -- eventually emerged as the prime suspects among an unprecedented forty thousand scrutinized by the Green River Task Force. Still, there was no physical evidence linking any of them to the murders until 2001, when investigators used a new DNA process on a saliva sample they had preserved since 1987, with stunning results. Ann Rule has followed the case since July 1982, when the first body -- that of teenager Wendy Lee Coffield -- was found in the Green River, snagged on pilings under a bridge. Rule has compiled voluminous files, working through an incredible 95,000 pages of official police records, transcripts, photographs, and maps, winnowing out the chaff and identifying what is truly important. Over the years, she gained unparalleled access to all the key players -- from King County Sheriff Dave Reichert to those close to the killer and his victims. When finally apprehended and convicted, the killer made a detailed confession -- of his twisted sexual obsessions -- that will shock even the most jaded reader. Green River, Running Red is a harrowing account of a modern monster, a killer who walked among us undetected. It is also the story of his quarry -- of who these young girls were, and who they might have become. A chilling look at the darkest side of human nature, this is the most important and most personal book of Ann Rule's long career.

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Customer Reviews

Ann Rule is the best True Crime Writer, Period. She passed away in 2015, weirdly around the same time i finished reading this novel, and i was sad to hear about her passing because she writes very powerful stuff. Best known for her book- Stranger beside Me, where she recounts the crimes and investigations of Ted Bundy, a narrative in which she appears as his friend. However, having read both, i truly believe this is the better of the pair. Now as far as the story is concerned, it alternates between the investigation, dissections of the people around the investigation, occasional forays into perspectives by the killer, and especially and most importantly, considers the lives of confirmed and potential victims. Reviewers and potential readers might be turned off by the overwhelming amount of page time devoted to the victims of the novel, but i think it's a real selling point. The victims are almost entirely prostitutes. Sex workers are a difficult population to discuss, but Ann shows great sympathy for them. She dissects exactly how Laws seeking to eliminate prostitution end up making their lives worse, creating a vulnerable population and the precise social conditions for someone like the Green River Killer to rack up so many victims and get away for 25+ years. The other reason why this is a really important part of the novel is how Ann Rule humanizes each and every single one of them, and with so many victims the book blast you with its humanity and only at the end can you really recognize the damage this one man has done. Ann seems to recognize this too. She shows an anecdote that at some point in her writing of the novel, she discarded all names and just started to number the victims. Horrified by her own dehumanization of the people, Ann then proceeds to memorize the names of every single one. It's a touching moment, and one that really drives home what i feel is the ultimate point of her novel. Often times, in true Crime Accounts of serial killers, and

in America's obsessions with them, we mythologize the Murderer, recognize only him in the swath of destruction. How many people remember Ted Bundy's name and not his first or last victim? But this novel puts the emphases on the destruction, showing us the tragedy that was lost. In the end, i was wrecked.

Hands down one of the most informative books about gary ridgway, especially his victims, his former wife, and a few of the detectives lives as well, I'm surprised she knew as much as the detectives did. She definitely knew the area well, I live along the road of 'pac highway' even work near the places where the prostitutes were picked up and take the roads ridgway and his victims took. I hadn't known any of that until I read this book and it is very creepy to know that all of that happened at the area I live. Once again, she really did put hard work into this book.

Maybe because I have read about Gary Ridgway before, but I wasn't too crazy about this book. I lost interest after about 20 victims. It seemed repetitious and sometimes going off topic. I enjoy reading true crime novels, but this one didn't interest me a whole lot.

Anne Rule is an exceptionally good writer. Her experience with law enforcement shines through her writing. It is clear she has done much research on her subject.

In this book Ann told more about the victims then the killer. I feel that because the number of girls killed was so high it was impossible to tell their individual stories in one book. This was a new writing approach for Ann, and she does deserve merit for her efforts. I read this and found myself skipping through pages as I never really connected with either the killer nor the victims. Too many unfortunate victims muddled together causing this story to not be clearly defined.

I started out reading easily and was interested. I ended up getting tired of 2-3 page summaries of the victim's lives. I think she was giving the victims a story because they're prostitutes and no one speaks for them and she gave them a voice but, when you have 50 or so victims, it gets really long.

As with all of this Author's books, "Green River, Running Red" is an excellent read. This particular book, as with other books written by this Author, delves into the dark psychological mind of a serial killer, "The Green River Killer." This book is a true account of an actual serial killer who terrorized and murdered young women in the State of Washington for well over a decade. How was the Green

River killer able to elude police capture for so long? Who were his victims and how did they so easily fall pray to this madman? Who was this killer and what did he look like? How did the Green River killer chose his victims and, most importantly, 'why' did he chose to kill them? This book provides physiological insight, and answers, to many of these questions. It goes into depth concerning the police investigations, including how and why the Green River killer was able to elude capture for so many years. It gives the reader an in-depth look at the victims themselves, putting real-live human faces to the young women who fell pray, so easily, to the killer. It also provides the reader a look into the lives of these young women and provides insight into the various reasons they chose the lifestyle of prostitution. I highly recommend this read to anyone who is interested in true-life crime stories, especially physiologists, law enforcement officers, and criminologists, who are actively evolved in the psychological study and/or apprehension of serial killers. This book will provide you insight, including 'lessons-learned' when it comes to profiling and apprehending killers such as the Green River killer. Actual photos of many of the victims, including the killer himself, are included in this book.

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