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Susan D. Mustafa, Sue Israel, Tony Clayton

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They Knew He Was Out There

He took his time. He watched his victims and chose carefully. Then he struck—each attack more brutal than the last. By the time detectives arrived, all they found were gruesome crime scenes of bloodied, brutalized bodies.

They Knew He Would Strike Again

For more than ten years in south Louisiana the killings went on. Task forces were formed. The killer even spent time in jail. But that wouldn't stop the bloodshed. One victim was stabbed with a screwdriver 83 times.

But They Couldn't Stop Him—Until Was Too Late

He was a father. A husband. A co-worker. And a killer. Derrick Todd Lee was ultimately convicted of two savage murders and tied to at least seven more. From the slender trace of DNA that finally nabbed him to the courageous prosecutors who took him down in court, this is the shocking story of a homicidal maniac hiding in plain sight—and an evil that could never be washed away.

Includes 16 pages of shocking photographs. Previously published as *I've Been Watching You*.

Blood Bath Details

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Author : Susan D. Mustafa , Sue Israel , Tony Clayton

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From Reader Review Blood Bath for online ebook

Kelly says

Well written. It flows easily, and the authors do a wonderful job at laying out the sequence of the murders. Very interesting and a good read.

Lala says

I'm very torn about the review I want to give this book. On one hand, I can't stand it. On the other, I couldn't put it down. I think I will have to accept that my feelings are a combination of the two.

I grew up in south Louisiana, just 35 minutes from Baton Rouge, during the reigns of Derrick Todd Lee, Sean Vincent Gillis, "The Jennings Killer", Jeffrey Lee Guillory, and Ronald Domingue. I don't remember much about the early years of the hunt for the serial killer who would turn out to be Derrick Todd Lee. I was only 10 at the time. I was in my senior year of high school when DTL was convicted of two of the 7+ murders he committed. I was less than a year away from starting my college career at LSU. It was a huge relief. But, unfortunately, there are some things you never forget, and the fear that crippled south Louisiana for nearly a decade did not simply disappear when he was sentenced to death.

I first came to learn of this book soon after it was published. I was home from LSU and my mom was reading it. Later, I saw my dad reading it. At the time, I said that I wanted to read it, but it was misplaced for several years and I forgot about it. I found the book a couple months ago. When DTL died last week, I decided to finally read it. I have a few personal ties to the law enforcement individuals mentioned in the book which gives the book a slightly more personal feel. I have nothing but respect for Tony Clayton having grown up down the lake from him.

Okay...enough of my rambling. My main problem with this book is that the writing is not the best. Susan Mustafa and Sue Israel were writers for a small Baton Rouge serial. I contribute this to some of my perceived failings. This is not the type of thing they were used to writing. I felt there were a few issues with the flow of things. Each chapter seemed to be more of a standalone. Also, the story of DTL, his victims, and the investigation was not told in chronological order. I felt like things jumped around. I know this was done so that each chapter could focus on one thing and then be done with it and move on, but that made reading difficult, in my opinion. By the end, I just wanted to sit down at my computer and re-work the entire book in chronological order.

With this type of thing, it is very hard to determine what really happened and how it happened, but there are some things that are indisputable. I read the chapter on Eugenie Boisfontaine and then began watching 'Killing Fields' on the Discovery Channel which is all about solving her murder. The facts in the show and the facts in the book do not line up. This makes me wonder if the research for this book wasn't as intense as it could have been, which then brings all the other chapters into question. I choose to hope that this story is as true as it can possibly be.

Pixismiler says

I only have it 3 stars because its about a serial killer. It really is a good book. I read it on the daily commute to and from the prison that I worked at where DTL is locked up. Very interesting read especially when you know the person.

Nancy Lockett says

It was really weird, extra eerie, reading this...local places, people I know....a terror I watched envelop our community.... and an investigation I followed with frustration.... I didn't totally like the writing style..too much of what they were thinking? and who really knows??? decided to finally read it after Derrick Todd Lee died...

Terri says

Derrick Todd Lee is a monster. For years he was terrorizing the women of South Louisiana. And he didn't fit the investigator's profile so he kept killing. But one man wouldn't give up until he was in jail. An excellent and horrifying read.

Rita says

This book is a very riveting story that keeps you on the edge of your seat.
A MUST READ true crime story.

Tom Mueller says

Derrick Todd Lee's rampage may have gone on for two decades. Bumbling police work likely resulted in at least two victims demise; had leads been followed, he would have been caught sooner.

Lady ♥ Belleza says

In my review of ***Dismembered*** I wrote that there were three serial killers in Baton Rouge at one time. One was Sean Vincent Gillis, another one was Derrick Todd Lee; A.K.A.: "The Baton Rouge Serial Killer"; A.K.A.: "The South Louisiana Serial Killer", the third was nicknamed the "Prostitute Killer". I don't think he was ever caught.

Sean Vincent Gillis mainly preyed on women that he thought would be missed, women that 'were already dead', at least to him. Lee targeted the woman he believed he could never get. Attractive, intelligent, accomplished, successful. He also was a black serial killer killing white women, he just went after women he

could only get by force. Then he killed them.

I wrote, rather tongue in cheek, that this book could also be titled, "How Not to Catch a Serial Killer". The task force had no experience in serial killers, and rejected suggestion from 3 people 'you should really look at this guy'. Not flighty people, two of them were experienced investigators. In the end, these investigators were not even mentioned in the press conference authorities gave after Lee was caught.

This book does not flinch in its writing, the good, the bad and the ugly. The trial coverage is extensive and detailed. But it wasn't just a rehash of what you had already read. It really conveyed all that is involved in the prosecution of a murderer.

Derrick Todd Lee was tried and convicted of two murders, but he has been linked to at least seven more. There are more murders that authorities think he was involved in. He never confessed nor offered to reveal where he disposed of bodies. There are families out there in pain, on January 21, 2016 Lee died in prison, taking his secrets to the grave.

I recommend this book to true crime fans.

Jessie Rogers says

Great read.

While reading I was kept on my toes. Growing in the small town that this book took place in, you don't think anything like this would ever happen. And then it does. I was hardly a teenager when this was going on so I didn't grasp the whole situation. But as the years pass you forget. As an adult, after reading this, I will never look out my window the same.

Rachel Aranda says

This is about one of the famous Louisiana serial killers, Derrick Todd Lee, who attacked and killed quite a few women in Louisiana. I find it amazing how this man was able to get away with murder for so many years because of the Baton Rouge Police Department focusing on white men as their main suspects. If it wasn't for a brave woman named Dianne Alexander and her son for enlightening the police on which direction to go in this man might not have ever been caught. The police were looking for a white man but Mr. Lee is black. It's very depressing and scary to think about this man still being around Louisiana or anywhere else in society. Although for "The Other Baton Rouge Killer," aka Sean Vincent Gillis, they were not wrong that it was a white serial killer out and about at the same time Lee was killing. What a scary time to be a woman living in the Baton Rouge area! I liked how this book has individual chapters for each victim as it helps the flow of the book smooth. The authors did a very well job of writing and organizing this book. Thankfully the trial went a lot faster than apprehending did.

Victoria says

Must read for non fiction lovers

The writers put the reader at the scene of the crime. After viewing the pictures of the homes of the victims they were just as visualized and eerily similar to what was portrayed.

Koren says

This is about a serial killer, Derrick Todd Lee, who killed quite a few women in Louisiana. I like how this book is laid out, with individual chapters for each victim. Very well written and organized. There is some interesting trivia here. I did skim the trial a bit but otherwise an interesting true story.

Tricia says

Pure savagery!

Kathy says

A very good true story though disturbing and scary to think serial killers are just among the regular people in life
nobody suspects them. It is amazing how long it takes for them to be caught. They blend in like ordinary people...

Katie says

I did like that they seemed devoted to expressing the story of the victims - giving them a voice that had been stolen from them. Overall, though, this book fell flat for me. I think there was a bit of a disconnect for me due to it coming from multiple authors - some chapters felt like a completely different writing style, that didn't always jive well or make sense together. It was a very simple chronological layout of events, and while it at times expressed things from the perspective of Lee, and what the killer might have been thinking as he stalked, raped and murdered these women.

Just felt like it was overly simplistic in its approach. Focus was given to the victims, and what we as society lost when we lost each and every one of them, which is definitely important, but the draw of these books, at least for me, is often the chance to take a glimpse into the mind of a killer, and to try and understand how people like that exist. Also, the vengeance and desire for retribution is sated in reading of his prosecution and successful conviction and sentencing to death row.

If you're looking for a good true crime novel, I would look for it elsewhere. Even this specific story is probably covered in as much detail somewhere else.
