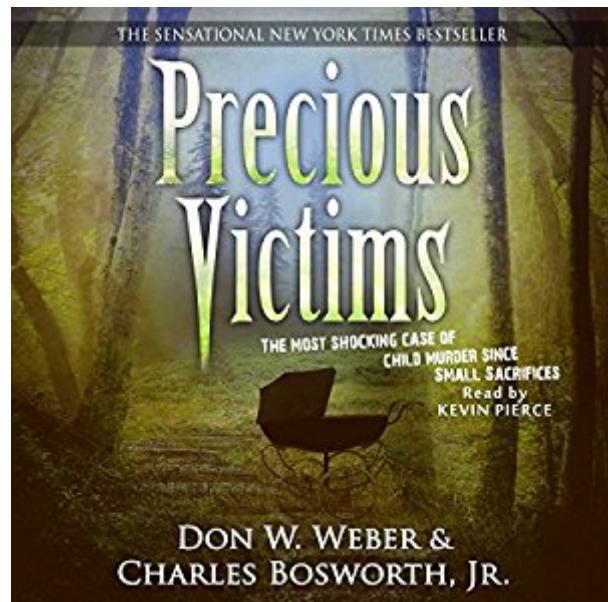


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# Precious Victims: Penguin True Crime



## Synopsis

This is a New York Times best-selling true crime book considered by many to be a classic of the genre. The police in Jersey County, Illinois, accepted Paula Sims' story of a masked kidnapper who snatched her baby girl, Lorelei, from her bassinet. Three years later, her second newborn daughter suffered an identical fate - and this time the police were unable to stop searching until they had discovered the whole horrifying truth. This is the full terrifying story of twisted sexuality and hate seething below the surface of a seemingly normal family and of the massive investigation and nerve-shattering trial that made the unthinkable a reality. Written by the lawyer who won the case and the reporter who covered its entirety, the listener is given a unique close-up of the riveting drama that unfolds, painting a dark picture of the depraved family who lived with a murderous secret.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours and 42 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Charles Bosworth and Don W. Webber

Audible.com Release Date: October 29, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B017ACXVG0

Best Sellers Rank: #47 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > True Crime #134 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > True Crime > Murder & Mayhem

## Customer Reviews

This is a good, absorbing account of the ultimately inexplicable murder of two children. It has more than a little suspense along the way, as for example when the author points out the possible chilling irony involved in the searchers' pause in front of the family refrigerator. The book is co-authored by the man who became the chief prosecutor in the case. So there is necessarily a bit of awkwardness in the juggling of pronouns and referents, especially in the later chapters, when the case is taken to court. Don Weber narrates events from his point of view, but refers to himself in the third person. He alternately becomes the prosecutor, Don, and Weber. I don't know if simply saying "I" would have been an easier, more direct approach. But

perhaps then the chronicle would have lacked the authoritative tone that its objective, reportorial style in fact gives to it. Since this account is written by a lawyer, it is naturally heavier on court room maneuvering than it is on psychological insights. But probably the latter would have been hard to come by, even in the hands of a psychologist. Paula Sims seems to have remained enigmatic and inarticulate about her motives. So instead of a look inside a killer's mind, readers are given more of a legal procedural, at least once the suspect(s) are taken into custody. This approach has a fascination of its own. It's like auditing a good class in criminal prosecution. You'll learn phrases such as *œwrit of mandamus* and the legal meaning of *œper se*. If you don't get inside Paula Sims' head so much, you do get inside the head of a good prosecutor as he prepares his case. Mostly, Don Weber provides a solid role model in this regard.

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