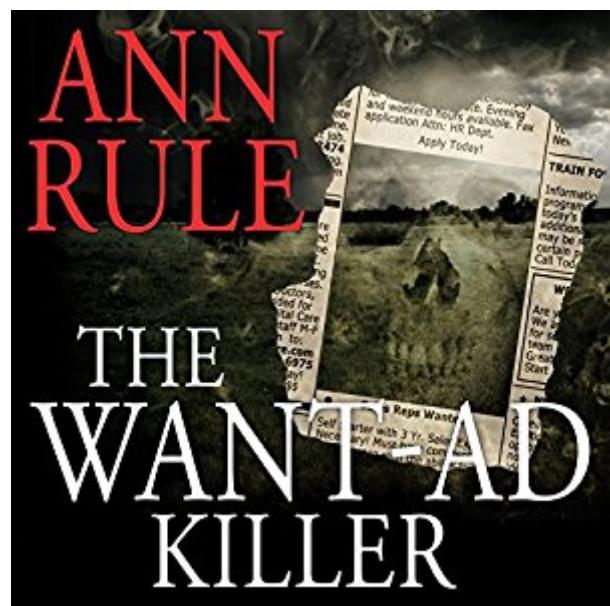


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The Want Ad Killer



Synopsis

After his first grisly crime, Harvey Louis Carignan beat a death sentence and continued to manipulate, rape, and bludgeon women to death - using want ads to lure his young female victims. And time after time, justice was thwarted by a killer whose twisted legal genius was matched only by his sick savagery. Here, complete with the testimony of women who suffered his unspeakable sexual abuses and barely escaped with their lives and of the police who at last put him behind bars, is one of the most shattering and thought-provoking true-crime stories of our time.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

Ann Rule wrote this book in 1983. My only complaint is there is no update on the case since 1983. Otherwise, the book is excellent of course, since Ann Rule is a genius at crime writing. In 1972 Laura Leslie Brock disappeared while hitchhiking in Washington state. Her body was later found. Mary Miller read the newspaper story to her 15 year old daughter because they always talked about these kind of things so the daughter would know about the world. How horrible when in 1973 the daughter read a want ad for a job and agreed to meet someone, who turned out to be involved in the Laura Leslie Brock murder! You won't be able to put this book down. And it doesn't get too involved in the court case either. Ann Rule's later books might be more well crafted but this one has genius written all over it too.

"The Want Ad Killer" represents good early Ann Rule when, for whatever reason, she wrote as Andy Stack. It is the frightening tale of Harvey Carignan, a serial killer who terrorized young women in

both the Seattle and Twin Cities during the late '70s. The all too apt title refers to a teenage girl who was abducted after answering a "planted" classified ad. "WAK" is short, concise, no nonsense true crime. It is told as a police story, with little courtroom drama or legal maneuvering. There are also none of the longer, more involved sub plots of the authoress' later stories such as "And Never Let Her Go" or "Everything She Ever Wanted", making this a good choice for readers unfamiliar with her work. For the few Ann fans that have yet to read "WAK", don't think twice. A word of warning: The Ann Rule rule is in effect. Do not look at the centerfold photos or the book's cover. Far too much is revealed therein. Keep yourself in suspense for as long as possible. Parents of teenage girls will keep their daughters locked up after reading this one. Update: A helpful fan informed me that "True Detective" magazine believed that Ann would not be taken seriously writing as a female-despite her true life experience as a Seattle cop. The Stack is a contraction of her maiden name (Stackhouse). Andy is the name of her son. The record is straight!

Harvey Carignan, the sexual psycho killer in Ann Rule's The Want-Ad Killer, is so beyond the description of horrible. He was a manipulator of girls, women, the law, and in an odd way, himself. Using a hammer to 'finish' off his victims after he sodomized them in the most demeaning, dehumanizing possible ways that one can fathom, he left his victims in isolated places -- proclaiming that he was the victim, that people were out to get him as they had always been in his life. This book sickened and saddened me, as the killer himself was a victim, a victim of being unwanted by his mother and himself a likely victim of sexual abuse. Harvey Carignan was a sly and intelligent man, who, like the innocent victims he took off the earth, could have made wonderful, positive contributions to the society at large if only his life was filled with the love and understanding that his victims received while limited with the life given to them. Ann Rule is an articulate interpreter when it comes to the mind of the hunter and the hunted. She knows her territory and is very good, I feel, at informing her readers of the kinds of sick people out there. I read Lust Killer, too, which I think is equally tragic in characters and circumstances. I am now reading The I-5 Killer. Her books are filled with psychology, law and the seamy underworld of the criminal. I recommend all her books. Thanks, Ann!

This is one of Rule's best works. I have read numerous true crime books over the years and this, by far, is one of my favorites. It amazes me how such a diabolical mind was able to stay free after so many years and so many murders. I also know someone who works for the MN Dept of Corrections who speaks with Harvey on a regular basis. This cold blooded killer is alive and enjoying his regular

meals and cable tv. He receives chemotherapy compliments of the taxpayers. Alaska would have saved so many so much if it had taken care of this man after his first murder.

My first adventure into reading true crime, certainly not my last. It seemed as though Ann must have been an eyewitness to Harvey Carnigan's life of crime. It was very well told, easy to follow, difficult to put down. Eight more Ann Rule books sitting on the shelf for me to read - and more to come.

This book, which is apparently a reissue of an earlier Ann Rule book, is just not up to her usual standard. The writing is not sophisticated in any way. I would have appreciated an update on the major characters, but there was none. Beyond that, there are other problems. It has the worst index I have seen lately of any Kindle book. I wanted to refer to the pictures from time to time but there was no easy way with this book. I was also very put off by the NUMEROUS ads for her daughter's books. Overall, I regret buying the book.

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