

True Crime Stories That Took Years To Crack True Crime Cold Cases Solved

True crime is a genre that has captivated people for decades. The fascination with these stories stems from our innate curiosity about the darker side of human nature and our desire for justice to prevail. In this article, we will delve into some true crime stories that took years to crack, highlighting the determination of investigators and the advancements in forensic technology that eventually led to the resolution of these long-standing cold cases.

1. The Zodiac Killer

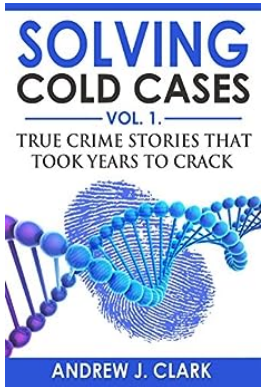
One of the most infamous unsolved cases in American history is that of the Zodiac Killer. From the late 1960s to the early 1970s, this unidentified serial killer terrorized the San Francisco Bay Area with a series of taunting letters and cryptic messages. Despite numerous suspects and extensive investigations, the killer's identity remained a mystery for years.

It wasn't until 2004 that a breakthrough occurred. Investigators managed to obtain a partial DNA profile from one of the letters, which they compared to a sample taken from a potential suspect's relative. This led them to Arthur Leigh Allen, a man who had been previously investigated but never charged. Although Allen had passed away in 1992, the DNA evidence and other circumstantial clues pointed to his involvement as the Zodiac Killer. This case serves as a testament to the perseverance of law enforcement agencies.

Solving Cold Cases: True Crime Stories that Took Years to Crack (True Crime Cold Cases Solved

Book 1) by Andrew J. Clark (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5



Language	: English
File size	: 3620 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 111 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported



2. The Golden State Killer

For more than four decades, the Golden State Killer haunted California, committing a string of burglaries, rapes, and murders. The case remained unsolved until 2018 when a breakthrough came from an unexpected source - genealogy websites. Investigators uploaded the DNA profile of the killer onto these platforms, hoping to find a familial match. Eventually, they identified a distant relative, allowing them to narrow down their search.

Through careful detective work, they zeroed in on Joseph James DeAngelo, a former police officer. In 2020, DeAngelo pleaded guilty to multiple charges and was given multiple life sentences. This groundbreaking use of DNA technology not only solved the Golden State Killer case but also sparked a newfound interest in utilizing genealogy databases to crack other cold cases.

3. The Black Dahlia

The murder of Elizabeth Short, dubbed 'The Black Dahlia,' in 1947 is one of the most iconic unsolved cases in Hollywood history. Short's body was found brutally mutilated and posed in a vacant lot, capturing the public's imagination. Despite a

widespread investigation and numerous suspects, the killer remained at large for decades.

Over the years, countless theories and speculation arose regarding the identity of the murderer, ranging from prominent individuals to serial killers. However, it wasn't until advancements in forensic technology that investigators made significant progress. In 2003, a retired detective managed to isolate DNA from an envelope sent by someone claiming to be the killer. Unfortunately, the DNA was too degraded for definitive identification.

Nevertheless, progress continued, and in 2018, using genetic genealogy, investigators identified a likely suspect - Dr. George Hodel, a prominent physician and prime suspect in the original investigation. Although the case remains officially unsolved, the use of modern DNA techniques brought a new level of certainty and narrowed down the list of potential killers.

4. The Atlanta Child Murders

Between 1979 and 1981, Atlanta was gripped by a series of child abductions and murders. The lack of progress in solving these cases led to widespread fear within the community and nationwide attention. The investigation involved thousands of law enforcement officers and resulted in the arrest and conviction of Wayne Williams for two of the murders.

However, doubts persist regarding Williams' involvement in all the cases. Some believe that the true perpetrator may never have been caught. Years later, efforts to reopen these cold cases have led to a reevaluation of evidence and potential DNA testing. The goal is to provide closure to the victims' families and determine if there are additional individuals responsible for these heinous crimes.

5. The Original Night Stalker

For years, the Original Night Stalker terrorized California, committing a series of burglaries, rapes, and murders from 1976 to 1986. The case remained unsolved until 2018 when DNA evidence finally linked Joseph James DeAngelo, also known as the Golden State Killer, to these crimes. The resolution of the Golden State Killer case shed light on the multitude of offenses committed by DeAngelo during his reign of terror under various monikers.

The Original Night Stalker case serves as a reminder of the enduring impact these cold cases have on individuals and communities. The relentless dedication of law enforcement agencies and advancements in forensic technology are crucial elements in breaking through the barriers that once seemed insurmountable.

True crime stories that take years to crack captivate us, fuel our fascination, and showcase the determination and resilience of investigators. The Zodiac Killer, the Golden State Killer, the Black Dahlia, the Atlanta Child Murders, and the Original Night Stalker cases are just a few examples of cold cases that finally reached resolution after years of investigation and technological advancements.

As our understanding of forensic science evolves and new technologies emerge, the hope for justice remains alive. These stories serve as a reminder to never give up on seeking the truth and that someday, even the most mysterious and seemingly unsolvable crimes can be solved.

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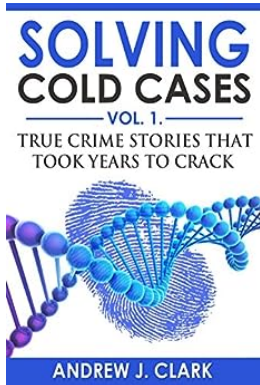
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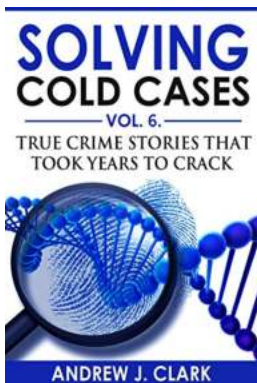
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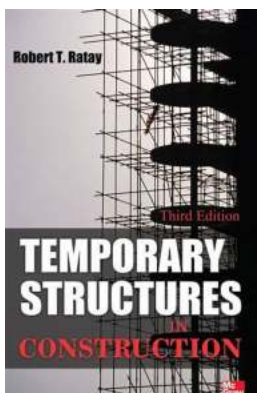
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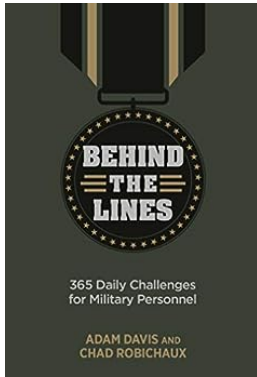
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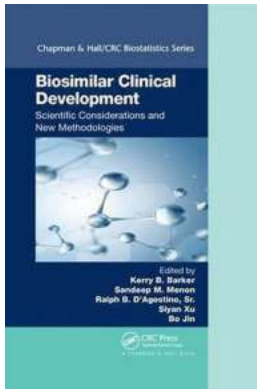
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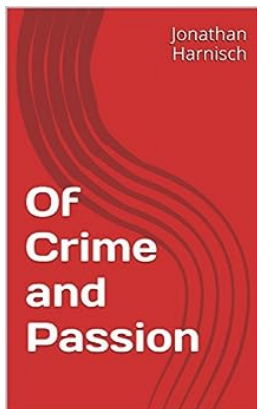
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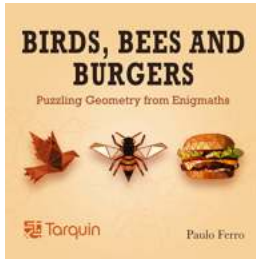
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