

The Merger: The Conglomeration of International Organized Crime

By Jeffrey Robinson

Genre : True Crime

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The Merger: The Conglomeration of International Organized Crime by Jeffrey Robinson is True Crime A shocking true account of a global network of unimaginable proportions. Amazon.com Review: When telecommunications companies merge, the news is immediately analyzed by the media and government agencies. Owners of the companies' stock immediately vote on the wisdom of the move by buying or selling. But when criminal organizations merge and make their operations global, it takes years for law enforcement to figure out what happened, who was involved, and what the implications are. Jeffrey Robinson is an authority on international crime, and *The Merger* sometimes reads like a crime novel. It seems strange to imagine that Mexican drug traffickers would be working closely with Thai postal workers; that a billion dollars a month in drug money would be laundered from Russian gangs through Greek Cypriots and then moved on to respectable financial centers such as London and New York; that Colombian drug cartels would get kerosene--an important ingredient for making cocaine--from Turkmenistan by way of Argentina; that Eastern European criminals would claim to be Jewish so they could get Israeli passports and launder money in the Holy Land. Robinson concludes with a note that international drug trafficking is growing so fast it now represents 2 percent of the world's economy. If this book doesn't keep you up at night, or at least raise some serious goose flesh, you're made of pretty stern stuff. --Lou Schuler From Publishers Weekly: It's not only the free market that is being globalized, but illegal markets as well: transnational crime expert Robinson sounds the alarm in this well-researched and genuinely chilling treatise. Veteran author Robinson (*The Laundrymen*, etc.) pursues a provocative thesis: where the general public has perceived the influence of traditional crime syndicates as waning, disparate developments - primarily the end of the Cold War and banking's growing reliance on computers - have made it possible for discrete criminal entities to merge, much like legitimate corporations do. Robinson plunges into a sordid history of global crime, identifying key players and the labyrinthine attempts by international law enforcement to play "catch-up." Chapters detail the nefarious activities of the Russian "Mafiya," Colombian and Mexican drug cartels, Asian Triads, Japanese Yakuza, Nigerian confidence rings, Hell's Angels, rogue factions of the St. Regis Mohawk tribe and the surviving, leaner and meaner Cosa Nostra (and its Italian relatives). He presents a wealth of evidence that these groups have found ways to accommodate one another in numerous activities worldwide - identity theft, credit card fraud, smuggling, bribery and counterfeiting, all of which are underwritten by enormous drug profits. More importantly, he explains, the cartels have been able to refine their money laundering, tax evasion and offshore banking crimes. All the while, Robinson provides an exciting and unsettling glimpse of our future as a wired and globalized paradise for thieves. **Top Books, Featured Books, Top Textbooks, Top Free Books, Top Audiobooks, Audiobooks, Arts and Entertainment Books, Biographies and Memoir Books, Business and Finance Books, Children and Teens Books, Comics and Graphic Novels Books, Computers and Internet Books, Cookbooks Food and Wine Books, Fiction and Literature Books, Health, Mind and Body Books, History Books, Humor Books, Lifestyle and Home Books, Mysteries and Thrillers Books, Nonfiction Books, Parenting Books, Politics and Current Events Books, Professional and Technical Books, Reference Books, Religion and Spirituality Books, Romance Books, Sci-Fi and Fantasy Books, Science and Nature Books, Sports and Outdoors**

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[A New Kind of Monster](#)

By : **Timothy Appleby**

Ripped from the headlines, the horrific and astonishing true story of the double life of Russell Williams, who was at once a respected figure in the Canadian military and a ruthless sado-sexual serial criminal and murderer. In the annals of psycho-killers, Colonel Russell Williams may well be unique. A decorated air force colonel, Williams was, for years, living a double life as a sado-sexual home invader, burglar, pedophile and, ultimately, murderer. A model officer and elite pilot, he was trusted with flying international dignitaries including Queen Elizabeth, as well as commanding Canada's most important military airbase. Yet his dark and violent secret life included breaking into 82 homes of girls and women; thefts of vast amounts of lingerie (which he dressed in); two bizarre sexual assaults that left an uncomprehending Ontario village on a knife's-edge; and eventually, two rape-murders. When police raided Williams's home - a home he shared with his wife, a respected professional in her own right who was apparently completely unaware of her husband's unconscionable double life - they found hundreds of pairs of women's underwear, meticulously organized and catalogued. In this book, veteran Globe and Mail crime reporter Tim Appleby chronicles a true story that could have been lifted from the darkest pages of pulp fiction, one that offers fascinating - and troubling - insights on human psychopathology. From the Hardcover edition.

[Newjack](#)

By : **Ted Conover**

After he was denied access to report on Sing Sing, one of America's most notorious high security jails, journalist Ted Conover applied to become a prison guard. As a rookie officer, or 'newjack', Conover spent a year in the unpredictable, intimidating and often violent world of America's penal system. Unarmed and outnumbered, prison officers at one of America's toughest maximum security jails supervise 1,800 inmates, most of whom have been convicted of violent felonies: murder, manslaughter, rape. Prisoners conceal makeshift weapons to settle gang rivalries or old grudges, and officers are often attacked or caught in the crossfire. When violence flares up in the galleries or yard an officer's day can go from mundane to terrifying in a heartbeat. Conover is an acclaimed journalist, known for immersing himself completely in a situation in order to write about it. With remarkable insight, *Newjack* takes the reader as close to experiencing life in an American prison as any of us would ever want to get. It's a thrillingly told account of how the gruelling world of the prison system brutalizes all who enter it - prison guards and prisoners alike.

[My Brother Murdered His Neighbors](#)

By : **V. M. Franck**

On March 4, 1980 my brother Ken Andre shot and killed four of his neighbors near Coos Bay, Oregon. *My Brother Murdered His Neighbors* (formerly titled *Trying Not to Drown*) is a straightforward account of what happened to him, my sister, our loving parents and me. Through time-laced lenses, it exposes the rawness of our feelings and the abandonment by family and friends. A story of victimization, religious hypocrisy, an extramarital affair and violence, it explores murder from inside the killer's family. The brutal fiasco began on a rainy night. Standing on his neighbors' front porch, my brother Ken looked in on a husband, wife and one of their two young children as they watched Billy Graham. Ken tried the door. It was locked. He shot the doorknob. That failed to work. Taking aim from the front window he pulled the trigger again. The bullet passed through the

man's head and into the easy chair. Knocking out the window with the butt of his rifle Ken climbed through, chased the woman down the hall and shot her point-blank in the head. The blast disintegrated the phone in her hand. Before his rampage was over he killed two more adults further down the country lane. All four died because of my big brother. My big brother. It was horrendous. That night and every night, thereafter, for a long time I was terrified. If my brother could do it, anyone could. There was no safety. The murders triggered a cascade of events over which my immediate family and I had no control, resulting in far-reaching tragedies. For each of the bullets my brother discharged, I lost something I could not afford to lose, my brother, my father, my husband, my illusion of finding solace in family and friends, my career direction, my belief system, everything with meaning. Alone with only minor help from my older sister, I took on the task of helping my parents sort through their guilt, grief and ongoing heartaches as they dealt with a system which sought to kill their only son. I lost belief in the good along with hope. I was stripped bare. My sentence for his crimes did not start coming to an end until nearly thirty years later. Our mother died. This is my story. I'd like to share it with you, so you will know what victimization is like from this side of the crime. During the age when mass shootings are becoming way too common, it is imperative that we understand all the issues. What my family went through gives a different and necessary perspective.

McMafia

By : **Misha Glenny**

Misha Glenny's groundbreaking study of global organized crime is now the inspiration for an 8-part AMC crime drama starring James Norton (War and Peace), Juliet Rylance, and David Strathairn. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the deregulation of international financial markets in 1989, governments and entrepreneurs alike became intoxicated by dreams of newly opened markets. But no one could have foreseen that the greatest success story to arise from these events would be the worldwide rise of organized crime. Today, it is estimated that illegal trade accounts for one-fifth of the global GDP. In this fearless and wholly authoritative investigation of the seemingly insatiable demand for illegal wares, veteran reporter Misha Glenny travels across five continents to speak with participants from every level of the global underworld--police, victims, politicians, and even the criminals themselves. What follows is a groundbreaking, propulsive look at an unprecedented phenomenon from a savvy, street-wise guide.

In the Still of the Night

By : **Ann Rule**

FROM TRUE-CRIME LEGEND ANN RULE comes this riveting story of a young woman whose life ended too soon—and a determined mother's eleven-year crusade to clear her daughter's name. It was nine days before Christmas 1998, and thirty-two-year-old Ronda Reynolds was getting ready to travel from Seattle to Spokane to visit her mother and brother and grandmother before the holidays. Ronda's second marriage was dissolving after less than a year, her career as a pioneering female Washington State Trooper had ended, but she was optimistic about starting over again. "I'm actually looking forward to getting on with my life," she told her mother earlier the night before. "I just need a few days with you guys." Barb Thompson, Ronda's mother, who had met her daughter's second husband only once before, was just happy that Ronda was coming home. At 6:20 that morning, Ron Reynolds called 911 and told the dispatcher his wife was dead. She had committed suicide, he said, although he hadn't heard the gunshot and he didn't know if she had a pulse. EMTs arrived, detectives arrived, the coroner's deputy arrived, and a postmortem was conducted. Lewis County Coroner Terry Wilson, who neither visited the death scene nor attended the autopsy, declared the manner of Ronda's death as "undetermined." Over the next eleven years, Coroner Wilson would change that manner of death from "undetermined" to "suicide," back to "undetermined"—and then back to "suicide" again. But Barb Thompson never for one moment believed her daughter committed

suicide. Neither did Detective Jerry Berry or ballistics expert Marty Hayes or attorney Royce Ferguson or dozens of Ronda's friends. For eleven grueling years, through the ups and downs of the legal system and its endless delays, these people and others helped Barb Thompson fight to strike that painful word from her daughter's death certificate. On November 9, 2009, a precedent-setting hearing was held to determine whether Coroner Wilson's office had been derelict in its duty in investigating the death of Ronda Reynolds. Veteran true-crime writer Ann Rule was present at that hearing, hoping to unbraid the tangled strands of conflicting statements and mishandled evidence and present all sides of this haunting case and to determine, perhaps, what happened to Ronda Reynolds, in the chill still of that tragic December night.

Tunnel Vision

By : **N. P. Simpson**

Told in excruciating detail by reporter and author N.P. Simpson and edited by New York Times bestseller and True Crime legend, Jerry Bledsoe, *Tunnel Vision* is a chilling tale of triple murder like no other. "N. P. Simpson's vivid prose plunges the reader into the politically fraught, self-contained world of a military base. A homicide investigation here is both similar to and completely different from anywhere else."—Linda Landrigan, editor, *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine* A horrific crime that shook the largest Marine base in America quickly becomes much more than meets the eye in this meticulously researched account from N.P. Simpson. A family's life is in shambles when a mother and two children are found brutally murdered in their home. To make matters worse, the prime suspect is their own relative. Fifteen-year-old Butch Smith was a troubled teen. Despite being kicked out of school for his aggressive behavior, his family was fiercely loyal to him. During visits home while attending a camp for troubled boys, Butch lived a fairly normal life with his mother and two siblings in their duplex at Camp Lejeune. After returning home from a rare trip to New York with his aunt and cousins in tow, tragedy struck this unsuspecting family. In the dark of the night, his aunt, cousin and one of Butch's siblings were found savagely slain. When clashing confessions point to Butch as a suspect, his life is changed forever. From its portrayal of one young man's harrowing past, to the shocking murder that shook the North Carolina Supreme Court, *Tunnel Vision* is true crime reporting at its most gripping.

Without Honour

By : **Rob Tripp**

On the morning of June 30, 2009, police in Kingston, Ontario, made a ghastly discovery: four females dead in a car submerged in a shallow canal. Sisters Zainab Shafia, 19, Sahar Shafia, 17, Geeti Shafia, 13, along with Rona Mohammad Amir, 50, floated almost serenely inside the car, seemingly the victims of a terrible accident. That morning, Mohammad Shafia, his wife Tooba and their son, Hamed, arrived at the Kingston police station to report the four missing. In a sweeping covert investigation that spanned three continents, police uncovered layers of lies in the Shafias' story and developed a horrifying theory: Zainab, Sahar, Geeti and Rona had been the victims of a meticulously plotted family murder—Canada's first mass honour killing. In *Without Honour*, award-winning journalist Rob Tripp draws on three years of exhaustive research and exclusive interviews to make sense of a senseless crime in a way no other writer could. Tripp was the first journalist on the scene as the news broke and the only reporter to attend every day of court sessions, through to the convictions of Shafia, Tooba and Hamed on four counts each of first-degree murder. The Shafias are appealing. In this gripping and compassionate account, Tripp reveals the heartbreaking and stunning truth about these crimes fuelled by what Ontario Superior Court Judge Robert Maranger called a "twisted notion of honour," and about the desperate lives of four women who died in the pursuit of freedom.

[Jack the Ripper](#)

By : **Hendrik Püstow & Thomas Schachner**

Jack the Ripper - der Name sorgt für Gänsehaut. Das Rätsel um den bekanntesten Serienmörder der Geschichte ist noch immer ungelöst. Wer war es, der im Herbst 1888 in London mindestens fünf Prostituierte auf bestialische Art und Weise tötete? Jack-the-Ripper-Forscher auf der ganzen Welt versuchen seit über 120 Jahren, das Mysterium zu entschlüsseln. Update 2017: Hier legen die Autoren ein gründlich überarbeitetes Standardwerk vor: die aktuelle objektive deutschsprachige Gesamtdarstellung zum bekanntesten Fall der Kriminalgeschichte. Sie haben unzählige historische Zeitungsartikel, umfangreiche Londoner Polizeiakten sowie bisher unveröffentlichte Dokumente studiert. Minutiös werden die Ereignisse und Zusammenhänge der Taten rekonstruiert, die Fakten, die für oder gegen die Hauptverdächtigen sprechen, abgewogen und mögliche Theorien vorgestellt. Ein spannendes Sachbuch mit vielen nützlichen Zusatzinformationen - nicht nur für „Ripperologen“. Update 2017 - neue Fakten, weitere Verdächtige!

[Mafia and the Machine](#)

By : **Frank Hayde**

The story of the American Mafia is not complete without a chapter on Kansas City. The City of Fountains has appeared in the The Godfather, Casino, and The Sopranos, but many Midwesterners are not aware that Kansas City has affected the fortunes of the entire underworld. In The Mafia and the Machine, author Frank Hayde ties in every major name in organized crime-Luciano, Bugsy, Lansky-as well as the city's corrupt police force.

[Dying for Daddy](#)

By : **Carlton Smith**

From the bestselling author of The Search for the Green River Killer : The account of the family tragedy that became one of California's most shocking murder cases. On a picturesque street in Sacramento County, California, three healthy saplings stand side by side. But what they symbolize are the deaths of three innocent people—two of them children. The man who took their lives, then planted trees in their honor, was their own husband and father. Hearts went out to Jack Barron when his wife, Irene, died mysteriously in her sleep. Soon after, his two young children were also found dead in their beds. Barron claimed they suffered from the same rare genetic disorder as their mother. But when his fifty-two-year-old mother died, also of asphyxiation in her sleep, law enforcement officials finally took action: The fatal pattern was impossible to ignore. Was this “devoted” father really a heartless murderer? Did he suffer from a bizarre syndrome known as Munchausen by proxy, whereby a parent kills a child to gain sympathy? With firsthand interviews and exclusive inside information, author Carlton Smith paints a chilling portrait of a man driven to commit the most unspeakable of acts.

An expert on international crime, he has been a keynote speaker on the subject for the United Nations, Interpol, U. S. Customs, the FBI, and many other organizations. He appeared on Fox News, Bloomberg News, and MSNBC to discuss his findings from The Merger. Customer reviews. 4.7 out of 5 stars. However, this is a good book and very factual regarding organised crime in the world. I did enjoy it. Read more.