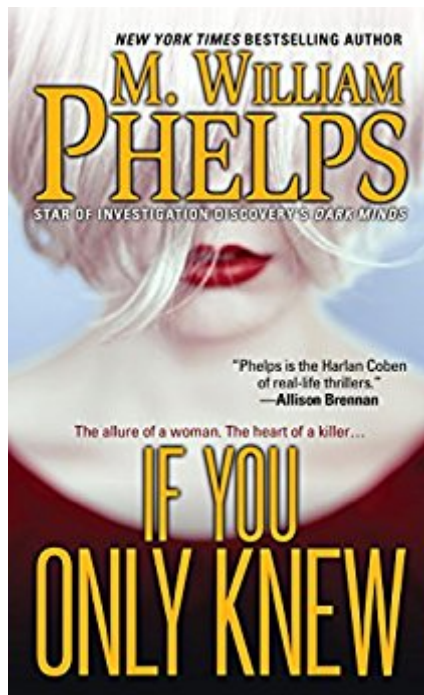


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If You Only Knew



Synopsis

When Vonlee "Nicole" Titlow and her aunt, Billie Jean Rogers, came home from a night of gambling in a casino near Detroit, they told police they found Billie's husband unconscious on the floor of the Rogers' mansion. Just another of his alcoholic benders, they assumed. But this time, Donald Rogers didn't wake up. The investigation would reveal the sordid story behind the death of a self-made millionaire--including transgender adventures in Chicago and Denver, a tangled web of dueling addictions, a mind-boggling history of out-of-control spending, and how a sex change operation may have fueled a motive for murder. Renowned investigative journalist M. William Phelps exposes the riveting details behind one of the most astonishing real-life thrillers to date.

Includes 16 Pages Of Dramatic Photos

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

this book was so terrible. the author repeated things over and over and over. It could have been a much better book by a different author. I have read all of his books, but the last several books were terrible. No longer a reader of his repetitive books. I think he just throws the books together fast, at

least that is the impression I get.

Great book about the murder of Don Rogers by Billie Jean Rogers, aided by Vonlee Nicole Titlow. This case was anything but "normal". Very intense story, with the 3 main characters as different from each other as night and day. Phelps researched this very well and was able to convey all the necessary facts in a way for readers to understand what happened and the mind of one of the participants. I was sucked in really quick, from beginning to end, feeling emotionally attached to Vonlee Titlow. This book has become one of my favorites from Phelps and I am sure it will stay with me for a while. M. William Phelps has a way to draw you into the story he is trying to convey. He brings the characters to life. I loved this book.

I enjoy true crime books very much, and have read many of Mr. Phelps' books. This, however, was disappointing to the point that I thought many times that I was wasting my time and thought seriously about giving up. However, I did read it to the end. First of all, true crime stories should always (in my opinion) contain photographs, but this book did not. I kept wanting to see this beautiful siren of a person. We certainly were relentlessly told how beautiful she was. We also were relentlessly taken to the scene of the crime over and over and over and over. I got it the fifth or sixth time. I became weary of the repetitive confessions/non-confessions/conversations between investigators and Vonlee. There was no literary tension. The one surprising element of the story was relentlessly repeated. If I am overusing the word "relentless," you will have some idea of how reading this book feels. And then, the entire last fourth of the book is about the procedure for appeals and how the attorney was the best and the author wanted to make sure the readers knew every last credential. In fact, the courtroom testimony was much more about the credentials of the "experts" than about the victim or the accused. Oh, and he wanted to again shock the reader over and over with the big secret of Vonlee. Not to be relentlessly repetitive, but other books by this author were so much more engaging, I had to doublecheck to make sure I was reading what I thought I was reading. My final comment is to say RIP Ann Rule. We miss you.

Probably my favorite true crime author, M.W. Phelps pens yet another well researched and well written true account of murder and deceit. As is his style the characters come alive on the pages allowing the reader to get to know all of them as if you actually knew each one of them. A profoundly sad story from beginning to end. There is no "happy" ending for any of them. If a book has Mr. Phelps name on it I don't need to read a sample of it I just buy it.

rating I give for the true crime genre. I'd give this 4 1/2 if it were available. This story is one of the very best by Phelps that I've read so far. Some said it was repetitive and court drama was time consuming or something of that nature but I disagree heartily. This was exceptional work and was not repetitive. I feel badly for Nicole and her situation, yes we're all responsible for our actions, but raw deal comes to mind among other things. Great work Phelps, sorry about Cherry. I know how that feels. Lorie

Phelps could have saved a lot of time typing if he wrote a few paragraphs about this case and then filled the rest of the narrative in with ditto marks. He has lost it. Don't bother. We've done all the hard work so you can go on to something worth your time.

This book is not just a who done it it...it begs you wonder if there was a murder at all. Or just several very intoxicated people viewing this death with different eyes and seeing different motives and opposing actions. Very interesting and well written

I'm reviewing the audible version of this story. I'm less than half way listening to the story and I'm so distracted by the 'performance' of the reader that I will try to finish the story by reading it myself instead of listening. The reader is over emoting the characters, especially female characters, each of whom he makes sound like whiney imbeciles. The whining is so annoying. It made me question whether this is how the reader believes women are in general. All the female voices he reads are a version of this and makes them sound incredibly stupid whether it's one of the suspects or a court official who happens to be female.

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