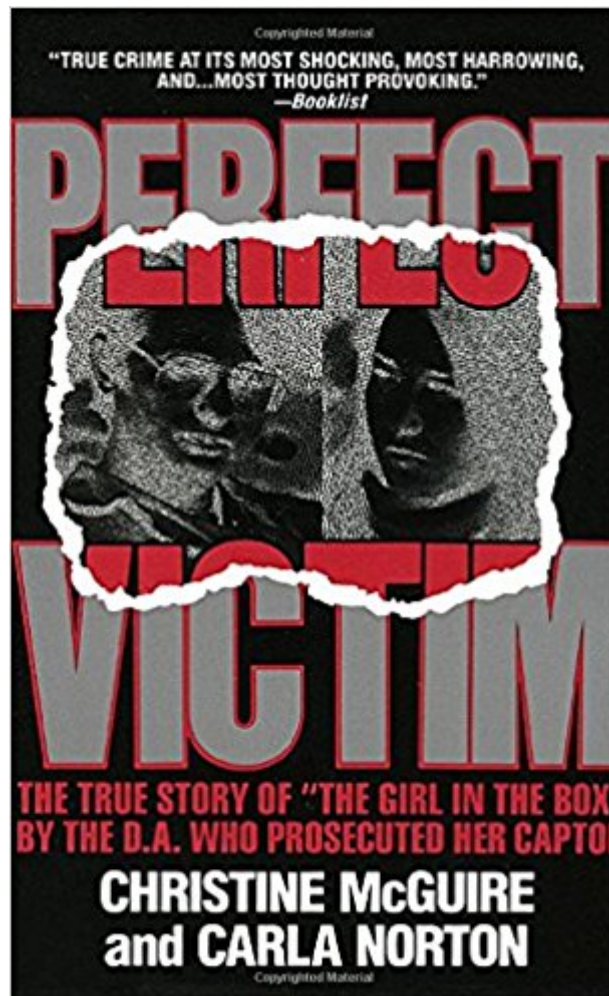




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Perfect Victim: The True Story Of The Girl In The Box



Synopsis

Recounts the ordeal of Colleen Stan during her seven-year captivity and sexual slavery in the hands of Cameron and Janice Hooker and details the court case that followed.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Some may find it unbelievable that a 20-year-old Oregon woman could be enslaved by a sexual sadist for seven years--that even after being able to move freely during the day, she would allow him to lock her into a wooden box every night. Perhaps it's a minor failing of this book that the authors do not elaborate on the psychology that made her such a "perfect victim." In other respects, though, the story is well told, with an impressive accumulation of details: the woman's capture, the tortures she endured, the brainwashing techniques, the fiendish contraptions her captor constructed, the slave contract he made her sign, and the increasingly strained relations within the peculiar family that included master, slave, wife, and child, all inside a single-wide trailer. As well-known attorney and author Vincent Bugliosi writes, "A gripping and disturbing story of the secret life of apparently normal people. At once, horrific and engrossing."

Hitchhiking from Eugene, Ore., through northern California in 1977, 20-year-old Colleen Stan thumbed a ride into hell. Her kidnappers a sadistic lumber mill worker, Cameron Hooker, and his battered wife Janice subjected her to seven years of torture and sensory deprivation. She was made a sex slave, kept locked in a wooden box and brainwashed into believing that an underground network of sadists would recapture her if she attempted to escape. Did Colleen fall in love with

Cameron and make herself a willing partner in a love triangle, as the Hookers' defense lawyer asserted? The jury found otherwise, convinced by the evidence marshalled by coauthor McGuire, state prosecutor in the case, a trial that journalist Norton attended in 1984. Not for the squeamish, this harrowing tale shuttles between the courtroom and the grisly doings in the Hookers' basement. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Well written and informative. Hard to believe that a person could be manipulated like this until hearing the accounts of several other instances of manipulation and the result of that manipulation. Sure seems that the Stockholm syndrome does exist. I hope that anyone subject to this form of domination finds there way out.

Very good real life story of unbelievable torture and survival.

The journey begins when young Colleen Stan is hitchhiking in California and passes up several offers by people she felt uncomfortable accepting rides from. Then along comes a nice American family and she accepts. So begins a 7-year ordeal presumably unmatched by anyone else. I find the book filled with details not only of the horror Cameron Hooker inflicted on Colleen, but also of the earlier horror he inflicted on a young Janice in the days before their marriage. As difficult as it was to believe how Hooker could have Stan so under control he would allow her to hold down a job, it becomes crystal clear when trial testimony describes hostages undergoing the same experience. My only problem is the book is not wholly written in chronological order but jumps back and forth between the current investigation and the years prior when Stan is held captive by a cold, calculating, very intelligent but depraved individual. If you can handle descriptions of immense pain, torture and terror get your hands on this book immediately.

I'm an avid true crime reader and I love details of the crime itself but not so much the trial. This book delivers both in an easy to read and interesting way. Kept my interest!

I got an insider's view of victimization and oppression from this book. It also gave a very detailed view of the prosecutor's role in both understanding the underlying issues and dealing with community prejudice, and how the legal system works to put away slavers. My new understanding of oppression helps me not only with a broad spectrum of issues I face, but also in understanding the news such as we have in the news this week of the three women rescued in Ohio. Sexual

slavery is increasing in the US and it is appropriate that women unite to be sure to keep all of us secure. It also helps us if we should ever be victims of such a crime.

good

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I missed the movie on TV so bought the book. The main character was hitchhiking to my old home town and so I was curious to read it. Very explicit sexual content.

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