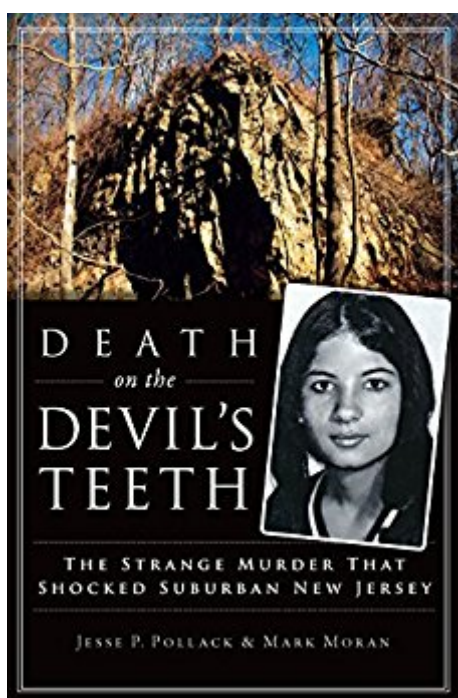


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Death On The Devil's Teeth: The Strange Murder That Shocked Suburban New Jersey (True Crime)



Synopsis

As Springfield residents decorated for Halloween in September 1972, the crime rate in the quiet, affluent township was at its lowest in years. That mood was shattered when the body of sixteen-year-old Jeannette DePalma was discovered in the local woods, allegedly surrounded by strange objects. Some feared witchcraft was to blame, while others believed a serial killer was on the loose. Rumors of a police coverup ran rampant, and the case went unsolved— along with the murders of several other young women. Now, four decades after Jeannette DePalma's tragic death, authors Jesse P. Pollack and Mark Moran present the definitive account of this shocking cold case.

Book Information

File Size: 4821 KB

Print Length: 211 pages

Publisher: The History Press (July 20, 2015)

Publication Date: July 20, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0115D41AU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #74,933 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #7

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Photography > Travel #8 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Travel > Pictorial #46 in Kindle Books > Travel > Pictorial

Customer Reviews

Having grown up nearby, I first heard about the unsolved case years ago and I found myself checking for updates every few months after that. For some reason, Jeannette always stuck with me even after I moved away. I was excited to see a book was being put together when I looked up the case again a few months back - the book did not let me down. I finished it in just a few days. The book presents a thorough look at the usual aspects of a true crime story - the victim, her home life

and family, the town, and detailed descriptions of the scene of the crime. The authors interviewed many people connected to the case whose statements often contradicted the memories of others. While it could be frustrating at times, I appreciated the authors presenting the differing testimonials alongside actual facts and letting the reader decide who to believe. In addition, the authors researched other crimes in the area with potential links to the murder that really gave a sense of time and place. If you liked the "Serial" podcast, this book will definitely be something you would like - it has a very similar feel and structure with each chapter leaving you needing to know more. There's a lot of information presented in the book, but the one thing that struck a chord with me was how no one really seemed to know the teenage victim, Jeannette - she comes off as pretty mysterious. Friends and surviving family are interviewed about her but they give such varying accounts that it left me feeling like no one really knew her at all. I guess that's part of being sixteen years old though, and Jeannette would never get the chance to figure out who she was either which is part of what makes the whole thing so sad. Without giving too much away, it will become clear when reading the book that the authors did more 40 years later to avenge the murder than any police agency did back when it happened. I hope the book is a success and wakes someone up at the prosecutor's office or Springfield Police who may have more information or who might be able to locate the "lost" files. Even if it doesn't, the authors should be proud to have put together such a compelling account.

Couldn't wait until I received my copy of "Death on the Devil's Teeth". I read the book from cover to cover in one night. The book was well written and was a great read. Would highly recommend it to my friends.

I found the case interesting and I believe the authors may have some information that the police should look at further. As with many cases that may involve multiple jurisdictions, the failure to cooperate and share information seems to have hampered several cases. It is compounded by these being smaller and less sophisticated police departments. I realize the difficulties police face but as public servants, bringing resolution to the grieving families should be the focus, not CMA tactics. Also, forensics have advanced tremendously since these unfortunate young women were taken from this world. Pierce Brooks would be saddened by the handling of these cases with the developments in these cases with lack of using new methods by the cold case investigators inheriting these cases now. The stories of missing or destroyed records on officially open cases also speaks to the need for more vigorous efforts to manage and protect case files and evidence for all

cases, particularly such violent crimes. All the advances are useless in cold cases if the integrity of files and evidence are not protected from the onset and initial investigators do not make use of technology as it becomes available. I did find the tie-ins a bit disjointed at times and the authors could have clarified the connections. It is unfortunate that the lack of cooperation would not provide much needed information. I agree with some of the investigators that the DePalma case, however tempting it is, was not a satanic ritual murder. I think the atmosphere at the time made this a good jump to a hasty conclusion scenario. I do recommend this as a good read for true crime aficionados. Has anyone formed a website with a blog for these cases?

This writer is fantastic! It is evident that he has done tremendous research, and he writes really well. I can't wait for his next book to come out. It is a book that will keep you awake at night, turning pages! Thank you, Jesse P. Pollack, for this great book!

Once I opened this book I couldn't put it down. From cover to cover this book was filled with information and research pertaining to several cases that plagued the local area. It was fascinating to see photos of the area decades ago to now. Set aside an evening with your favorite drink you will be glued to this book.

I was extremely interested in this subject since I live in New Jersey and have known about "Weird NJ" for quite some time. This was a horrific murder that is STILL UNSOLVED! The writing kept my interest and I was able to breeze through this book in a couple of days.

I grew up about a mile from the murder site. Something that was part of our childhood lore. Very interesting look at the NJ/Summit area at the time. Encompasses more than just Jeanette DePalma murder. Shows how there is very weird stuff going on all around us.

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