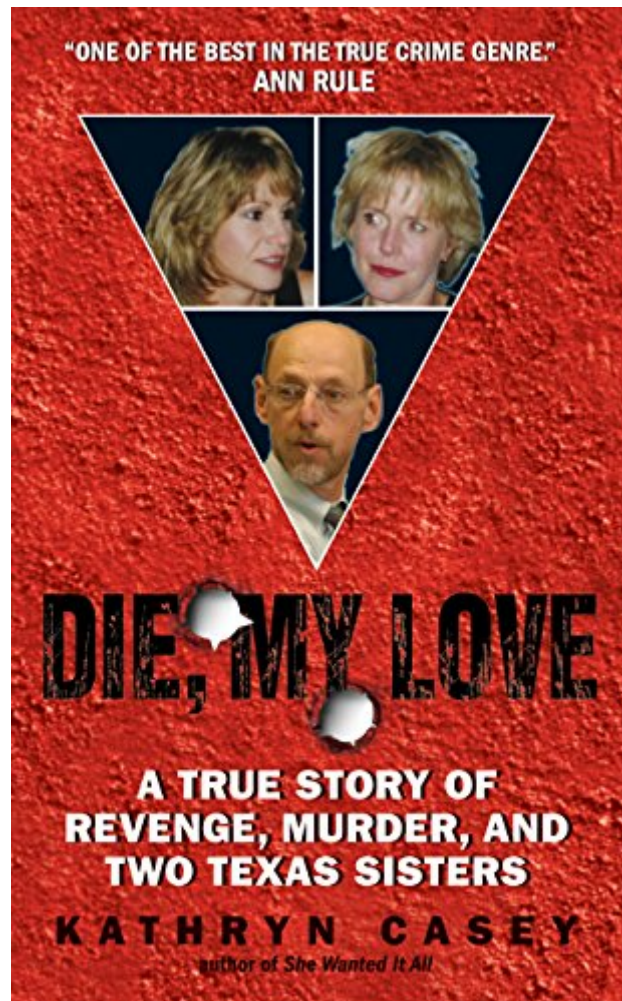


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Die, My Love: A True Story Of Revenge, Murder, And Two Texas Sisters



Synopsis

The day before Halloween 2004 was the last day on Earth for respected, well-liked college professor Fred Jablin. That morning, a neighbor discovered his body lying in a pool of blood in the driveway of Jablin's Virginia home. Police immediately turned their attentions to the victim's ex-wife, Piper, a petite, pretty Texas lawyer who had lost a bitter custody battle and would do anything to get her kids back. But Piper was in Houston, one thousand miles away, at the time of the slaying and couldn't possibly have been the killer . . . could she? So began an investigation into one of the most bizarre cases Virginia and Texas law enforcement agencies had ever encountered: a twisted conspiracy of lies, rage, paranoia, manipulation, and savage murder that would ensnare an entire family—including two lethally close look-alike sisters—and reveal the shocking depravities possible when a dangerously disordered mind slips into madness.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The true crime genre has many hacks, several reliable practitioners and a few greats. Kathryn Casey is becoming one of the great ones. *Die, My Love* by Kathryn Casey would be perfect if it weren't for the awful title. But that's the only bad thing I can say about this entertaining book. This is

the story of one very odd woman, her nearly equally odd sister and the murder of her husband. How odd? Well, would you want a self-proclaimed "druid" and "bard" as your lawyer? If the answer is yes, then Piper Rountree is the lawyer for you. Piper Rountree Jablin is batty on her best days and for some reason the men around her routinely find this charming. Her family, especially her sister Tina, coddle if not encourage Piper's permanent residence in La-La land. It's one thing for Piper to think she possesses magical powers, it's something else altogether for Tina to agree. Another friend praises Piper's "live for today" attitude, apparently unaware that Piper suffers from ADD. This book is full of those "are these people for real" moments so dear to the heart of true crime fans. Piper thinks nothing of urging a fellow lawyer to lie on an affidavit or designing the most unintentionally hilarious business cards ever. When her husband finally has enough - after 20 years - and sues for divorce and joint custody, Piper takes her commitment to nutty behavior up several notches. Her sister Tina joins in on the hi-jinks. Tina Rountree is worth a book herself. Like Piper, she fancies herself a protector of women. Also like Piper, she barely has to wave her hand for half a dozen men to throw themselves at her feet. They're attractive women but the sheer volume of men willing to do their bidding made me wonder if there was something in the water in Houston.

Kathryn Casey just may be the finest True Crime writer today. In "Die, My Love," Casey profiles convicted murderer, Piper Rountree, who decided that losing custody of her three children during a bitter divorce was unacceptable. She gunned down her ex-husband in his own driveway in Virginia and then hopped an airplane back to Texas, wearing a ridiculous wig and flying under an airline issued ticket in her sister's name. When police investigators began questioning those close to the family who knew about the contentious divorce between Rountree and her husband, Fred Jablin, several individuals suggested the police take a closer look at his ex-wife. Police departments in two states, along with a brilliant prosecution team, compiled an impressive mound of evidence and detailed a paper trail that spanned the country from Texas to Virginia and back again. Although Rountree had once served as a defense attorney herself, she was both arrogant and uninformed when she assumed she would never be arrested, much less convicted. The most damning piece of evidence came in the form of cell phone records. While Rountree casually spoke to her 12 year old son and informed him she was on a business trip in Texas, she was calling from the very neighborhood in which her children resided with their father. (Damn. Forgot about those cell phone records!) As is true of many murderers, Piper Rountree was not nearly as smart as she thought she was! In her arrogance, she decided that her children would be better off in her custody, even if that meant they grew up without a father. Also, let us not forget that she was willing to kill their father in

the driveway of the family home... while her children slept inside. This is not the act of a loving mother.

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