

HISTORY

Roundtable est. 2017

November's Topic: True Crime – 20th Century

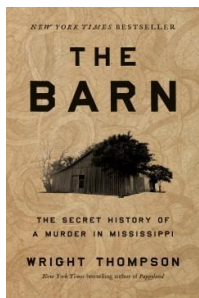
Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 25th, 2025 at 6:30pm

Register at www.greenwoodlibrary.us or by calling 317-881-1953.

More info and handout at www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable.

Read. Watch. Listen. Discuss. Read any non-fiction book, watch a documentary, and/or listen to a podcast pertaining to **True Crime** in the **20th Century**. Once you've read/watched/listened to the item, come to the roundtable prepared to summarize your book/video/podcast for all the participants. Possible resources include (but are not limited to) –

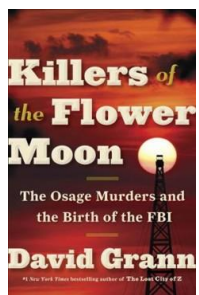
Books:



The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi by Wright Thompson

– NONFICTION TRUE CRIME MURDER 20th CENTURY Thompson; [eBook](#) & [eAudio](#) via Libby*

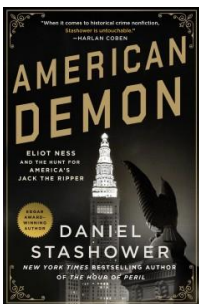
A shocking and revelatory account of the murder of Emmett Till that lays bare how forces from around the world converged on the Mississippi Delta in the long lead-up to the crime, and how the truth was erased for so long. Wright Thompson's family farm in Mississippi is 23 miles from the site of one of the most notorious and consequential killings in American history, yet he had to leave the state for college before he learned the first thing about it.



Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann

– NONFICTION TRUE CRIME MURDER 20th CENTURY Grann; [eBook](#) & [eAudio](#) via Libby*; [eAudio via Hoopla](#)*

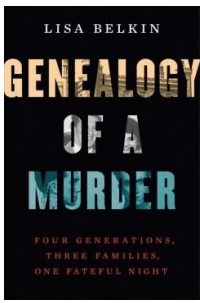
In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, the Osage rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off. As the death toll rose, the newly created FBI took up the case, and the young director, J. Edgar Hoover, turned to a former Texas Ranger named Tom White to try to unravel the mystery. White put together an undercover team, including a Native American agent who infiltrated the region, and together with the Osage began to expose one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.



American Demon: Eliot Ness and the Hunt for America's Jack the Ripper by Daniel

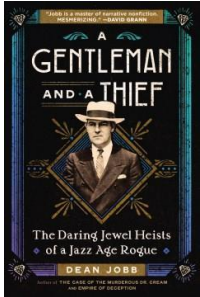
Stashower – NONFICTION TRUE CRIME MURDER SERIAL KILLER Stashower; [eAudio via Libby](#)*

Award-winning author Daniel Stashower shines a fresh light on one of the most notorious puzzles in the annals of crime, and uncovers the gripping story of Ness's hunt for a sadistic killer who was as brilliant as he was cool and composed, a mastermind who was able to hide in plain sight. *American Demon* reconstructs this ultimate battle of wits between a hero and a madman.



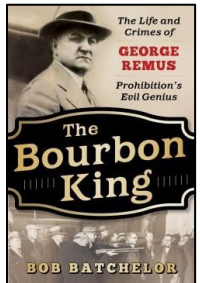
Genealogy of a Murder: Four Generations. Three Families, One Fateful Night by Lisa Belkin – NONFICTION TRUE CRIME MURDER 20th CENTURY Belkin; [eBook](#) & [eAudio](#) via Libby*: [eAudio via Hoopla](#)*

The multigenerational tale of three families whose paths collide one summer night in 1960 with the murder of a police officer. Alvin Tarlov, David Troy, and Joseph DeSalvo were all born of the Great Depression, all with grandparents who'd left different homelands for the same American Dream. How did one become a doctor, one a cop, and one a convict? In *Genealogy of a Murder*, journalist Lisa Belkin traces the paths of each of these three men—one of them her stepfather.



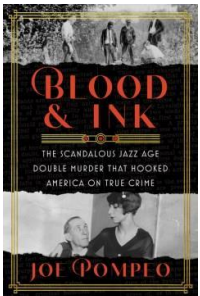
A Gentleman and a Thief: The Daring Jewel Heists of a Jazz Age Rogue by Dean Jobb – NONFICTION TRUE CRIME THEFT Jobb

Catch Me If You Can meets *The Great Gatsby* meets the hit Netflix series *Lupin* in this captivating true-crime caper. A skilled con artist and perhaps one of the most charming, audacious burglars in history, Arthur Barry slipped in and out of the bedrooms of New York's wealthiest residents, even as his victims slept only inches away. With dozens of historic images, *A Gentleman and a Thief* is page-turning, escapist, and sparkling with insight into our fascination with jewel heists and the suave, clever criminals who pull them off.



The Bourbon King: The Life and Crimes of George Remus Prohibition's Evil Genius by Bob Batchelor – NONFICTION TRUE CRIME 20th CENTURY Batchelor; [eBook](#) via Libby*; [eBook via Hoopla](#)*

The tale of George Remus is a grand spectacle and a lens into the dark heart of Prohibition. Yes, Congress gave teeth to Prohibition in October 1919, but the law didn't stop George Remus from amassing a fortune that would be worth billions of dollars today. Author Bob Batchelor breathes life into the largest bootlegging operation in America--greater than that of Al Capone--and a man considered the best criminal defense lawyer of his era.

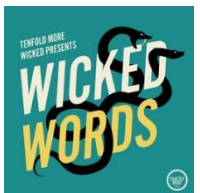


Blood & Ink: The Scandalous Jazz Age Double Murder that hooked America on True Crime by Joe Pompeo – NONFICTION TRUE CRIME 20th CENTURY Pompeo; [eAudio](#) via Libby*

A killer virus ... an all-powerful Empress ... an encounter cloaked in secrecy. As smallpox ravaged her empire and threatened her court, Catherine the Great made the momentous decision to summon the Quaker physician Tomas Dimsdale to St. Petersburg to carry out a secret mission that would transform both their lives. Ward expertly unveils the extraordinary story of Enlightenment ideals, female leadership and the fight to promote science over

superstition.

Podcast:



Wicked Words - A True Crime Talk Show with Kate Winkler Dawson

On each new episode of *Wicked Words*, Kate interviews journalists, podcasters and authors about their fascinating behind-the-scenes stories from their investigations in the world of true crime, many of which have never been shared before. Suggested Episode: [Kathleen Brunelle: She's Gone: Five Mysterious Twentieth-Century Cold Cases](#)

Video:



Infamous True Crime Stories from the 20th Century by the Smithsonian Channel via YouTube

From gangsters subverting Prohibition in the '20s to forensic techniques that helped nab some of the most prolific serial killers in U.S. history, we're taking a deep dive into true crime from the 20th century.

*=requires GPL Evergreen Indiana card