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# Vincent Mad Dog Coll Irish Gangster In Prohibition Era New York City

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The Indigo Book  
Morning Calm  
Hitman  
Lord High Executioner  
Irish on the Inside  
Dock Boss  
Paddy Whacked  
A Safe Place  
Legs Diamond  
Why We Love Serial Killers  
A Criminal and An Irishman  
Crimes Committed by Terrorist Groups  
Mobsters  
Irish Stereotype in American Cinema  
Politics, Police and Crime in New York During Prohibition  
Closing Chapters  
Eliot Ness and the Untouchables  
The Mafia Encyclopedia  
Kings of the Westside  
Resting Places  
Murder, Inc., and the Moral Life  
Havana Nocturne  
A Brief History of Gangsters  
The Crooked Ladder  
Drum Belly  
Whitey's Payback  
Primo Carnera  
Arkansas Godfather  
No Haven  
Dear Papa, Dear Hotch  
Toughs  
Irish Criminals Through History  
Tough Jews  
Who Killed Bummy Davis?  
Angela's Ashes  
Iceman of Brooklyn  
Lindbergh  
Mad Dog Coll  
Spaghetti Westerns at the Crossroads  
Gangster City

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## TRISTEN ALANNAH

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*The Indigo Book* Steerforth

For decades now, serial killers have taken center stage in the news and entertainment media. The coverage of real-life murderers such as Ted Bundy and Jeffrey Dahmer has transformed them into ghoulish celebrities. Similarly, the popularity of fictional characters such as Hannibal “The Cannibal” Lecter or Dexter demonstrates just how eager the public is to be frightened by these human predators. But why is this so? Could it be that some of us have a gruesome fascination with serial killers for the same reasons we might morbidly stare at a catastrophic automobile accident? Or it is something more? In *Why We Love Serial Killers*, criminology professor Dr. Scott Bonn explores our powerful appetite for the macabre, while also providing new and unique insights into the world of the serial killer, including those he has gained from his correspondence with two of the world’s most notorious examples, David Berkowitz (“Son of Sam”) and Dennis Rader (“Bind, Torture, Kill”). In addition, Bonn examines the criminal profiling techniques used by law enforcement professionals to identify and apprehend serial predators, he discusses the various behaviors—such as the charisma of the sociopath— that manifest themselves in serial killers, and he explains how and why these killers often become popular cultural figures. Groundbreaking in its approach, *Why We Love Serial Killers* is a compelling look at how the media, law enforcement agencies, and public perception itself shapes and feeds the “monsters” in our

midst.

*Morning Calm* A&C Black

This title chronicles virtually every widely known Mafioso, bootlegger, racketeer and thug who terrorised New York City in the early 20th century. The murders of some 600-plus gangsters are profiled in detail.

**Hitman** McFarland

With Boston to the north and New York City to the south, Connecticut’s history of organized crime is often overlooked. This is the untold story of New Haven’s illegal past. One of America’s most historic and enduring cities, New Haven has wrangled with a perpetual identity struggle, torn between worlds that occasionally converged in chaos and violence. In the 1930s, Connecticut became a region where Mafia families like the Genoveses, Gambinos, Colombos, and Patriarcas shared turf—working together with enough profits to go around or descending into open war to rival that experienced in any major city. Central to this conflict were three men who were, at different times, cautious allies or sworn nemeses. Representing the Genoveses, Midge Renault reigned supreme thanks to his reputation for wanton violence. Meanwhile, Colombo capo Ralph “Whitey” Tropiano maintained a lower profile, which belied his reputation as a vicious killer. But it was his lieutenant, Billy “The Wild Guy” Grasso, who ultimately rose to the top after joining the New England Patriarca Family, enjoying a short rule that ended with a murder plot that left him on the wrong end of a bullet.

Lord High Executioner Infobase Publishing

From Levi and Cohen, *Irish Comedians* (1903) to *The Irishman* (2019), this book is a fascinating journey through the

history of representations of the Irish in American cinema.

*Irish on the Inside* University of Arkansas Press

In 1940 and 1941 a group of ruthless gangsters from Brooklyn's Brownsville neighborhood became the focus of media frenzy when they—dubbed “Murder Inc.,” by New York World-Telegram reporter Harry Feeney—were tried for murder. It is estimated that collectively they killed hundreds of people during a reign of terror that lasted from 1931 to 1940. As the trial played out to a packed courtroom, shocked spectators gasped at the outrageous revelations made by gang leader Abe “Kid Twist” Reles and his pack of criminal accomplices. News of the trial proliferated throughout the country; at times it received more newspaper coverage than the unabated war being waged overseas. The heinous crimes attributed to Murder, Inc., included not only murder and torture but also auto theft, burglary, assaults, robberies, fencing stolen goods, distribution of illegal drugs, and just about any “illegal activity from which a revenue could be derived.” When the trial finally came to a stunning unresolved conclusion in November 1941, newspapers generated record headlines. Once the trial was over, tales of the Murder, Inc., gang became legendary, spawning countless books and memoirs and providing inspiration for the Hollywood gangster-movie genre. These men were fearsome brutes with an astonishing ability to wield power. People were fascinated by the “gangster” figure, which had become a symbol for moral evil and contempt and whose popularity showed no signs of abating. As both a study in criminal behavior and a cultural fascination that

continues to permeate modern society, the reverberations of “Murder, Inc.” are profound, including references in contemporary mass media. The Murder, Inc., story is as much a tale of morality as it is a gangster history, and Murder, Inc., and the Moral Life by Robert Whalen meshes both topics clearly and meticulously, relating the gangster phenomenon to modern moral theory. Each chapter covers an aspect of the Murder, Inc., case and reflects on its ethical elements and consequences. Whalen delves into the background of the criminals involved, their motives, and the violent death that surrounded them; New York City's immigrant gang culture and its role as “Gangster City”; fiery politicians Fiorello La Guardia and Thomas E. Dewey and the choices they made to clean up the city; and the role of the gangster in popular culture and how it relates to “real life.” Whalen puts a fresh spin on the two topics, providing a vivid narrative with both historical and moral perspective.

Dock Boss Barricade Books

Who Killed Bummy Davis? By: John L. Barbella The story of the Legendary American boxer, Al “Bummy” Davis, was cut short all too soon on the night of November 21, 1945. While drinking in a bar, a group of men entered the establishment with something more than booze on their minds. The group had already robbed other establishments that night, but this would be their last stop. In the end, Bummy Davis would be lying outside, dead. But who killed him? Who Killed Bummy Davis? is a history and an account of the life, career, and tragic death of a talented boxer whose career and life ended suddenly, leaving many unanswered questions. Learn about the history of boxing, gangs, and turf wars during this tumultuous time in

New York City, and maybe an answer to who killed Al "Bummy" Davis.

**Paddy Whacked** iUniverse

In its third edition, this massive reference work lists the final resting places of more than 14,000 people from a wide range of fields, including politics, the military, the arts, crime, sports and popular culture. Many entries are new to this edition. Each listing provides birth and death dates, a brief summary of the subject's claim to fame and their burial site location or as much as is known. Grave location within a cemetery is provided in many cases, as well as places of cremation and sites where ashes were scattered. Source information is provided.

**A Safe Place** BRILL

Set during the Great Depression and based in part on real characters and a series of historical events, *Toughs* follows the story of Loretto Jones as he finds his life intertwined with the fate of Vince Coll, a 23-year-old Irish gangster who for a brief moment rose to the level of a national celebrity during his war with Dutch Schultz, Owen Madden, and Lucky Luciano. Tagged "Mad Dog Coll" after killing five-year-old Michael Vengelli in a botched assassination attempt, Coll was the subject of a shoot-to-kill order issued by New York City Police Commissioner Edward P. Mulrooney, a \$50,000 bounty offered by Dutch Shultz and Owen Madden, and \$30,000 in reward money from by the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association and the city's newspapers. Loretto and Vince are bound to each other by years spent in an orphanage and on the streets, but in the summer of 1931, with Loretto in love with newly-divorced Gina Baronti, and Vince in thrall to the beautiful Lottie Kriesberger, their world of tough guys in tough times is hurtling toward disaster,

and Loretto finds himself faced with impossible choices.

*Legs Diamond* McFarland

This book aims to highlight the causes why the Prohibition Era led to an evolution of the New York mob from a rural, ethnic and small-scale to an urban, American and wide-scale crime. The temperance project, advocated by the WASP elite since the early nineteenth century, turned into prohibition only after the end of WWI with the enactment of the Eighteenth Amendment. By considering the success that war prohibition made to the soldiers' psychophysical condition, Congress aimed to shift this political move even to civil society. So it was that the Italian, Irish and Jewish mobs took the chance to spread their bribe system to local politics due to the lucrative alcohol bootlegging. New York became the core of the national anti-prohibition, where the smuggling from Canada and Europe merged into the legendary Manhattan nightclubs and speakeasies. With the coming of the Great Depression, the Republican Party was aware about the failure of this political measure, leading to the making of a new corporate underworld. The book is addressed to historians of New York, historians of crime and historians of modern America as well as to an audience of readers interested in the history of the Prohibition Era.

*Why We Love Serial Killers* McFarland

What links Italian neorealism to *Django Unchained*, French comic books to Third-World insurgency, and Bollywood song-and-dance to Eastern Bloc film distribution? As this volume illustrates, the answers lie in the Spaghetti Western genre. As the reference points of American popular culture became ever more prominent in post-war Europe, the

hundreds of films that make up the Italian (or 'Spaghetti') Western documented profound shifts in their home country's cultural outlook, while at the same time denying specifically national discourses. An object of fascination and great affection for fans, filmmakers and academics alike, the Western allitaliana arose from a diverse confluence of cultural strands, and would become a pivotal moment in cinematic history. Reappraising a diverse selection of films, from the internationally famed works of Sergio Leone to the cult cachet of Sergio Corbucci and the more obscure outputs of such directors as Giuseppe Colizzi and Ferdinando Baldi, this comprehensive study brings together leading international scholars in a variety of disciplines to both revisit the genre's cultural significance and consider its on-going influence on international film industries.

*A Criminal and An Irishman* Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

"Dramatic, graphic and wrenching...The reader is left to wonder--at the devastation of Carcaterra's youth, at his survival to adulthood, and at the grace that allowed him to craft this piercing memoir." THE WASHINGTON POST  
Lorenza Carcaterra grew up in Hell's Kitchen, New York in the 1950s and '60s in a confusing world of love and fear of his paradoxically violent and affectionate father. Then Lorenzo learned that his father had murdered his first wife. And he wondered how he could love his father again. Did he possess the same murderous fury; would he someday suddenly lash out at those he loved? As his father's physical abuse escalated, Lorenzo sought frantically for a safe place...a place where he could find hope and reconciliation and peace, where his father's terrible shadow no longer

lingered. Now, decades later, Lorenzo has finally come to terms with the awful truth about his father. A SAFE PLACE is the brilliant result.

*Crimes Committed by Terrorist Groups*  
Macmillan + ORM

What was so fascinating about this Prohibition-era gangster? After all, dozens of such hoods roamed the streets of New York City in those desperate and violent years. But Vincent Coll took street violence to another level. He was a fearless soldier who became a leader. He forced Dutch Schultz, one of the toughest gang leaders of the era, into hiding. Coll and his crew revolutionized the art of the drive-by shooting, which is still used today by modern street gangs. His kidnapping schemes targeted other gangsters, who couldn't go to the cops. He systematically cut down his opposition, even though he was outnumbered by more than ten to one. Then there was the real brains behind the Coll gang -- a woman. Known by the name Lottie Kreisberger, she was the quintessential gun moll and, when teamed with Vincent Coll, set their destiny for either greatness or disaster. In 1931, the year of the bloodiest gang war in New York City up until that time, Coll emerged as front-page news, with the roughest and toughest gangsters in the five boroughs running for cover from this ruthless and fearless killer and as the New York City Police Department hunting him as Public Enemy Number One. Coll's arrest, trial, and acquittal, and his murder in a drugstore phone booth at the tender age of 23, all served as inspiration to writers of gangster films that followed. The authors combine the meticulous research of investigative journalism with a novelist's flair for plot, character, setting, and style to make Mad Dog Coll as entertaining as it is

informative.

**Mobsters** Edinburgh University Press  
Edgar Award Finalist: This “sensational” and “absolutely compelling” true crime tale finally answers the question: Who really killed the Lindbergh baby? (San Francisco Chronicle). On the night of March 1, 1932, celebrated aviator Charles Lindbergh’s infant son was kidnapped from his New Jersey home. The family paid \$50,000 to get “Little Lindy” back, but his remains were discovered in a grove of trees four miles from the Lindbergh house. More than two years after the abduction, Bruno Hauptmann, an unemployed carpenter and illegal German immigrant, was caught with \$20,000 of the ransom money. He was arrested, tried, and executed for the crime. But did he really do it? New York Times–bestselling author Noel Behn spent eight years investigating the case, revisiting old evidence, discovering new information, and shining a bright light on the controversial actions of public figures such as New Jersey Governor Harold Hoffman, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, New Jersey State Police Superintendent H. Norman Schwarzkopf, and Charles Lindbergh himself. The result is a fascinating and convincing new theory of the crime that exonerates Hauptmann and names a killer far closer to the Lindbergh family. A finalist for the Edgar Award, Lindbergh “not only provides answers to the riddles of the ‘Crime of the Century,’ but hurls us into time past, to a special moment in American history” (Peter Maas, New York Times–bestselling author of *Underboss*).

**Irish Stereotype in American Cinema**  
Bloomsbury Publishing

So many people have throughout Irish history been labeled Criminals or misfits, find out their true background and make

up your own mind, are the legends and stories true

**Politics, Police and Crime in New York During Prohibition** JG Press

The radio talk show host sensation and crime reporter delivers a portrait of gangster Johnny Martorano, whose life inspired Martin Scorsese’s *The Departed*. With a new epilogue detailing Whitey Bulger’s dramatic June 2011 capture For two decades Johnny Martorano struck fear into anyone even remotely connected to his world. His partnership with Whitey Bulger and the infamous Winter Hill Gang led to twenty mob murders—for which Johnny would serve twelve years in prison. Howie Carr also looks at the politicians and FBI agents who aided Johnny and Whitey, and at the flamboyant city of Boston which Martorano so ruthlessly ruled. A plethora of paradoxes, Johnny Martorano was Mr. Mom by day and man-about-town by night. Surrounded by fast-living politicians, sports celebrities, and show biz entertainers, Johnny was charismatically colorful—as charming as he was frightening. After all, he was, in the end . . . a hitman. “Howie Carr weaves a frightening tale of unlawful conduct, and it’s all true.” —Bill O’Reilly “The indictments of mobster-mangled Boston continue to rain down in Howie Carr’s superb new true-crime book, *Hitman*. It’s horrifying, it’s deadpan shocking, it’s a brilliant treatise on criminal psychopathy and a portrait of a city defined and subverted by hoodlums run amok. Read this book—it will grab you, garrotte you, and leave you gasping for breath.” —James Ellroy, New York Times–bestselling author of *L.A.*

Confidential

*Closing Chapters* AuthorHouse

*Closing Chapters* attempts to explain the disintegration of urban parochial schools

in Youngstown, Ohio, a onetime industrial center that lost all but one of its eighteen Catholic parochial elementary schools between 1960 and 2006. Through this examination of Youngstown, Welsh sheds light on a significant national phenomenon: the fragmentation of American Catholic identity.

Eliot Ness and the Untouchables Harper Collins

James 'Whitey' Bulger is the last of the old-fashioned gangsters. A polished, sophisticated psychopath, Bulger's Boston reign of fear lasted 20 years - he was second only to Osama bin Laden on the FBI's most wanted list. Captured after 16 years in hiding, he now sits in a maximum security prison awaiting trial on racketeering charges and 19 counts of murder. But Bulger will have his payback: at trial he has promised to lift the lid a toxic conspiracy of federal agents, cops, judges and politicians that helped enforce his rule. Combining first-rate reporting and the storytelling of a novelist, T.J. English has been writing about men like Bulger for over two decades. Here, in addition to coming face to face with Whitey, you'll discover hitman Joseph 'Mad Dog' Sullivan's favoured assassination method, you'll meet Eric Vassel, the Jamaican rudeboy who took on the Italian mob, you'll travel deep into the Mexican/American narcosphere as English takes his readers on a bloody but fascinating journey to the dark side of the American Dream.

*The Mafia Encyclopedia* University of Missouri Press

At over six and a half feet tall and nearly 300 pounds, heavyweight champion Primo Carnera was a giant for his times, but today "the Ambling Alp" is too often written off as an unskilled oaf and a product of the mob dealings that

plagued boxing during the 1930s. He may not have been a natural in the ring, but he worked as hard as any boxer to learn his craft, to be in top condition, and he repeatedly showed that he was tougher than nails. This biography details Carnera's early life and boxing career, his success as a fighter as well as accusations of fight fixing, his strengths and limitations in the ring, and his later career as a wrestler.

Kings of the Westside Skyhorse

Ethnic organized crime is a phenomenon that has been largely ignored by social scientists and historians, and dismissed as a subject not to be taken too seriously by those researching the mobility patterns of their own ethnic ancestors or current minority newcomers. The Crooked Ladder represents a groundbreaking attempt to describe how some members of ethnic minorities have utilized organized crime as one vehicle of upward mobility, advancing from lower-class status to middle-class power and respectability. O'Kane illustrates the criminal road to prosperity as a process of displacement and succession: each group competes with and eventually eliminates its more established predecessor from the upper echelons of organized crime. This historical criminal succession mirrors the upward mobility of the Irish, Jews, and Italians in the larger, conventional noncriminal realm. Arguing that African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics are pursuing similar criminal routes, O'Kane takes issue with contemporary social scientists who view the current plight of minorities as unique in American social life. As a fundamental rethinking of the American ethnic experience with crime, The Crooked Ladder will be essential reading for social historians, sociologists, and criminologists. Now available in

paperback, it will be useful in criminology courses and well as classes in ethnicity and social relations.  
Resting Places Verso Books

More than 500 alphabetical entries provide information on the people, places and events associated with the Mafia.