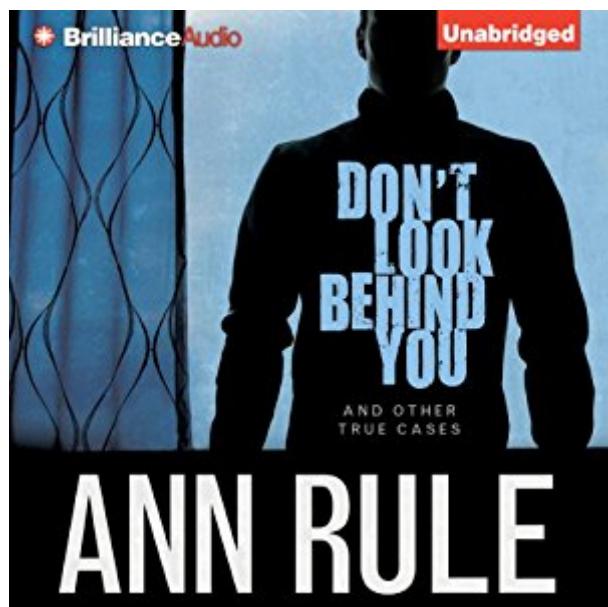


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# Don't Look Behind You: And Other True Cases: Ann Rule's Crime Files, Book 15



## **Synopsis**

I'll be watching you. Walking home on a dark night, you hear footsteps coming up behind you. As they get closer, your heart pounds harder. Who is closing in with dangerous intent - a total stranger? Or someone you know and trust? The answer is as simple as turning around, but don't look behind you . . . run. Ann Rule, who shared her own nerve-jangling account of unknowingly befriending sadistic sociopath Ted Bundy in *The Stranger Beside Me*, chronicles other fateful encounters with the hidden predators among us in this riveting collection, fifteenth in the best-selling series drawn from her personal files. First in line is a stunning case that spanned thirty years and took a determined detective to four states - ending, finally, in Alaska - where he unraveled not one but two murders. A second case appears to begin and end with the hunt for the Green River Killer, focusing on a Washington State man who was once cleared as a suspect in that deadly chain of homicides. But the millionaire property owner believed he had successfully buried his own murderous past and the awful truth behind his young wife's disappearance. She vanished soon after she left for a day at the Seattle World's Fair, and her three small children grew up believing their mother had abandoned them. But one amazing witness remained - the missing woman's best friend, who heard her last words in a frantic phone call - "He's coming!" - before the line went dead. Only since Robert Hansen's suicide has the monster within been revealed. In another true story, a petite woman went to a tavern, looking only for conversation and fun. Instead, she met violent death in the form of a seven-foot man who had seemed shy and harmless. You'll feel a chill as you uncover these and numerous other cases of unfortunate victims who made one tragic mistake: Trusting the wrong person - even someone they'd known intimately, or thought they knew.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

I'm baffled about why some other reviewers have given this so few stars. The cases are "cold cases," true, but to my mind that makes them more intriguing. These murderers thought they got away with it long ago -- they thought no one would figure it out now -- but they were wrong. It's nice to see that murder cannot be hidden, however long it may take to be discovered. Ann Rule has done a lot of research about these cases, even though the murderers clearly wanted to hide their tracks. And it's a fascinating portrait of some families who regard murder as "just another day's work," as well as of some people who have survived terrible situations. My only complaint is that the Kindle edition doesn't seem to come with photos (not sure about the print edition). Ann Rule's collections of murder cases, the Crime Files, are always going to have shorter cases than the single-murder books, but there's still a lot of detail in here. And for what it's worth, I didn't spot a single typo.

It was not her best but come on people it was not that bad. I thought all of the stories were interesting and if you are familiar with her Crime Files books you should not expect current stories. Her worst book is still better than many of the true crime books out today. Yes, I found a few errors and omissions but I blame the editor/publisher for that. The last chapter on rapists was especially interesting to me.

As usual, Ann Rule does not disappoint in this collection of stories about crimes committed in the Northwest of Washington, primarily in and around Seattle. From the sad life and disappearance of a young mother more than fifty years ago to victims of a serial rapist who thought he looked like a movie star and a family that got away with murder, she provides us with examples of the existence of evil even disguised by a pretty face. Ann Rule makes our hearts beat faster as we fight the urge to look over your shoulders when footsteps approach. I highly recommend this book.

Generally I don't enjoy Ann Rule's crime case files books as much as the ones that have just one case in them, but this one was an exception. I am always fascinated by "cold cases", and this book was a great study in them. As other reviewers have said, the people who perpetrated the crime Ann Rule's books, and this one was no different, I read it through in about 2 days. I was disappointed

that I didn't get the photos with the kindle edition, but otherwise I didn't note any egregious errors or typos (and I am an editor at heart!). I can't wait for the next book to come out.

Excellent true crime reading as are all of Ann Rule's books. Such a shame she passed away and we can no longer look forward to her next one.

If you aren't familiar with Ann Rule, she was a crime reporter for years. She writes about true crime so vividly that you almost feel like you have been the one who was victimized. This book was no different...she was "dead-on" (excuse the pun!). There is more than one story...she always makes sure her customers get the most for their money. Her sympathy for the victims and their families comes through in her writing, which is a large part of how she pulls you in. I highly recommend it.

I am also surprised with the negative feedback regarding Ann Rule's newest crime files "Don't Look Behind You". I think that this was a good book, although not as good as some of her previous work. As most of Rule's fans know, her files are almost always from previous cases that are sometimes twenty years old plus. I think she has done a remarkable job in recreating these cases as usual. My favorite cases that Ann has reported on in the past are on the Jami Sherer case, Sheila Hawthorne Bellush , Green River Killer Gary Ridgway, and "Dead by Sunset". While this book isn't as interesting as those cases, I still found myself unable to put it down. While it isn't her best work, it's a good book nevertheless. Good solid book; I recommend it. Ann has an uncanny ability to get the reader to feel as though they are right there along with the victims and their families. She is still my favorite true crime author.

Knowing the perpetrator personally made very interesting reading. Unfortunately Ann Rule had only the information of the court records, and the interviews of RenÃfÃ© and the Children of the victim. RenÃfÃ© withheld many details to make herself look better. But it was quite a surprise to those of us how cold she and her brother executed the murder and disposed of the body parts. The circle of friends who knew her, all read the book, as it was our own past. Only the man interviewed is still in Alaska. The rest of us have long departed. We are all glad she got what she had coming to her.

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