[PDF] Anatomy Of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong

Raymond Bonner - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Anatomy of Injustice: A Murde

Author: Raymond Bonner Released: 2012-02-21

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Description:

From Bonner, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his foreign correspondence for the New York Times, turns his considerable reportorial gifts to the issue of wrongful conviction as seen through the lens of a particular, outrageously mishandled case. The case, from 1982, centered on the conviction of a young black man for the murder of a white widow in South Carolina. Although the trial dates back decades, Bonner reanimates the wrongs of racism, inept defense, and prosecutorial misconduct seen in this case and also in cases across the U.S. The narrative, which moves through the initial trial and

eventual freeing of the convicted prisoner, Edward Lee Elmore, is given a face and a voice through Bonner's focus on the young female lawyer who never gave up on trying to free her client. Farranging in its implications, thoughtful, and utterly absorbing, this book is a fine example of involving narrative nonfiction. --Connie Fletcher

Review

-Andrew Cohen, The Atlantic

"Mesmerizing . . . Powerful . . . An utterly engrossing true-crime tale."
-Kevin Boyle, *The New York Times Book Review*

"A genuine whodunit, a page-turner, and a tale of redemption. And it's all true. For all that, however, *Anatomy of Injustice* is also a blistering indictment of the death penalty . . . Bonner delivers a crackerjack feat of storytelling that steadily administers the truth about capital punishment like a slow, toxic IV drip . . . In his expert hands, the twists and turns of Elmore's appeals, and the gradual discovery of the travesties in the original investigation and trial by Holt's team, make for excruciatingly suspenseful reading."

-Laura Miller, Salon.com

"Gripping and enraging . . . Bonner's book is not a treatise against the death penalty. Rather, it is a look at what happens in America's justice system when justice is absent."

-The Economist

"Accomplished and meticulously researched . . . Convincing . . . As a piece of reporting, the book is masterful. Bonner builds the story, and his argument, carefully, rarely editorializing, mixing in a précis of capital punishment in the United States . . . Bonner's book is an important addition to the body of evidence against the death penalty."

-Ethan Gilsdorf, The Boston Globe

"A revealing look at how police and courts grapple with death penalty cases . . . If you are a staunch advocate of the death penalty . . . you're precisely the person who should read *Anatomy of Injustice.*"

-Nicholas Varchaver, *Fortune*

"The investigation \dots makes for a gripping read, and exposes some outrageous failures of American justice."

-"The Must List," Entertainment Weekly

"Compelling . . . Bonner makes us feel the frustration and inhumanity of a justice system gone awry."

-Wilbert Rideau, Financial Times

"Fascinating . . . $Anatomy\ of\ Injustice$ moves as swiftly as a great courtroom thriller, and Bonner's a stutely observed characters are as memorable as any you're likely to encounter in a John Grisham-penned best seller."

-Doug Childers, The Richmond Times-Dispatch

"One of the best books written about a dubious conviction . . . Bonner's volume is special for the way it entwines the lives of the principal characters with the nation's inglorious history of racial

discrimination and capital punishment."

-Rob Warden, Chicago Tribune

"Gripping, suspenseful, and electrifying . . . This should be required reading for anyone who believes in justice."

-John J. Kelly, Cincinnati CityBeat

"A gifted storyteller, Bonner's prose is at once stately and matter-of-fact . . . In the context of true crime, of murder stories most especially, [Bonner's details] assume a captivating glow . . . As a portrait of contemporary American life, immersed in culture wars and classism, and clogged with the residues of racism, *Anatomy of Injustice* is authoritative and fascinating. As a study in how things can go from bad to worse, how entire lives can be crushed under the wheels of the justice system, it's also urgent and necessary."

-José Teodoro, The Edmonton Journal

"A lucid, page-turning account . . . Elmore's defense winds through nearly three decades of legal maneuverings as suspenseful as the investigation of the mysterious crime itself. Painstakingly researched by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Bonner, the case illustrates in fascinating and wrenching specificity the widely acknowledged inequality and moral failings of the death penalty, while illuminating the less understood details of a criminal justice system deeply compromised by race and class. Indeed, Bonner's ability to succinctly and vividly incorporate the relevant case history and explain the operative legal procedures and principles at work—including the bizarre way in which court-acknowledged innocence is not necessarily enough to spare a life on death row—makes this not only a gripping human story but a first-rate introduction to the more problematic aspects of American criminal law."

-Starred review, Publishers Weekly

"Fascinating . . . Dexterous . . . Well-researched . . . Bonner's description of decades of bungling is a reminder of the ways class and race can shape outcomes in the American legal system."

-Margaret Quamme, The Columbus Dispatch

"Far-ranging in its implications, thoughtful, and utterly absorbing, this book is a fine example of involving narrative nonfiction."

-Booklist

"Sharp . . . A powerfully intimate look at how the justice system works—or doesn't work—in capital cases."

-Kirkus

"Those interested in human rights, issues of race, and inner workings of the U.S. legal system—not to mention true crime fans—will want to read this book."

-Library Journal

"Bonner's gripping true-crime thriller shines a shocking light on American justice. I couldn't put it down."

-Jane Mayer, author of The Dark Side

"Race, sex, and murder in a Southern town are the explosive core of Raymond Bonner's legal drama. *Anatomy of Injustice* is also a brave dispatch from the trenches of a forgotten war over capital punishment. Told with a reporter's tenacity, a lawyer's acumen, and an advocate's zeal, this book is both a gripping narrative and a chilling indictment of America's justice system."

-Tony Horwitz, author of *Confederates in the Attic*

"Anatomy of Injustice demonstrates dramatically and shockingly what bad lawyers are capable of doing, and is an inspiring example of what a good one can do. For that alone, law schools should assign it to every entering student."

-Stephen Engelberg, managing editor, ProPublica

"Raymond Bonner uses his skill as a lawyer and journalist to take us on a fascinating journey deep into the heart of the criminal justice system, where the stakes could not be higher or the failures more disturbing. *Anatomy of Injustice* reads like a novel, but it is, tragically, all too true."

-Linda Greenhouse, author of Becoming Justice Blackmun

"Most of us Americans don't have a clue about how the criminal court system really operates and we need a good writer like Bonner to take us through, step by step. But be warned: If you have pressing duties waiting, don't begin reading this book. This is seductive storytelling at its best."

-Sister Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man Walking

"Reading Raymond Bonner's compelling account of a grossly botched murder case, I was overcome by outrage at the state of our criminal justice system. Rigorously researched and powerfully told, *Anatomy of Injustice* could—and should—change the national debate on the death penalty."

-Michael Massing

"Raymond Bonner's *Anatomy of Injustice* is a powerful and poignant analysis of the case of Edward Lee Elmore. Bonner's voice is a profound force for truth and justice in our difficult times!"

-Cornel West

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