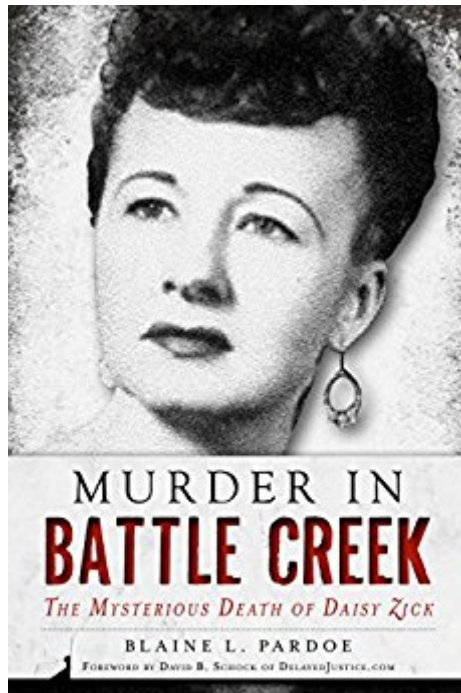


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# Murder In Battle Creek: The Mysterious Death Of Daisy Zick (True Crime)



## Synopsis

On a bitterly cold morning in January 1963, Daisy Zick was brutally murdered in her Battle Creek home. No fewer than three witnesses caught a glimpse of the killer, yet today, it remains one of Michigan's most sensational unsolved crimes. The act of pure savagery rocked not only the community but also the Kellogg Company, where she worked. Here, Blaine Pardoe artfully takes the reader into this true crime thriller. Utilizing long-sealed police files and interviews with the surviving investigators, the true story of the investigation can finally be told. Who were the key suspects? What evidence does the police still have on this five-decades-old cold case? Just how close did this murder come to being solved? Is the killer still alive? These questions and more are masterfully brought to the forefront for true crime fans and armchair detectives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had turned 16 years old the month before Daisy's death. My family lived next door to the Zick's. The police interviewed my brother, myself, mother and father to see where we were on that day. The police even checked at Harper Creek High School to make sure we were in school as we said

we were. This book instantly took me back to that day and time as if it were yesterday. New information regarding the two main suspects were totally unknown to me until I read this story. I get the feeling the police are not giving up on this case and I truly hope that this book will trigger more interest and possibly clues into finally solving the mystery. As I am 66 years old now, I hope this gets solved before I die! Great job Blaine!

This most recent book from Blaine Pardoe is an absorbing true story of a violent murder in a small Michigan town in the early 1960's. 50 years later, this murder is still unsolved, and this book walks you through the history of the area, of Kellogg's, and of the facts surrounding the crime, the victim and her family, the witnesses, suspects, timelines, investigators, evidence, and the murder scene. Based on all this information, the reader is asked to try to solve the crime themselves - any new theories, thoughts, witnesses or information? It's a gripping, well-written story that kept me reading well into the night. Along with the author, I'm hoping that this book can shake the memory of someone who may have seen something, and help to solve this terrible crime once and for all. Thanks to Mr. Pardoe for yet another absorbing and interesting look into a fascinating true crime story.

The narrative is clear, though occasionally repetitive. The victim never really emerges as a fully formed character. There's a list of possible suspects, but since we never really understand the victim, the motive a killer may have had remains illusive. The dead never age, so I continually had to remind myself that the victim, had she lived, would be a very old woman today. Perhaps the most interesting chapter is the final one in which the myths that still surround the case are explored. I think I would have appreciated further explanation of those. Why are some cases remembered, and others forgotten?

This murder took place about six years before I was born, but it took place in the neighborhood I grew up in. The author's depiction of the setting immediately took me back to my childhood and made me feel like I was right there as the events were taking place. The crime and the authorities' investigation are so well-researched and vivid that I felt like I was taking part. The tale is gripping and the author's depiction made me unable to put the book down. I read it in one three-hour sitting. Mr. Pardoe masterfully traces the crime, the victim's history (as well as the histories of the witnesses and potential suspects) and the investigation. The book is well-written, well-researched and insightful. He is sympathetic to the victim and her family, as well as many potential suspects. I am

certain if Mr. Pardoe had been a detective on the case that it would have been solved at the time. Mr. Pardoe is an expert at writing in his chosen genre. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and look forward to many more from him, including the "top secret" project he is currently working on!

I found this book fascinating. Could not put it down, read in one sitting the first time. It tells the true story of an infamous, unsolved murder in Battle Creek, Michigan (at the time of the murder, the cereal capital of the world). The book offers a glimpse of typical middle class life in a typical Midwestern city in the early 1960's. The same crime could have easily occurred in any small industrial city at that time. We like to fondly look back on the '50's and early '60's as an idealistic, innocent time in our history. But through the author's eyes we see that human nature has not necessarily changed all that much. No one was ever convicted of the crime, but the author gives extensive information so that the reader can draw their own conclusions.

I've been waiting fifty years for someone to write this book and Blaine Pardoe didn't disappoint. I had just turned sixteen when Daisy was killed and I lived about half a mile away. Neither I nor my mother knew Daisy, but, as Pardoe says, the murder was the talk of the neighborhood, with all sorts of rumors going round. Now I have finally learned the truth, or as much of it as is known. The book is doubly interesting to me, of course, because all of the places mentioned and many of the people are so familiar to me. Aside from that, though, it is just plain good reading. As an aficionado of the genre, I have read hundreds of true crime books and I can honestly say Blaine Pardoe stands up with the best of true crime writers.

My husband was a first cousin to Charlie Conn. I remember the men talking about the murder and Charlie telling of some of the work they had did on the murder. If I remember correctly the talk was that they knew who it was but didn't have the evidence for an arrest. Sadly both my husband and Charlie are deceased so I can not ask about what they thought happened. I will just have to make my own conclusions. You keep reading to see what happens next.

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