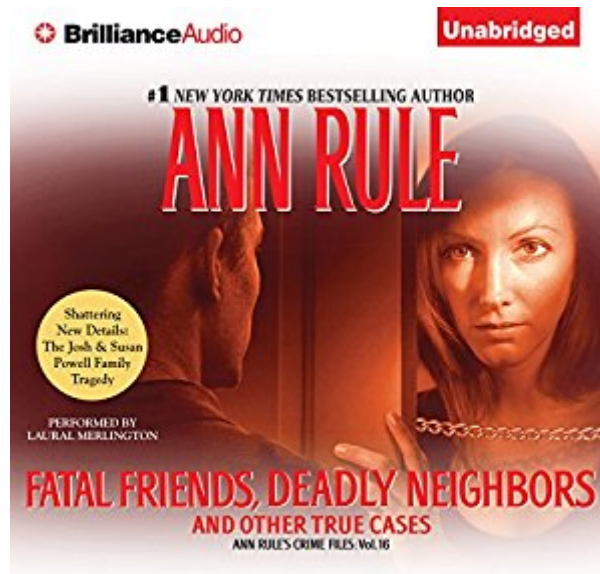


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# Fatal Friends, Deadly Neighbors: And Other True Cases: Ann Rule's Crime Files, Book 16



## Synopsis

It's a chilling reality that homicide investigators know all too well: The last face most murder victims see is not that of a stranger, but of someone familiar. Whether only an acquaintance or a trusted intimate, such killers share a common trait that triggers the downward spiral toward death for someone close to them: They are masters at hiding who they really are. Their clever masks let them appear safe, kind, and truthful. They are anything but - and almost no one can detect the murderous impulses buried deep in their psyches. These doomed relationships are the focus of Ann Rule's 16th Crime Files collection. In these shattering inside views of both headlined and little-known homicides, Rule speaks for vulnerable victims who relied on the wrong people. She begins with two startling novella-length investigations. In July 2011, a billionaire's Coronado, California, mansion was the setting for two horrifying deaths only days apart - his young son's plunge from a balcony and his girlfriend's ghastly hanging. What really happened? Baffling questions remain unanswered, as these cases were closed far too soon for hundreds of people; Rule looks at them now through the eyes of a relentless crime reporter. The second probe began in Utah when Susan Powell vanished in a 2009 blizzard. Her controlling husband, Josh, proved capable of a blind rage that was heartbreakingly fatal to his innocent small sons almost three years later in a tragedy that shocked America as the details unfolded. If anyone had detected the depth of depravity within Josh Powell, perhaps the family that loved and trusted him would have been saved. In these and seven other riveting cases, Ann Rule exposes the twisted truth behind the facades of *Fatal Friends*, *Deadly Neighbors*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I really like true crime books, (as well as ID television.) This book is interesting - the style of true crime writing is different from fiction - and for some reason, even different authors writings on true crime "feel" quite a bit alike. (I like to find myself lost in this type book on an inside afternoon...and yet, I am completely mindful that these stories are only available for reading because something really bad happened to someone else!) In this book, I found myself making mental notes regarding safety and taking care in situations we too often take for granted. Good detail, and even on familiar stories, more than we got from the news. It's easy to read a bit at a time since there are various stories. ATTENTION, PUBLISHERS!!! When I purchase a book, if it's available on Kindle, I buy the Kindle version. I do NOT expect it to be missing parts of the book! Anyone truly interested in these real life stories, (and familiar with this genre from reading non-Kindle books over their years), will want to SEE the characters involved, and the building(s) - in the case of the one about the old hotel fire. It's NOT the same as fiction, where the characters are not real, and we are used to imagining them. These characters were or are real people, and since pictures are available for them, (and included in the non-Kindle version of the book), I can see no reason to leave the photo section out of a Kindle book! Many Kindle books include photos! Does the \$1.00 difference in Kindle price vs. paperback price really cost the photos? I'd rather pay the extra dollar and have the photos! BE NICE TO YOUR KINDLE READERS - THERE WILL BE MORE AND MORE OF US!

I am amazed at the amount of people who get on here and write a review of a book they have never read! I understand that this is Volume 16 in her "Crime Files" series so one could surmise that if you've read one, you've read 'em all. Not so; Volume 15 was pretty bad. It was rife with filler. This volume however is FAR superior and really back on par with her stellar writing. I was so surprised to see that her novella length case was the Susan Powell murder. Rule usually doesn't write about the sensational or cases that have spent time in the tabloids but I see here she had already promised Susan Powell's parents before the denouement of the boys' death had occurred. I understand she no longer wants to write about the death of children. That said, this book contains two novella length stories including a lesser known one, the deaths of Becky Zahau and child Maxfield Shacknai. There are also some older cases included as well. There is a great deal of pictures in the paperback version: I noticed people said the Kindle had none. All that said and aside, I began reading Rule's books as a young teenager and they really woke me up as far as standing up for my rights as a

female and never tolerating being treated like property by a man. I wish I would have read her sooner and listened more to her advice. I can see value in reading her books both for TC fans and if I had a young daughter, I would likely make her sit down and read some of her finer works as well.

I doubt that I'll finish it. Often, Ann Rule's books hold my attention from the start. This reads as a narrative of facts. I find my mind wandering to other things. A disappointment to me. Though I enjoyed some of Ms. Rule's things very much, i.e., "The Stranger Beside Me," "Dead by Sunset," I doubt I will read any more of the crime files books. Perhaps they don't require the attention and commitment her full length books do.

If I would have known there were no photos in this kindle book, I would have never purchased it for my kindle. From now on I will just buy the paperback.

I remember reading an interview that Ann Rule gave and in this interview she said that she did not like to write about stories that were big in the media...in other words wrote to death. Well, it seems as if that is exactly what she did this time....at least with one of the features. The other shorter stories are all old and not the least bit interesting. It seems as if Ms. Rule doesn't even try.

I am an avid Ann Rule fan! This is not at the top of my list of true crime books. Many were from the 70's and others were still I solved.

I agree with first reviewer. Kindle needs to SAY it when the photos aren't included. You aren't buying the complete book when the photos aren't there, yet they don't tell you before you buy it. It's almost like false advertising. You are not getting the complete book that you THINK you're getting, yet they don't offer Refunds. (At least not as far as I know).

I thought this group of stories were very weak and not as interesting as her past subjects. I found the read very tedious and at times boring. Not one of her better efforts

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