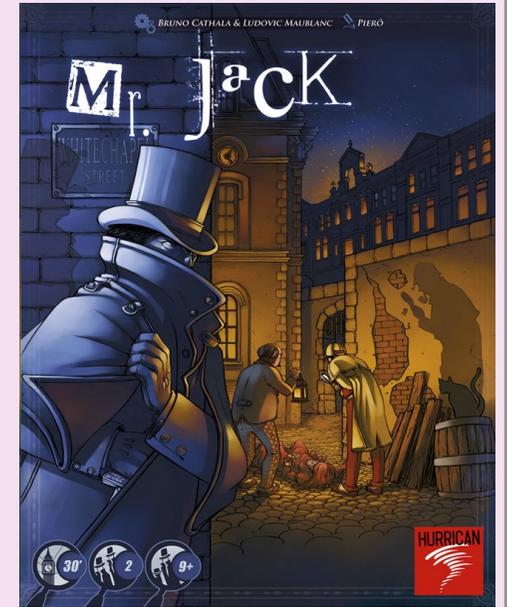
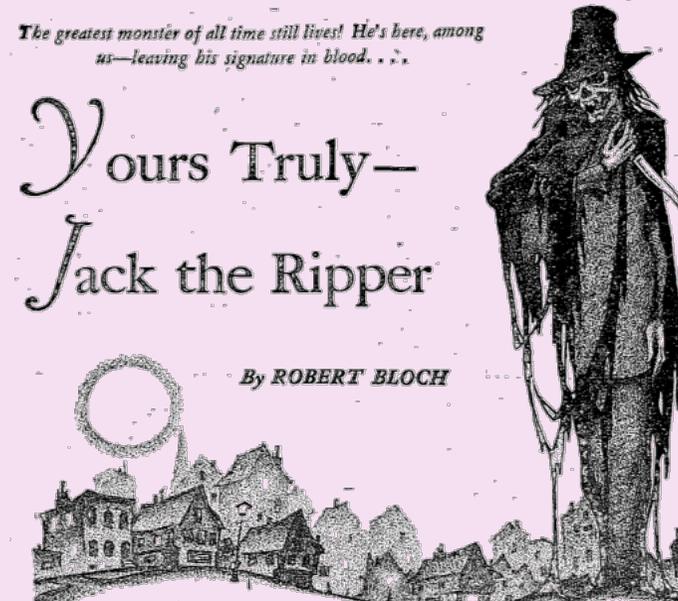


# Capturing Jack the Ripper: The Ripper Mythos 130 Years On



More than the light will burn.

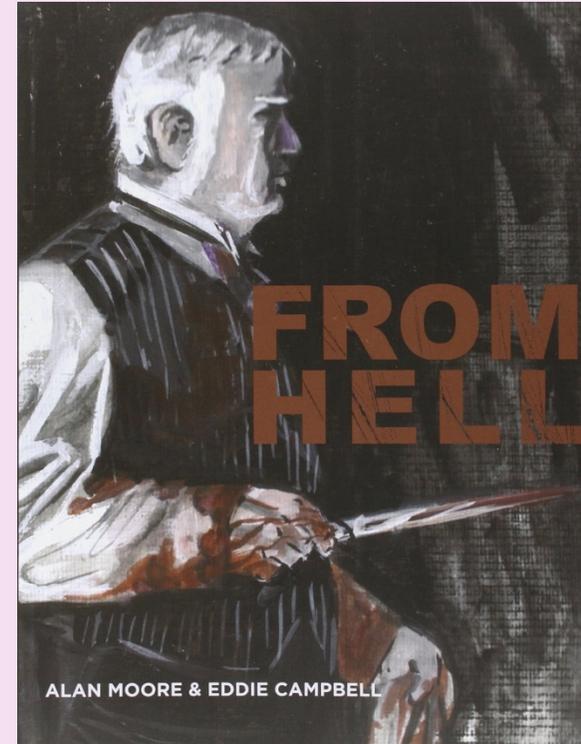
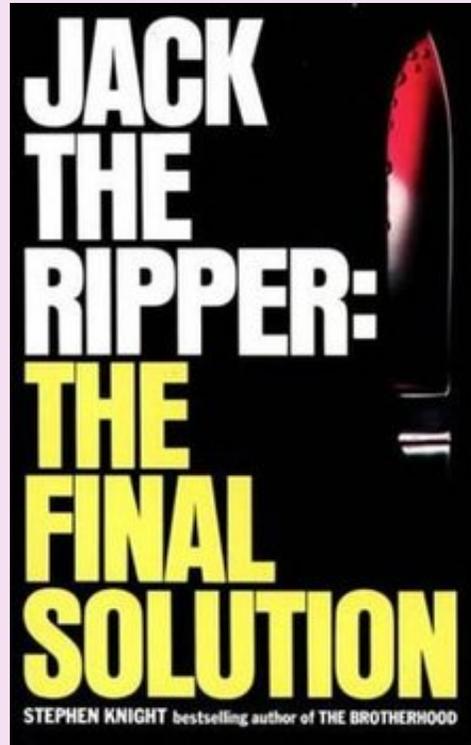
JOHNNY  
DEPP  
HEATHER  
GRAHAM

FROM  
HELL

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF  
"SCREAM" AND "SCREAM 2"  
JOHNNY DEPP AND HEATHER  
GRAHAM STARE AT EACH OTHER  
WITH A TENSE, TERRIFYING  
INTENSITY THAT'S  
UNUSUALLY "SCARY"

OCTOBER 15, 2004





# The History of Jack the Ripper:

**When?** 'The Autumn of Terror' 1888, 31<sup>st</sup> August- 9<sup>th</sup> November 1888. The year after Queen Victoria's Golden jubilee.

**Where?** Whitechapel in the East End of London. Slum environment.

**Crimes?** The violent murder and mutilation of women.

**Modus operandi?** Slits throats of victims with a bladed weapon; abdominal and genital mutilations; organs removed.

**Victims?** 5 canonical victims: Mary Ann Nichols; Annie Chapman; Elizabeth Stride; Catherine Eddowes; Mary Jane Kelly. All were prostitutes. Other potential victims include: Emma Smith; Martha Tabram.

**Perpetrator?** Unknown

**Investigators?** Chief Inspector Donald Sutherland Swanson; Inspector Frederick George Abberline; Inspector Joseph Chandler; Inspector Edmund Reid; Inspector Walter Beck. Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Charles Warren. Commissioner of the City of London Police, Sir James Fraser. Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan CID, Sir Robert Anderson.

**Victim number 5:**

Mary Jane Kelly  
Aged 25

Murdered: 9<sup>th</sup> November 1888  
Throat slit. Breasts cut off. Heart, uterus, kidney, liver, intestines, spleen and breast removed.

**Victim number 2:**

Annie Chapman  
Aged 47

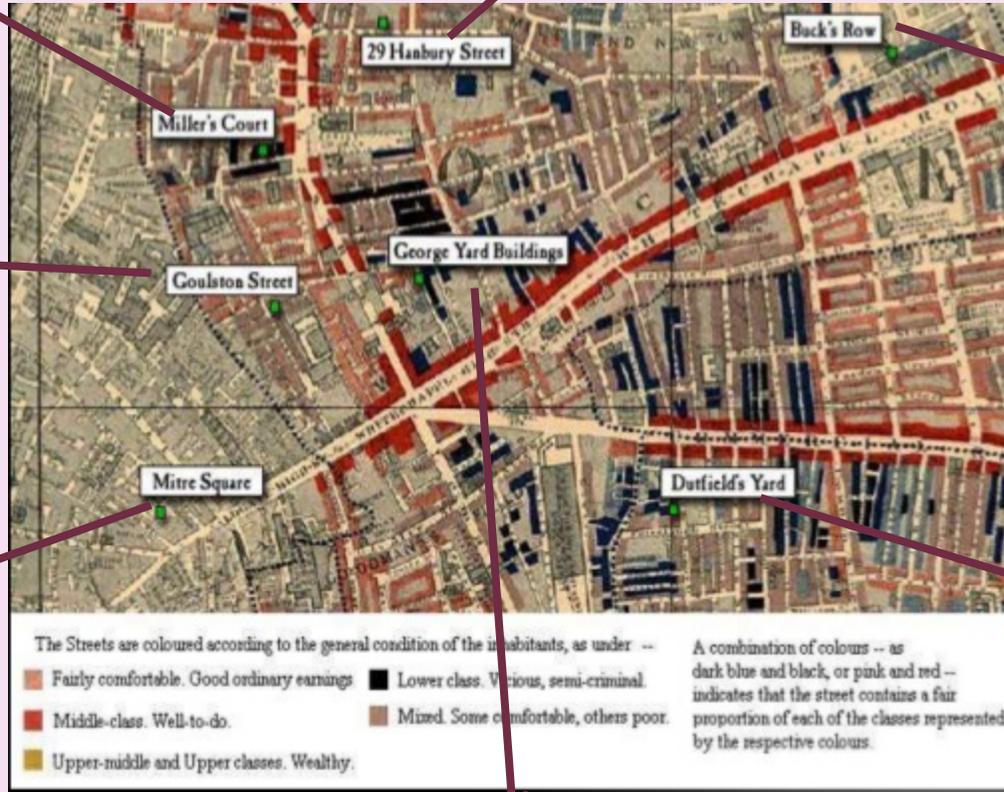
Murdered: 8<sup>th</sup> September 1888  
Throat cut. Intestines severed and arranged over right shoulder. Removal of stomach, uterus, upper part of vagina, large portion of the bladder.

Missing portion of Catherine Eddowes' apron found plus the chalk message on the wall: 'The Jews/Juwes are the men that will not be blamed for nothing.'

**Victim number 4:**

Catherine Eddowes  
Aged 46

Murdered: 30<sup>th</sup> September 1888  
Throat cut. Intestines draped over right shoulder. Facial mutilation. Earlobe severed. Genital mutilation. Womb removed. Removal of left kidney.



**Victim number 1:**

Mary Ann Nicholls  
Aged 43

Murdered: 31<sup>st</sup> August 1888  
Throat cut. Mutilation of the abdomen. No organs removed.

**Victim number 3:**

Elizabeth Stride  
Aged 44

Murdered: 30<sup>th</sup> September 1888  
Throat cut. No organs removed. Killer interrupted?

Murder site of Martha Tabram, 7<sup>th</sup> August 1888, who was stabbed 39 times. Some suggest that she was a Ripper victim.

# The 'Dear Boss' Letter:

Dear Boss  
25. Sept. 1888.

I keep on hearing the police have caught me, but they wont fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That joke about Leather Apron gave me real fits. I am down on whores and I shant quit ripping them till I do get buckled. Grand work the last job was. I gave the lady no time to squeal. How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my gunny little games. I saved some of the proper red stuff in a ginger beer bottle over the last job to write with but it went thick like glue and I cant use it. Red ink is fit enough. I hope ha ha. The next job I do I shall clip the lady's ears off and send to the

police officers just for jolly wouldnt you. Keep this letter back till I do a bit more work. then give it out straight. My knife's so nice and sharp I want to get to work right away if I get a chance. Good luck.

yours truly  
Jack the Ripper

Dont mind me giving the trade name

want good enough  
to post this before  
I got all the red  
ink off my hands  
curse it.  
No luck yet. They  
say I'm a doctor  
now- ha ha

Posted to the Central News Agency on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1888 and forwarded to the Metropolitan Police on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

# The 'Dear Boss' Letter:

Dear Boss,

I keep on hearing the police have caught me but they wont fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That joke about Leather Apron gave me real fits. I am down on whores and I shant quit ripping them till I do get buckled. Grand work the last job was. I gave the lady no time to squeal. How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my funny little games. I saved some of the proper red stuff in a ginger beer bottle over the last job to write with but it went thick like glue and I cant use it. Red ink is fit enough I hope ha. ha. The next job I do **I shall clip the ladys ears off** and send to the police officers just for jolly wouldn't you. **Keep this letter back till I do a bit more work**, then give it out straight. My knife's so nice and sharp I want to get to work right away if I get a chance. Good Luck.

Yours truly  
**Jack the Ripper**

Dont mind me giving the trade name

PS Wasnt good enough to post this before I got all the red ink off my hands curse it. No luck yet. They say I'm a doctor now. ha ha.

# 'Saucy Jack' Postcard:



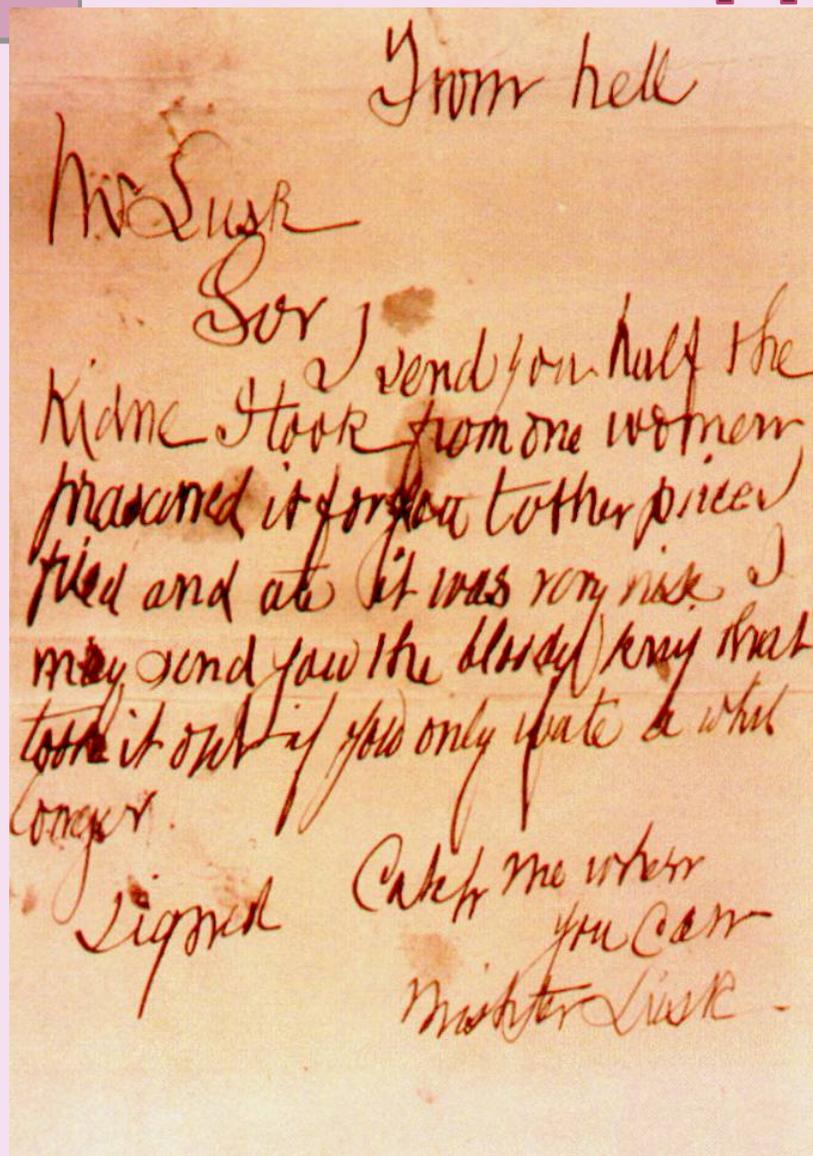
I was not coddling dear old Boss when I gave you the tip, you'll hear about Saucy Jacky's work tomorrow double event this time number one squealed a bit couldn't finish straight off. **Had not got time to get ears off for police thanks for keeping last letter back till I got to work again.**

Jack the Ripper

Postmarked 1<sup>st</sup> October (the day after the 'double event').

Journalist Fred Best of *The Star* the real author of these letters?

# 'From Hell' Letter



From hell  
Mr Lusk  
Sor I send you half the  
Kidne I took from one woman  
presarved it for you tother piece  
fried and ate it was very nice I  
may send you the bloody knif that  
took it out if you only wate a whil  
longer.  
Signed Catch me when  
you can  
Mishter Lusk -

From hell.

Mr Lusk,  
Sor

I send you half the Kidne I took from one woman  
presarved it for you tother piece I fried and ate it  
was very nise. I may send you the bloody knif that  
took it out if you only wate a whil longer  
signed

Catch me when you can Mishter Lusk

Letter sent to Mr Lusk of the Whitechapel  
Vigilance Committee along with half a human  
kidney.

# The Openshaw Letter:

Old boss you was rite it was  
the left kidney i was goin to  
be operate agin close to your  
ospital just as i was goin  
to drop mi wife along of  
er bloomin throate them  
cusses of coppers spoilt  
the game but i guess i wil  
be on the job soon and will  
send you another bit of  
innerds Jack the Ripper

O have you seen the devle  
with his mikerscope and scalpul  
a lookin at a kidney  
with a slide cocked up

Old boss you was rite it was the left kidney i was goin to hoperate agin close to you ospital just as i was going to dror mi nife along of er bloomin throate them cusses of coppers spoilt the game but i guess i wil be on the job soon and will send you another bit of innerds

Jack the Ripper

O have you seen the devle with his mikerscope and scalpul a-lookin at a kidney with a slide cocked up.

Sent on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1888 to Dr Thomas Horrocks Openshaw, who had performed the analysis on the kidney sent with the 'From Hell' letter.

# POLICE THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS

LAW COURTS AND WEEKLY RECORD.

No. 1,284.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

Price One Penny.



"IS HE THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERER?"

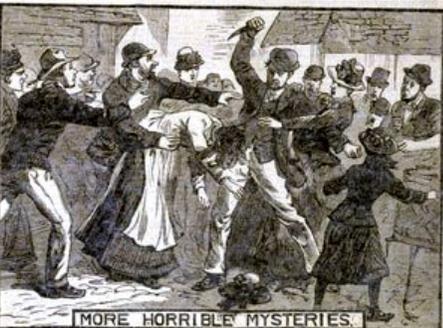


READY FOR THE WHITECHAPEL FIEND. WOMEN SECRETLY ARMED.

**LATEST DETAILS OF THE WHITECHAPEL MURDER S**



EXCITING SCENE IN BESTOCK AND WOMBWELLS MENAGERIE



MORE HORRIBLE MYSTERIES.

# POLICE THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS

LAW COURTS AND WEEKLY RECORD.

**TWO MORE WHITECHAPEL HORRORS. WHEN WILL THE MURDERER BE CAPTURED ?**



THE FIFTH VICTIM OF THE WHITECHAPEL FIEND.



FINDING THE MUTILATED BOP

# The Suspects:

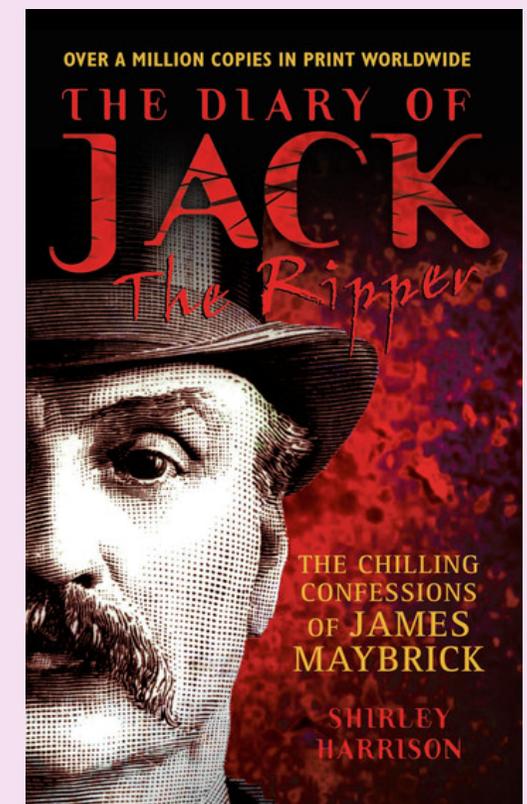
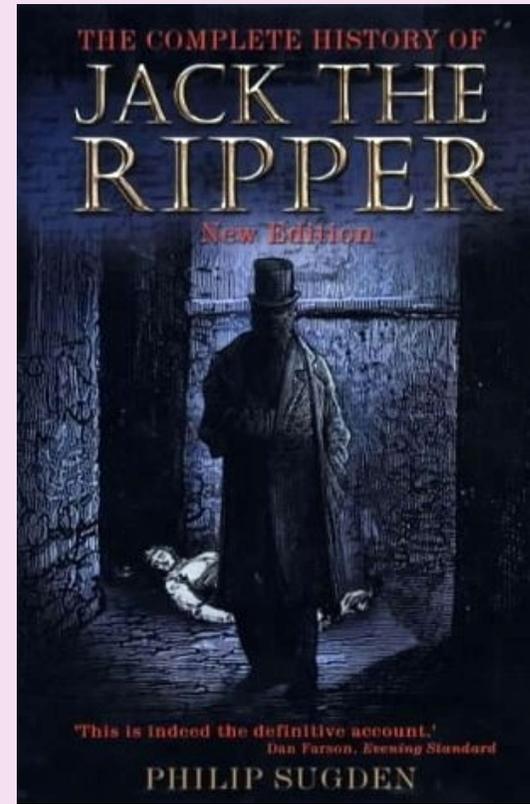
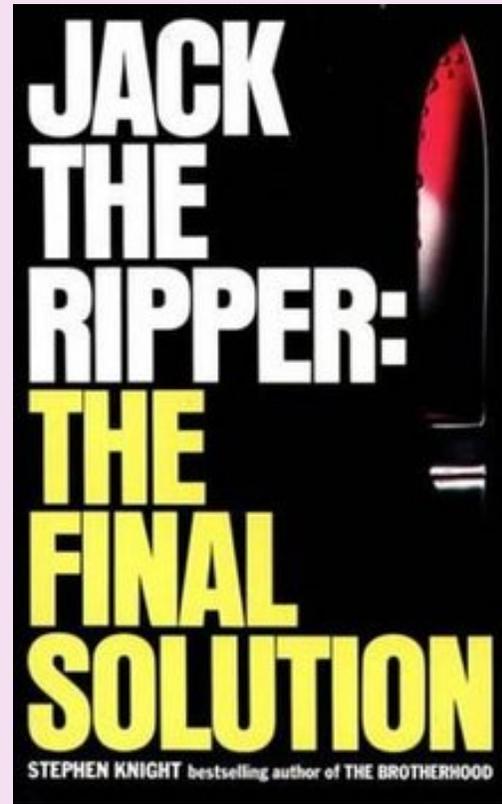
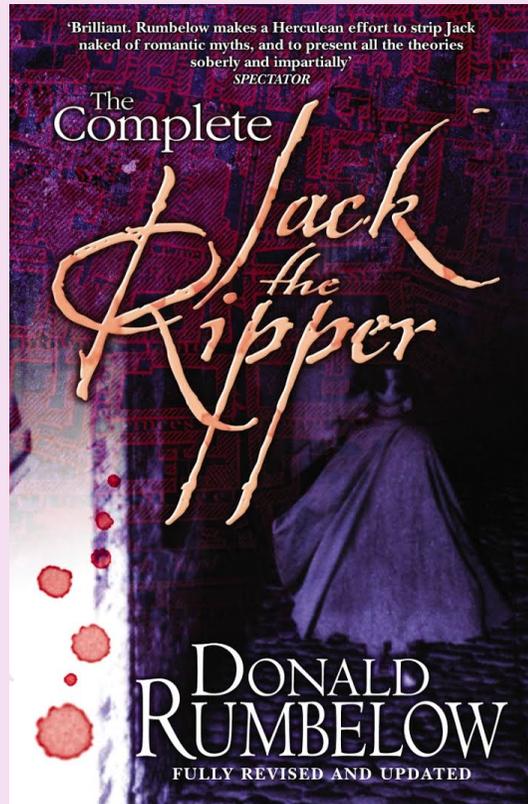
- ❖ **'Leather Apron' – John Pizer:** a Jewish shoemaker – accused but acquitted of the murders as he has an alibi for the night of Mary Ann Nichols' murder.
- ❖ **Thomas Hayne Cutbush:** Had a history of violence against women. Admitted to Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum in April 1891. Had earlier escaped from Lambeth Infirmary and attacked several women. (Accused by *The Sun* in 1894). On Sir Melville Macnaghten's list of suspects (he was Assistant Commissioner (Crime) of the London Metropolitan Police 1903-1913).
- ❖ **Montague John Druitt:** A barrister and assistant schoolmaster, mysteriously dismissed from his school on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1888. His body found in the Thames a month later. On Macnaghten's list of suspects.
- ❖ **(Aaron) Kosminski:** A Polish Jew who lived in Whitechapel and apparently had a hatred of women and was detained in a lunatic asylum. On Macnaghten's list of suspects.
- ❖ **Michael Ostrog:** Apparently a Russian doctor who was detained in a lunatic asylum. On Macnaghten's list of suspects. (But was being held in custody in France during the period of the Ripper murders).
- ❖ **George Chapman (aka Severin Klosowski):** Polish hairdresser's assistant who failed in his training to be a surgeon and moved to London in 1887. Found guilty of the murder of Maud Marsh in 1903. Abberline's favoured suspect.

# The Suspects:

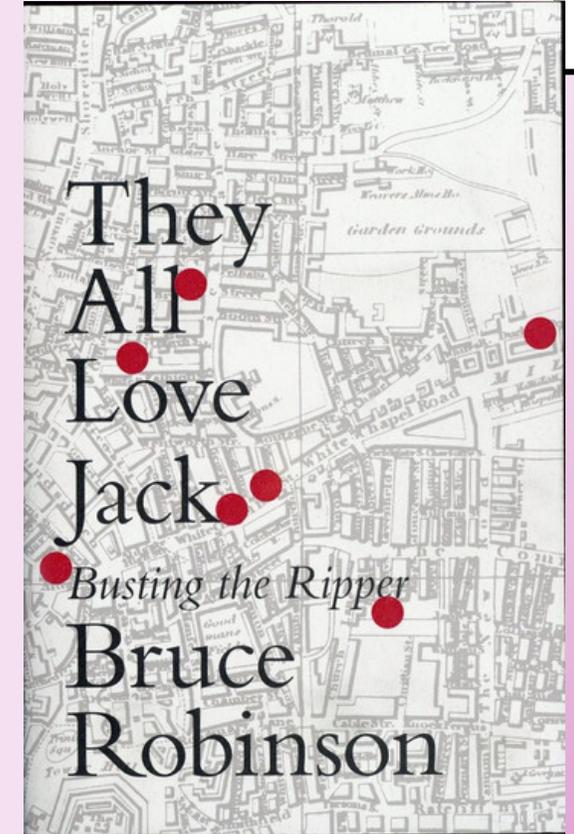
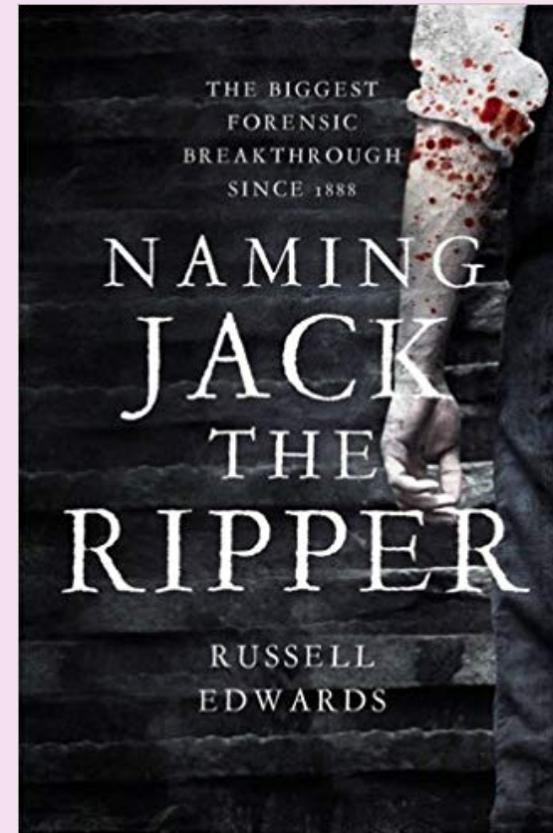
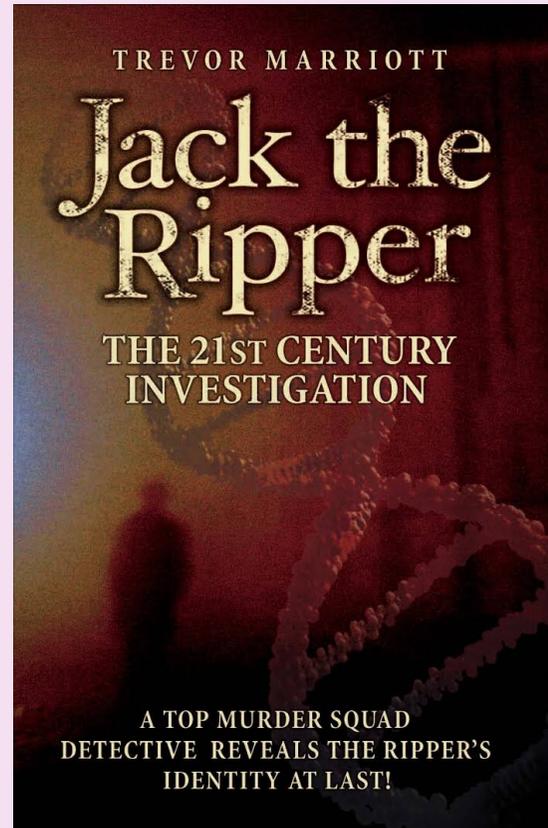
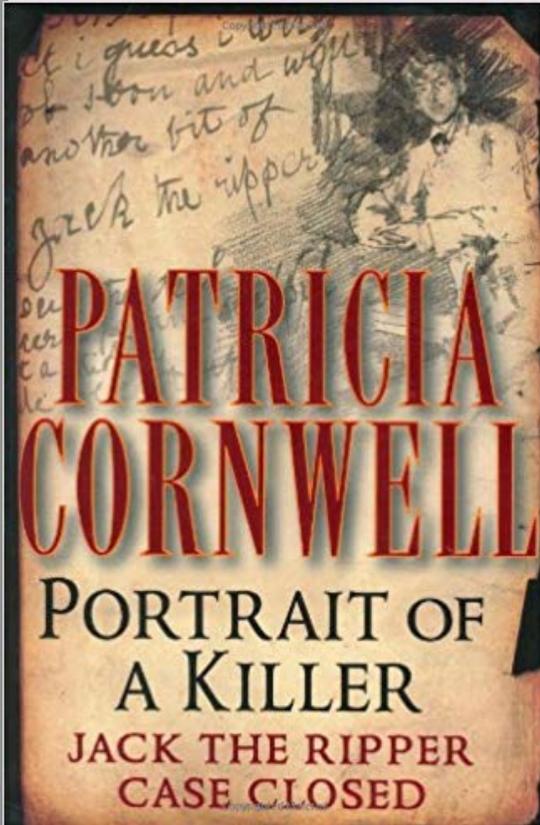
More high-profile suspects included:

- ❖ **Prince Albert Victor (Prince Eddy):** grandson of Queen Victoria (he had solid alibis for the final three murders).
- ❖ **Sir William Withey Gull:** physician to Queen Victoria – theory put forward by Stephen Knight in *Jack the Ripper: the Final Solution* (1976).
- ❖ **Walter Richard Sickert:** Artist – pupil to James McNeill Whistler. Patricia Cornwell favours him as the Ripper in her book *Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper Case Closed* (2002).
- ❖ **Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson):** Author of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Richard Wallace accuses him in *Jack the Ripper: Light-Hearted Friend* (1996).
- ❖ **James Maybrick:** A cotton trader from Liverpool whose wife was convicted of his murder. A diary emerged in 1991 in which Maybrick claimed that he was Jack the Ripper. Many have dismissed it as a hoax.
- ❖ **'Jill the Ripper':** Jack the Ripper as a woman? William Stewart coined the term 'Jill the Ripper' in *Jack the Ripper – A New Theory* (1939). Arthur Conan Doyle also suggested that the killer might have been a woman.

# Ripperology



# Ripperology



POLICE CRIMINOLOGY FORENSIC SCIENCE THE LAW

# the criminologist

**Demons and Detectives**

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**Murder—Its Many Aspects**

W. G. Eckert, M.D.

**The Citizen Policeman**

Glyn Hardwicke

**Chromosome Abnormality**

J. E. Hall Williams

**'Jack the Ripper'—A Solution?**

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**Professor Keith Simpson**

James Stewart-Gordon

**The Policing of Ireland**

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**Court Procedure in Ancient China**

R. H. Van Gulik, Litt.D.

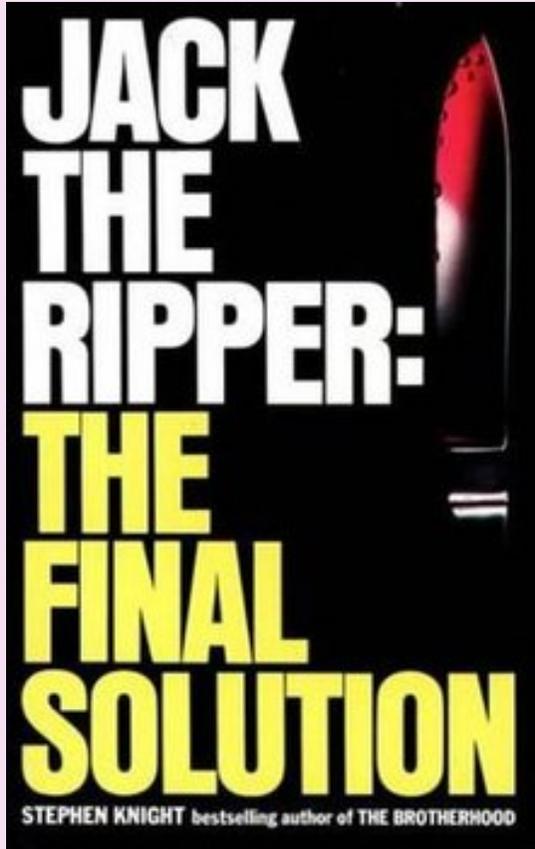
**The Prison Officer**

J. H. Absalom

**Case Notes**

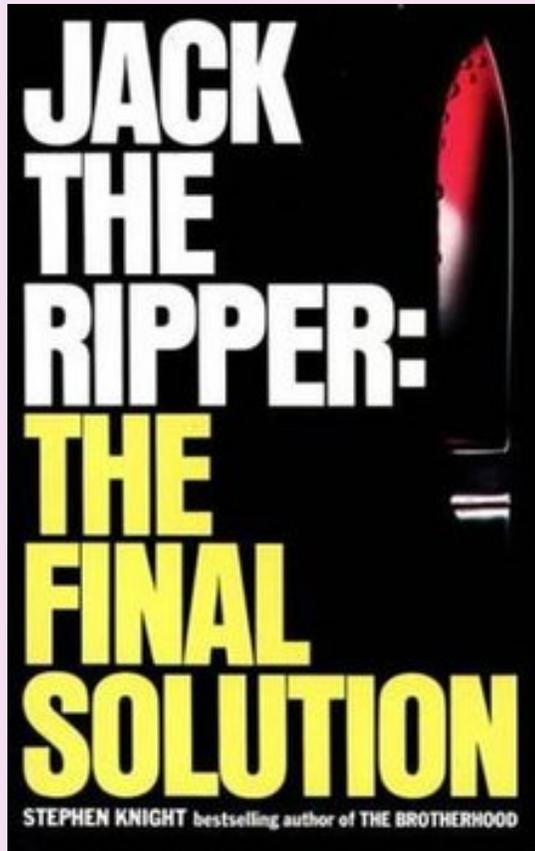
Robert S. Smith

Vol. 5 No. 18 NOVEMBER 1970



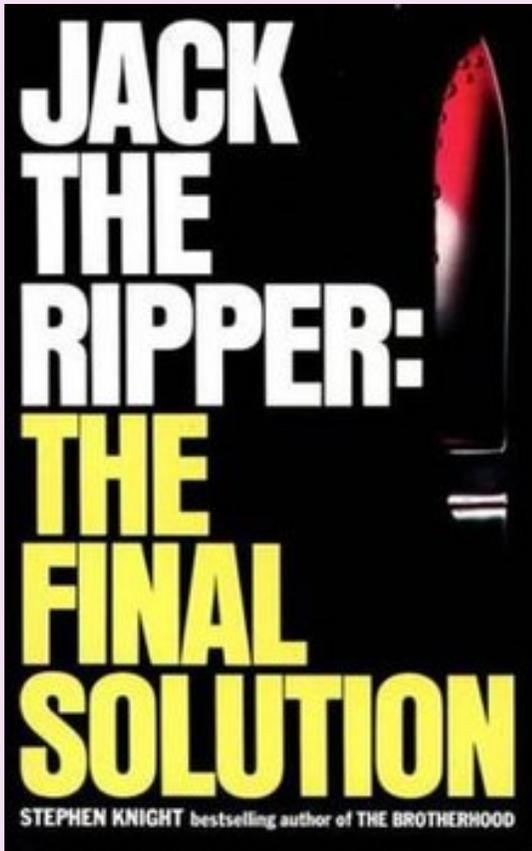
'Jack the Ripper is a misnomer. The name conjures up visions of a lone assassin, stalking his victims under the foggy gaslight of Whitechapel. It is just this mistaken notion, inspired almost solely by that terrifying nickname, which rendered the murders of five East End prostitutes in 1888 insoluble. For Jack the Ripper was not one man but three, two killers and an accomplice.'

**Stephen Knight, *Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution* (London: George G. Harrap & Co, 2005 [1976]), p. 1.**



‘When the author told me his conclusions about my father’s involvement in the case I was disturbed. There is no point in denying that I was also angry. I felt he had let me down and betrayed my trust. But later I had to admit that my father must have known more than he told me. It was a fact that I had half realized all along. And possibly one of the reasons I allowed my story to be investigated in the first place was that I hoped new facts might be uncovered that would somehow dispel my worst private fears about my father. In the event the investigation has had the opposite effect and my fears have been confirmed.’

**Joseph Sickert, ‘Afterword’, in Knight, *Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution*, pp. 263-264.**

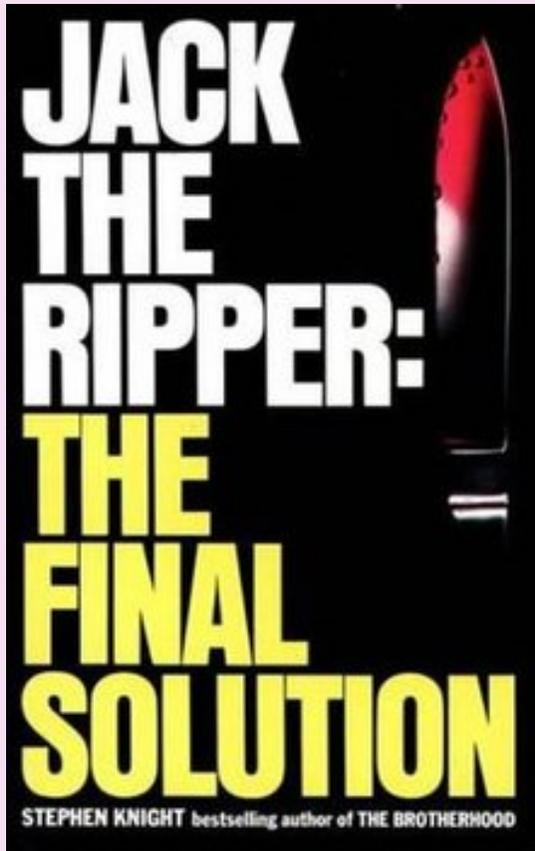


'More ink has been spilt on him than blood flowed in all his murders; millions upon millions of words which, if placed end to end, would stretch from here to . . . Nowhere, because, when all has been written, the evidence accumulated and assayed, the theories counted and discounted, the arguments for this suspect waxed hot and waned cold, we have always ended up precisely where we started—in a grey limbo of unknowing.

Always, that is, until now.

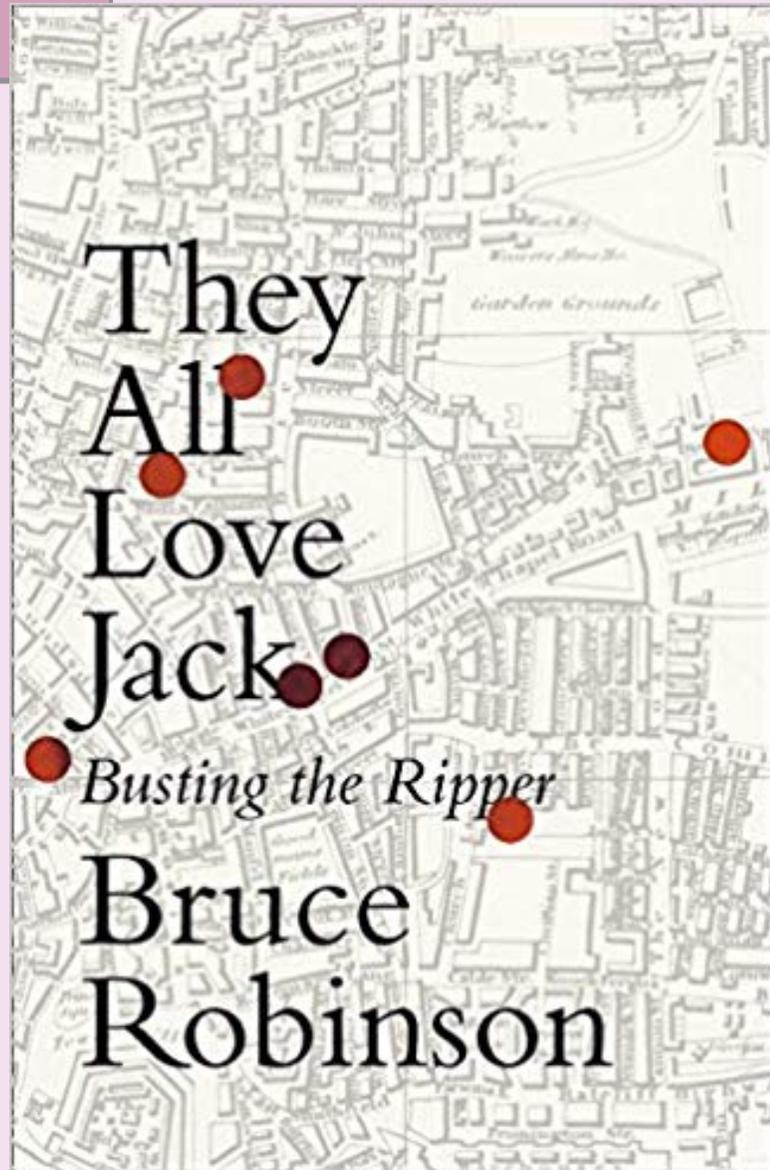
Now, Mr Stephen Knight presents us with a most cleverly worked out, plausible—brilliant, even—solution, in this thoughtful, wide-ranging book. I speak with feeling, for I have myself zealously pursued the red shadow through the twisting alleys and thwarting cul-de-sacs of thirty-five years.'

**Richard Whittington-Egan, 'Foreword', in Knight, *Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution*, p. 7.**



'Jack the Ripper is a misnomer. The name conjures up visions of a lone assassin, stalking his victims under the foggy gaslight of Whitechapel. It is just this mistaken notion, inspired almost solely by that terrifying nickname, which rendered the murders of five East End prostitutes in 1888 insoluble. For Jack the Ripper was not one man but three, two killers and an accomplice. The facts surrounding their exploits have never before been teased from the confused skein of truths, half-truths and lies which has been woven around the case. Falsehoods deliberate and accidental have hopelessly enmeshed the truth. The idea of a solitary killer has been propagated by author after author, each striving to prove that his own particular suspect was without a doubt the most notorious criminal in history. It explains the wide gulf of inconsistency into which every theorist's 'logical' reasoning has ultimately fallen.'

**Knight, *Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution*, p. 15.**

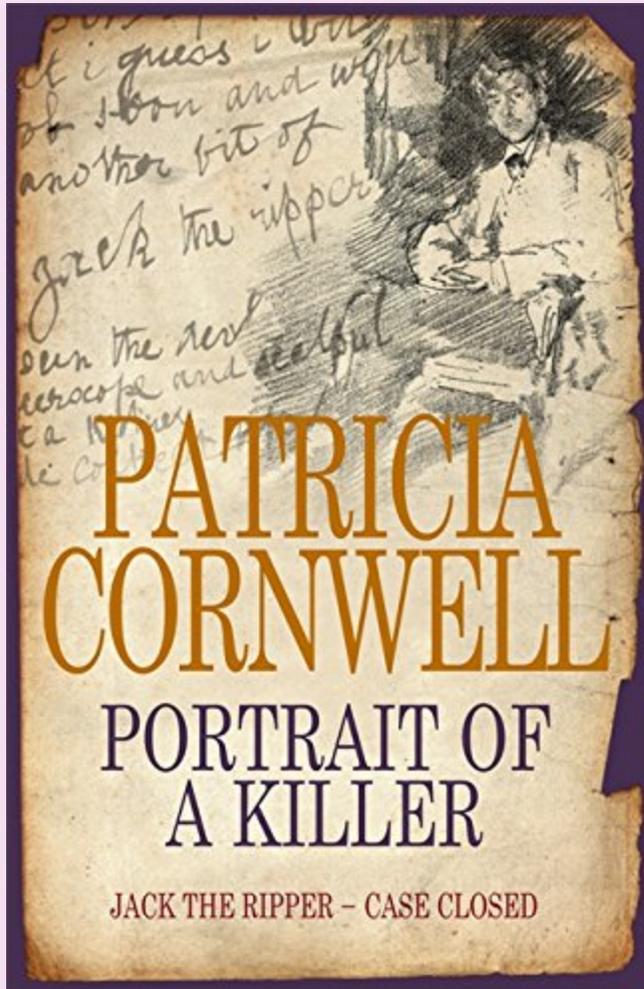


‘He’s in a house of smoke and shifting mirrors. There are glimpses of amorphous faces. Many Jack the Rippers are here, feeding off what historical fragments their keeper can throw into the pit.

Middle-aged men with disturbing expressions lean over the safety rail, clutching files. These are the Ripperologists. They are waiting for the Rippers to come out. [. . .]

This book has no interest in the house of mirrors, and despite selective admiration for some, no interest in Ripperologists. I don’t believe this collective could catch the object of its aspiration in a thousand years, and furthermore, I don’t believe in ‘the mystery of Jack the Ripper’ either.’

**Bruce Robinson, *They All Love Jack: Busting the Ripper* (London: Fourth Estate, 2015), p. 1.**



“I want to write my novels,” I said. “I don’t want to write about him. There’s no joy in this. None.”

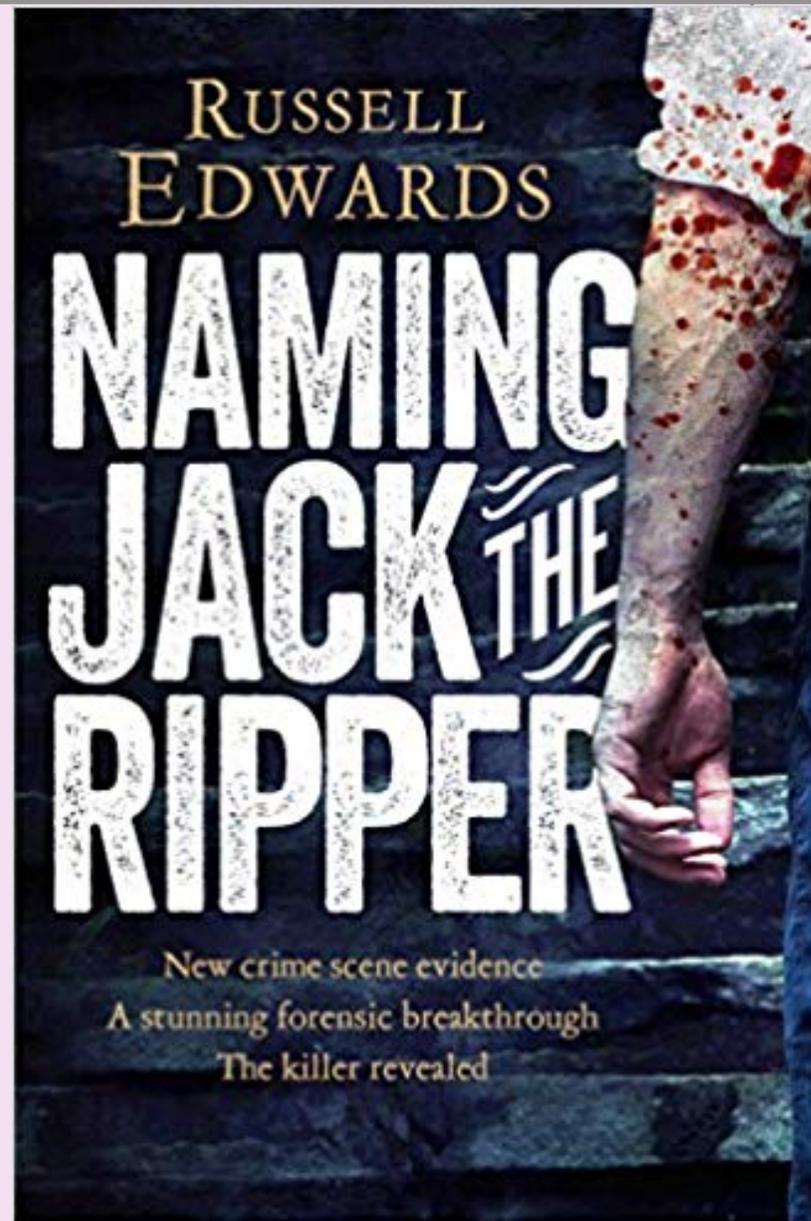
“Well, you know,” she said very calmly as she resumed her pace, “you don’t have to do it. I can get you out of it.”

She could have gotten me out of it, but I could never have gotten myself out of it. I knew the identity of the murderer and I couldn’t possibly avert my gaze. “I am suddenly in a position of judgement,” I told Esther. “It doesn’t matter if he’s dead. Every now and then this small voice asks me, what if you’re wrong? I would never forgive myself for saying such a thing about somebody, and then finding out I’m wrong.”

“But you don’t believe you’re wrong . . .”

“No. Because I’m not,” I said.’

**Patricia Cornwell, *Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper – Cased Closed* (London: Little, Brown: 2002), pp. 9-10.**



2014



'The Nemesis of Neglect', *Punch*,  
1888



Richard Mansfield as Jekyll and Hyde at the Lyceum  
Theatre, London in 1888

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**SPECIAL NOTICE TO THE TRADE.**


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IN PRESS. For Immediate Publication.

# THE CURSE UPON MITRE SQUARE. A. D. 1530—1888.

By JOHN FRANCIS BREWER. 1 vol., 12mo, Lovell's Library, No. 1379, 20 cents.

There is a spot in the midst of one of the busiest parts of London, which is accursed, whether by the power of the Evil One or by the vengeance of the Almighty we know not; but one thing we know, and that is, that deeds the foulest and crimes the vilest have been committed there on the same identical ground from the days of Henry VIII. down to our own day.

Mitre Square, where Catherine Eddowes was murdered, under circumstances so shameful that full particulars can not be printed, has been cursed by villainies of even a worse kind from the year of grace 1530, when the High Altar of the Priory Church of Holy Trinity, Aldgate, was in existence over the very spot.

What can we do to atone for those Horrors that they may be stayed? What CAN we do? This is the cry of public lamentation and woe!

### NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

"It can not be denied that Mr. Brewer has written a clever and a blood-curdling book."—*Evening Post.*

"A very remarkable little booklet. Is written with the best intention, and will doubtless have a fascinating interest to lovers of the tragic."—*Provincial Press.*

"Mr. John Francis Brewer, the author of 'The Curse upon Mitre Square, A. D. 1530—1888,' which is causing considerable interest at present, is the grandson of the Rev. Professor Brewer of the Rolls, Editor of the 'State Papers,' etc., whom Mr. Gladstone quotes in his interesting paper on 'Queen Elizabeth and the Church.'"—*Star.*

"This thrilling little tale, as condensed as a meat lozenge, is the work of Mr. John Francis Brewer, who has laid before his readers a perfect 'feast of horrors.' Having obtained possession of some very recondite and curious information concerning the precedents of Mitre Square, the author proceeds to impart his privileged knowledge in about as gruesome a tale as it has ever been our fate to read late at night, when the fire burning low and encircling one with shadows that embody the horrors one is reading, causes one to start and look up and all round in a fit of ignominious pusillanimity. 'The Curse upon Mitre Square' boasts some literary qualities above its supreme sensationalism. 'Tis indeed a well written booklet, whose perusal we can confidently recommend to all our readers who care to have their minds agreeably thrilled by scientifically accumulated terrors."—*The Gentleman.*

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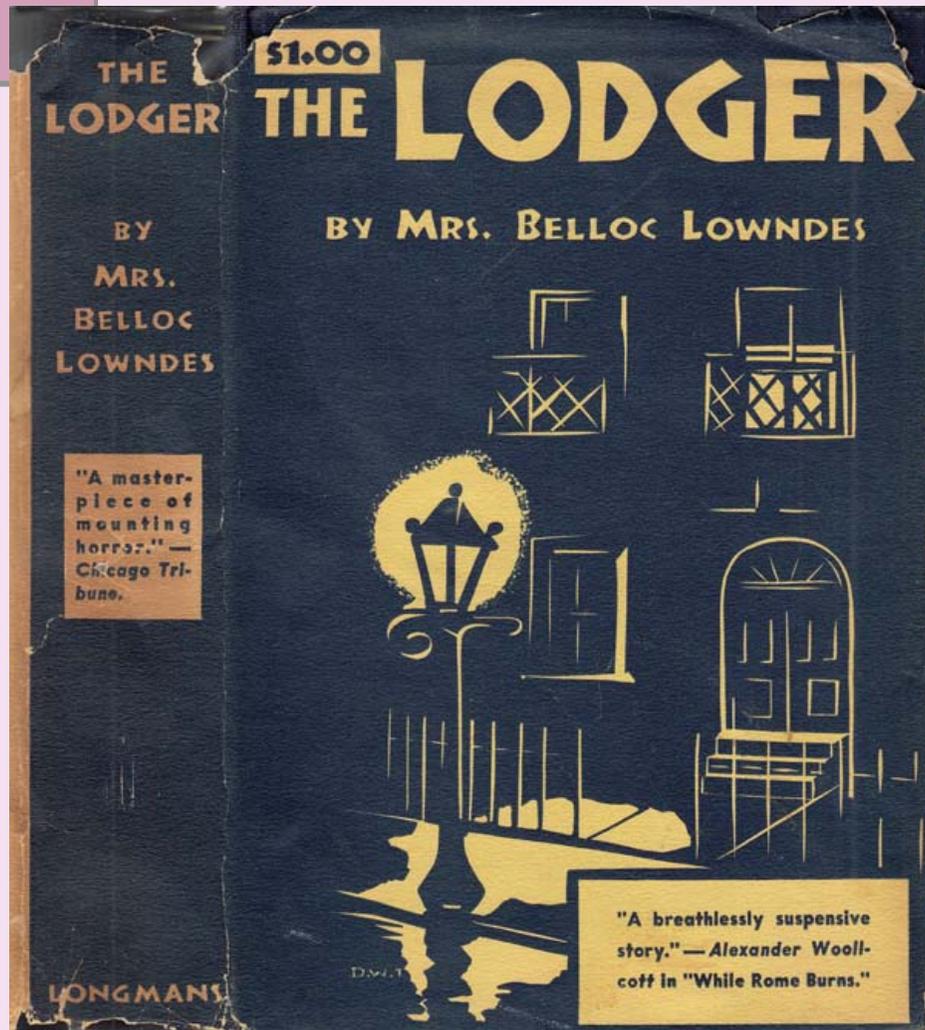
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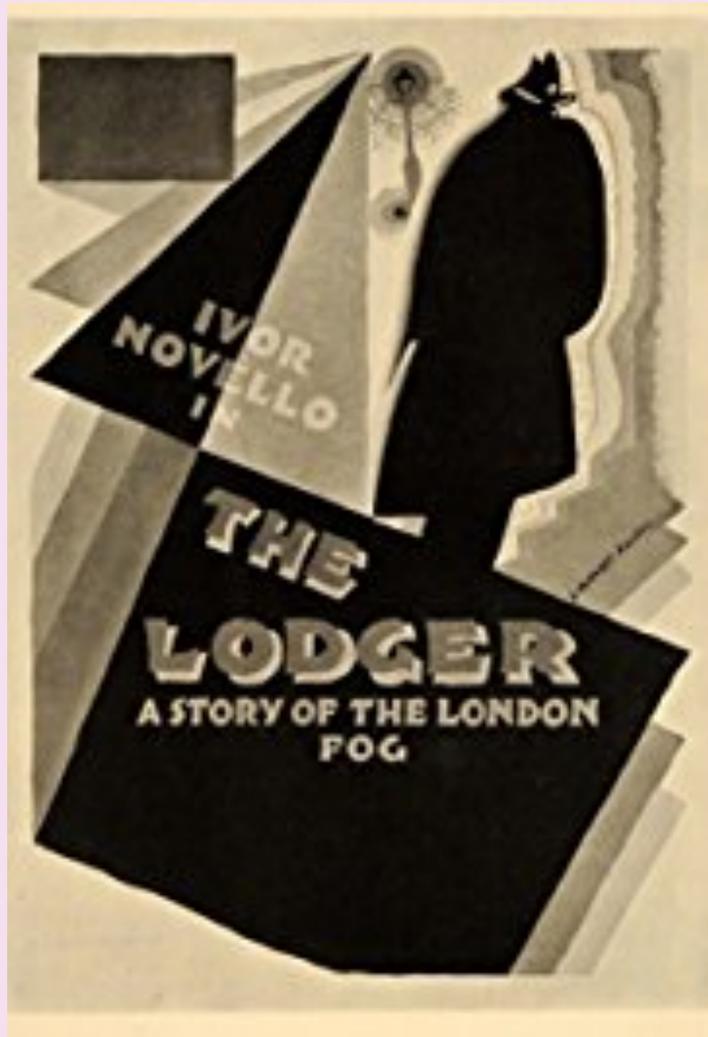
By OUIDA, author of "Under Two Flags," "Princess Napraxine," etc., etc. 1 vol., Lovell's Library, No. 1253, 30 cents.



Marie Belloc Lowndes, *The Lodger* (1913)  
(first appeared as a short story in  
*McClure's* magazine in January 1911)

'On the top of the three steps which led up to the door, there stood the long, lanky figure of a man clad in an Inverness cape and an old-fashioned top hat. He waited for a few seconds blinking at her, perhaps dazzled by the light of the gas in the passage. Mrs Bunting's trained perception told her at once that this man, odd as he looked, was a gentleman, belonging by birth to the class with whom her former employment had brought her into contact.'

**Marie Belloc Lowndes, *The Lodger* (1913)**



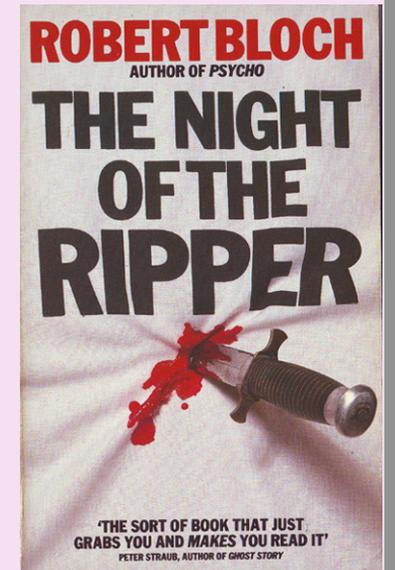
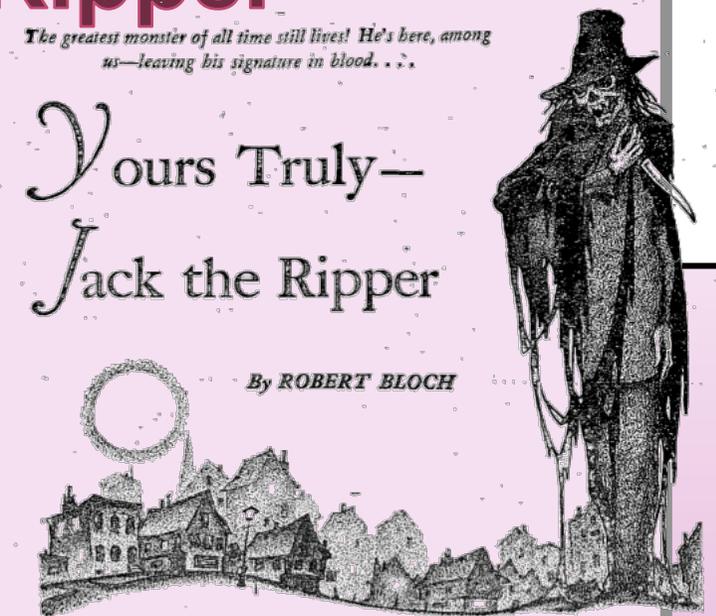
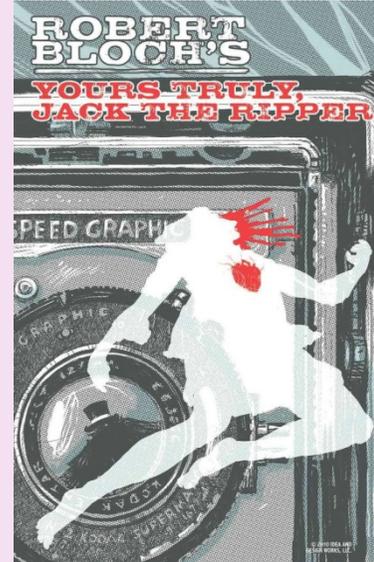
1926 film



1944 film

# Robert Bloch and Jack the Ripper

- ❖ Published his first Jack the Ripper story, 'Yours Truly – Jack the Ripper' in *Weird Tales* in July 1943. It was adapted for radio in 1944 and 1945 and 1961 and graphic novel in 2010.
- ❖ Bloch produced several other Ripper fictions, including:
  - an episode of *Star Trek* - 'Wolf in the Fold' (1967);
  - the short story 'A Toy for Juliette' for Harlan Ellison's collection *Dangerous Visions* (1967);
  - the novel, *The Night of the Ripper* (1984);
  - a compilation of Bloch's Jack the Ripper works published as *Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper*.



# 'Yours Truly – Jack the Ripper'

'Here, the Ripper emerges as not just a criminal harassing London, as depicted in Belloc Lowndes' *The Lodger*, but rather as an absolute malevolent presence loose in the civilized world. As such, and because of Bloch's theme, the Ripper has become a major figure in the literary genre of horror. The Ripper's name may be absent but his presence is nonetheless sensed in the spate of slasher films whose narratives may or may not be rooted in the supernatural but whose rendering are always horrifying, both aesthetically and morally. Hence, Jack the Ripper is now barely distinguishable from other such demonic figures in literature as Dracula and Mr Hyde.'

**Gary Coville and Patrick Lucanio, *Jack the Ripper: His Life and Crimes in Popular Entertainment* (Jefferson, NC and London: McFarland, 1999), p. 59.**

"Just how could a man of, let us say, 85 years commit these crimes? For if Jack the Ripper was around 30 in 1888 and lived, he'd be 85 today."

Sir Guy Hollis was silent. I had him there. But—

"*Suppose he didn't get any older?*" whispered Sir Guy.

"What's that?"

"Suppose Jack the Ripper didn't grow old? Suppose he is still a young man today?"

"All right," I said. "I'll suppose for a moment. Then I'll stop supposing and call for my nurse to restrain you."

**Robert Bloch, 'Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper', *Weird Tales* (1943), p. 87.**

"He took my mother's life and the lives of hundreds to keep his own hellish being alive. . . Like a vampire, he battens on blood. Like a ghoul, he is nourished by death. Like a fiend, he stalks the world to kill. He is cunning, devilishly cunning. But I'll never rest until I find him, never!"

**Bloch, 'Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper', p. 97.**

"Wait a minute," said Sir Guy. "Give me back my gun." He lurched a little. "I'd feel better with the gun on me."

He pressed me into the dark shadows of a little recess.

I tried to shrug him off, but he was insistent.

"Let me carry the gun,' now, John," he mumbled.

"All right," I said.

I reached into my coat, brought my hand out.

"But that's not a gun," he protested.

"That's a knife."

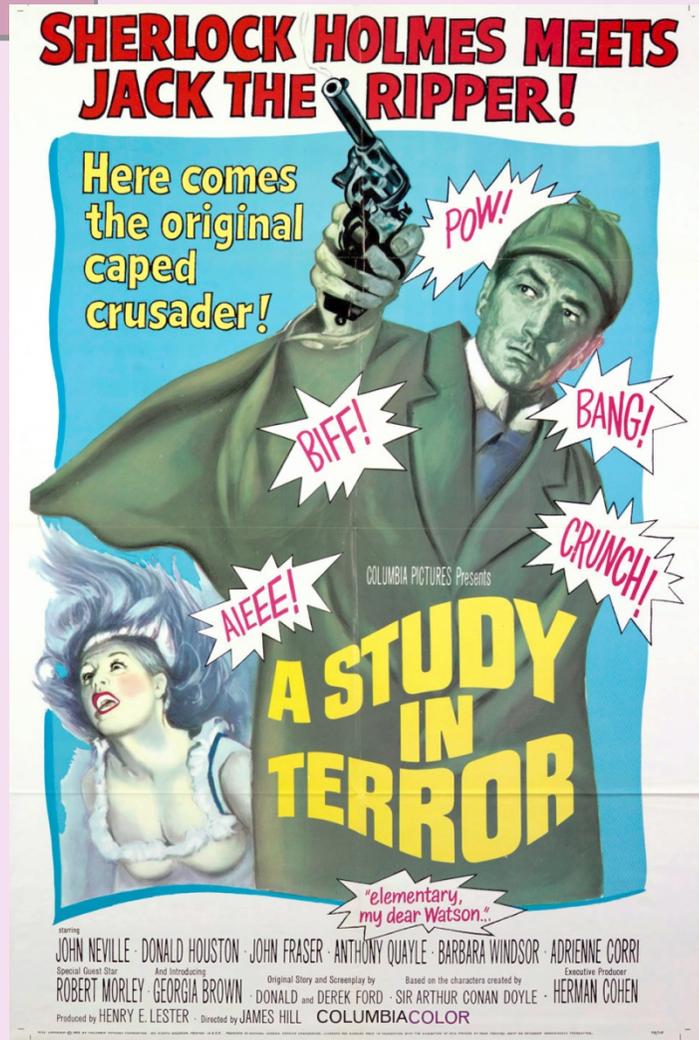
"I know."

I bore down on him swiftly.

"John!" he screamed.

"Never mind the '*John*'," I whispered, raising the knife. "Just call me . . . Jack."

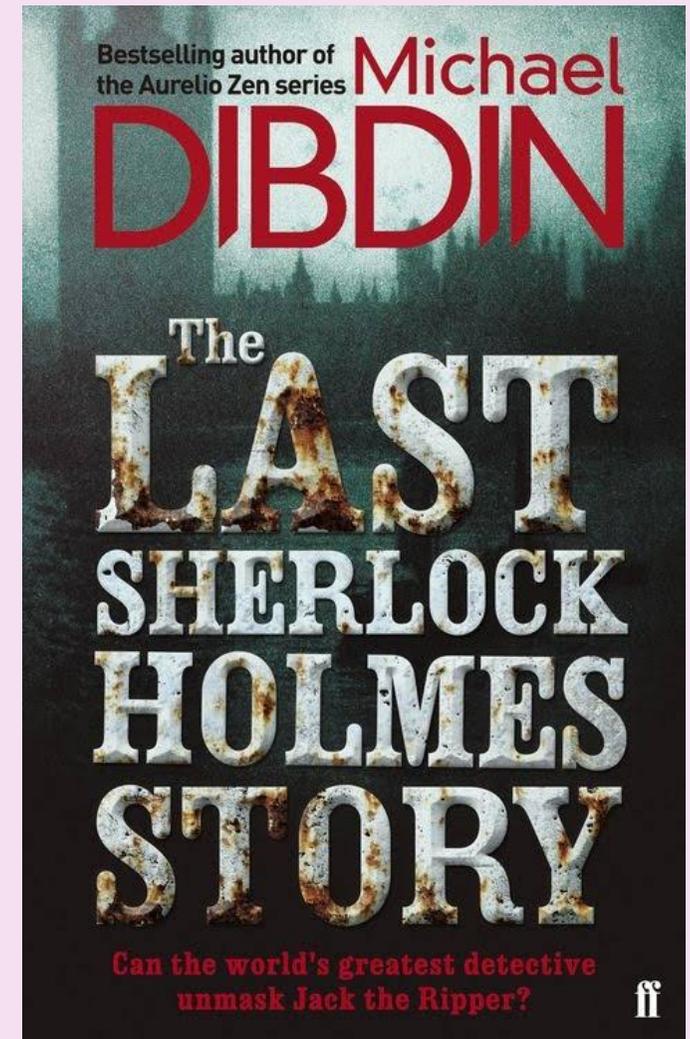
**Bloch, 'Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper', p. 97.**



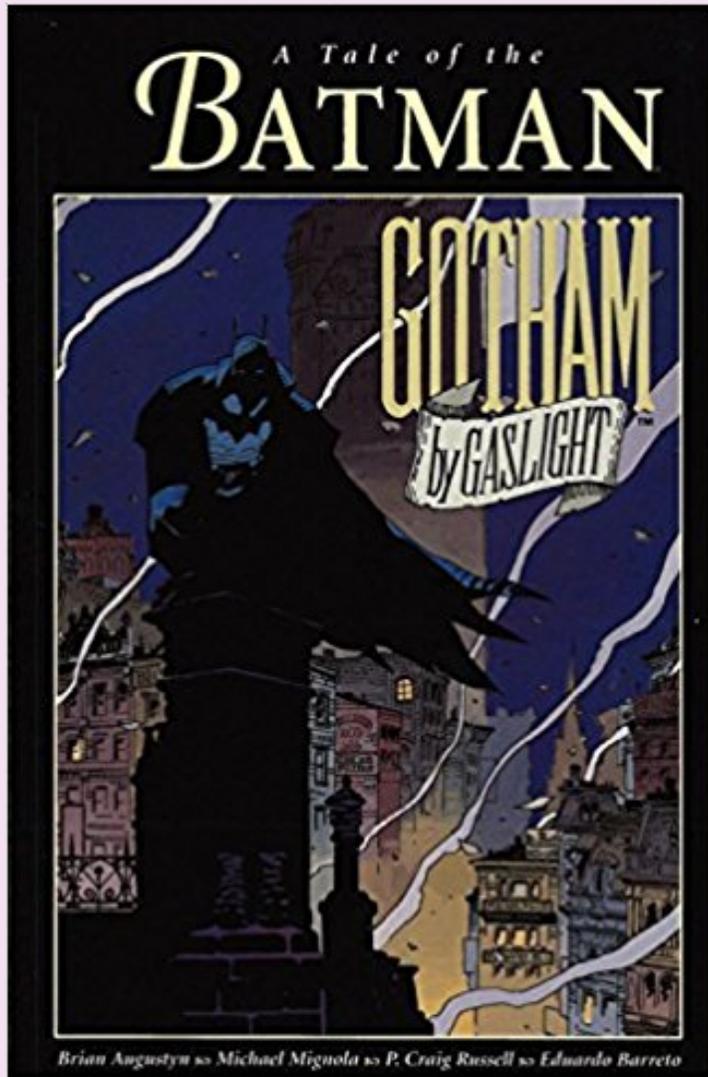
1965



1979



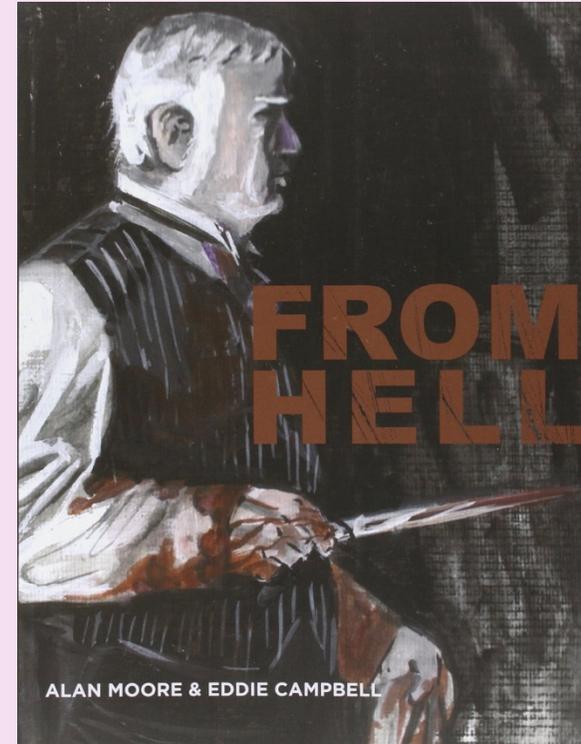
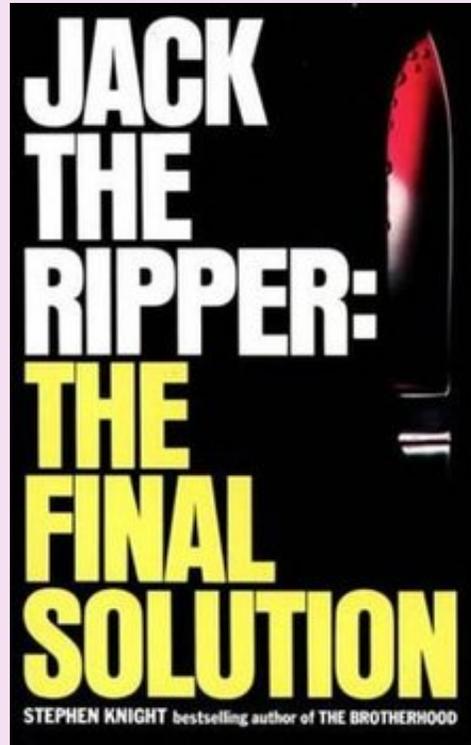
1978



1989



2018





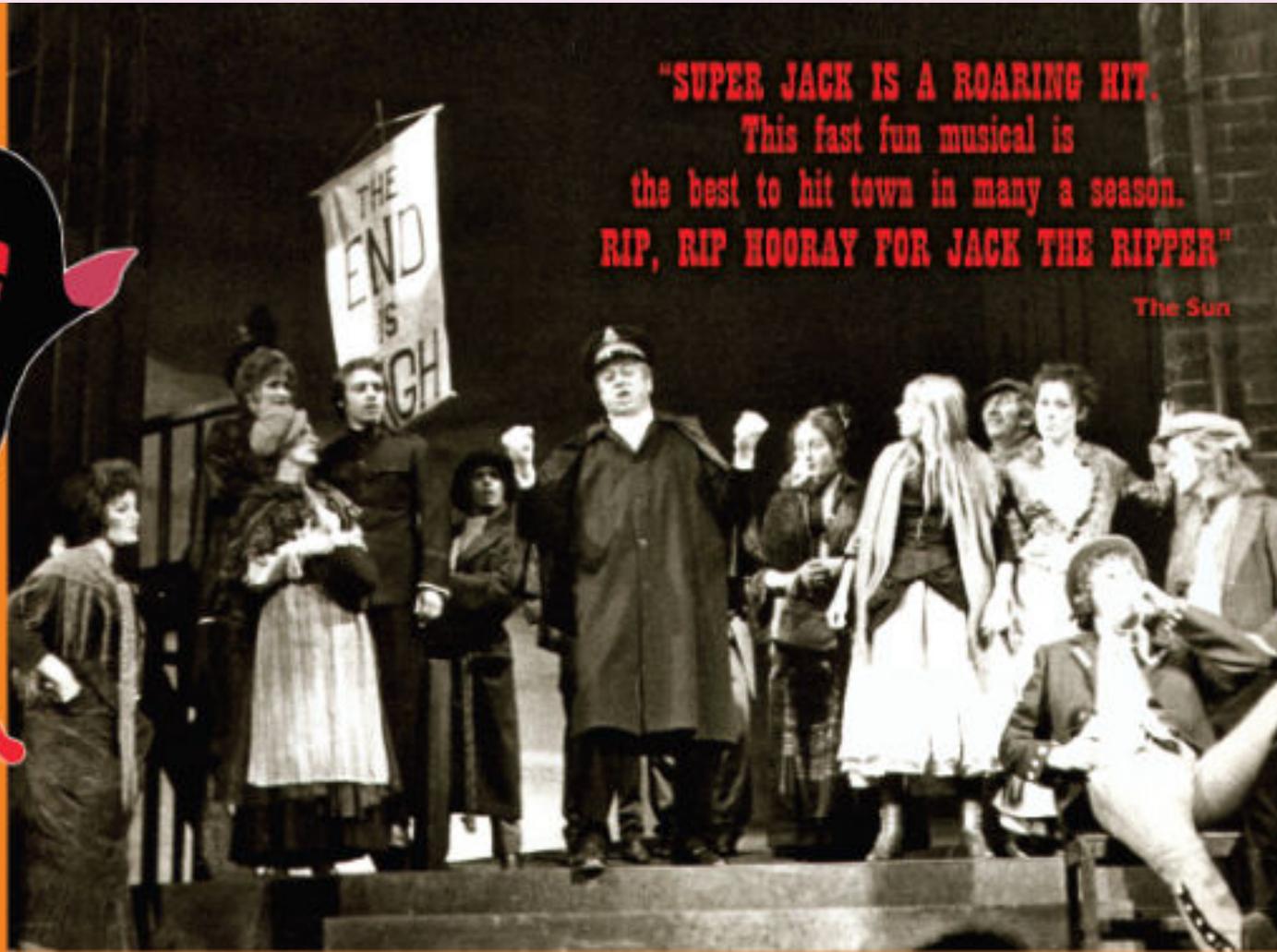
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# JACK the RIPPER



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**RIP, RIP HOORAY FOR JACK THE RIPPER"**

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it has so much  
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flavour

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and designed

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performances

this could easily  
become a winner."

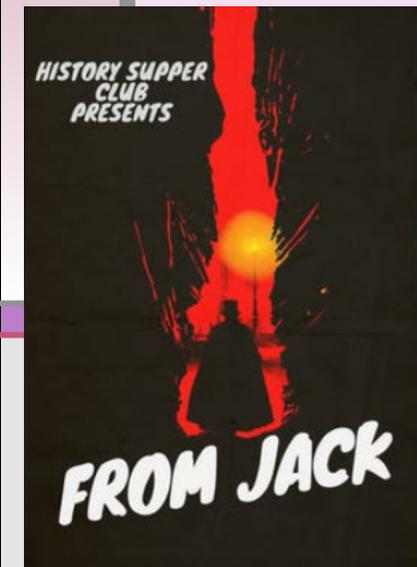
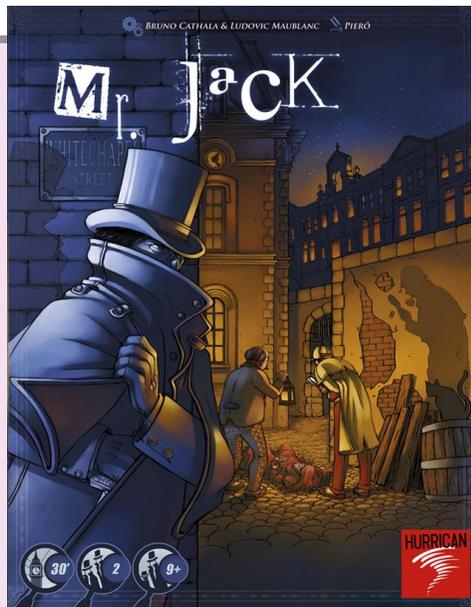
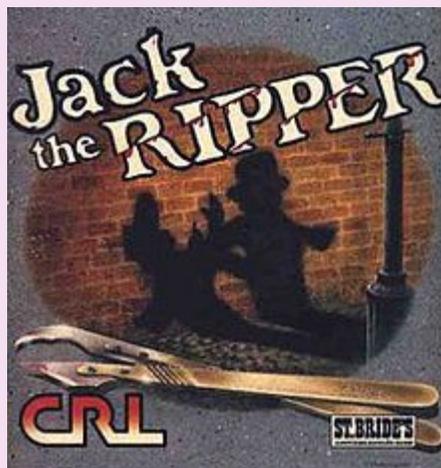
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<http://www.stagedoorrecords.com/stage9039.html>



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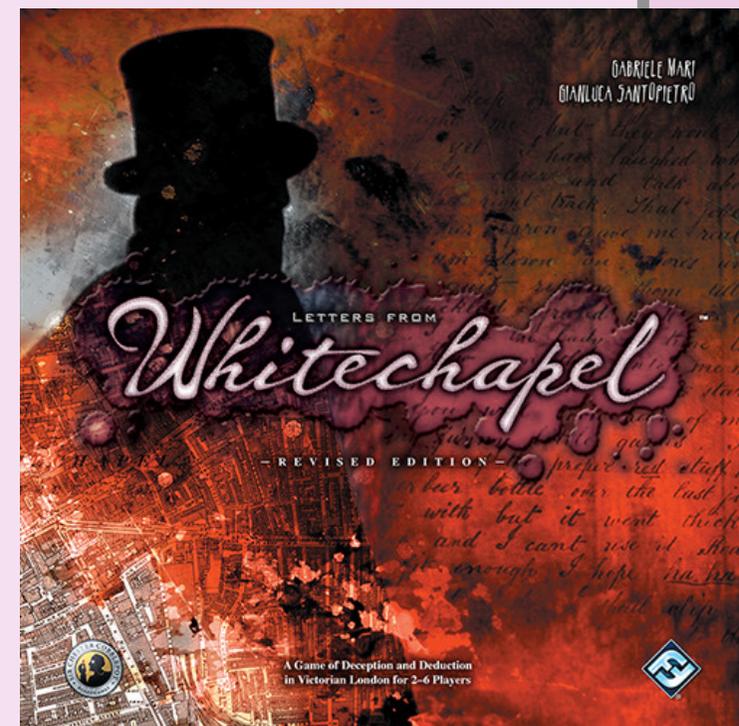


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<https://www.thejacktherippertour.com/ripper-vision/>



"Not" Jack the Ripper... but a guy looking like him named "Jack" on a "Jack of Diamonds" playing card representing a team named the London Rippers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vn3CqdFd3cY&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR31hm0ymIvJbsbCTNWcHrHKglZmmBil7JdoLie84idaFluCWpQEOXAbLwY>

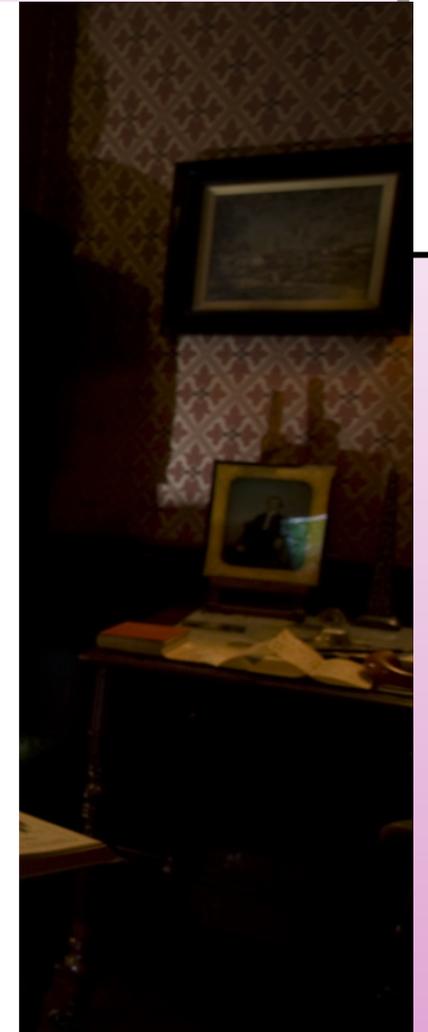
*In 1888, Jack the Ripper committed a series of murders in the east end of London that shocked the world. The killings spawned hundreds of theories, books and films, each trying to solve the crimes which, to this day, remain a mystery.*

Jack the Ripper Museum, situated in a historic Victorian house in the heart of Whitechapel, tells the full story of the Jack the Ripper murders. Step back in time to the London of 1888, the greatest city in the world, where the greatest unsolved crimes of all time took place.

As you explore the museum, you will discover everything there is to know about the lives of the victims, the main suspects in the murders, the police investigation and the daily life of those living in the east end of London in 1888. Once you have all the clues, will you be able to solve the mystery of Jack the Ripper?

As you make your way up the stairs, you'll see details of each murder recorded on the walls. The victims' names, ages and murder locations are shown, along with newspaper reports and illustrations of the crimes.

**Who was Jack? An artist, a doctor or an aristocrat?  
You decide....**



<https://www.jacktherippermuseum.com/about-the-museum.html>

News > London

# Blow for controversial Jack The Ripper Museum as it is ordered to remove nearly all of its signage

TOM MARSHALL | Saturday 4 June 2016 08:20 | [6 comments](#)



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## Jack the Ripper museum besieged by women protesters in Cable Street again

[PUBLISHED: 11:03 06 November 2017](#) | [UPDATED: 08:02 07 November 2017](#) | [Mike Brooke](#)



Pickets block entrance to Jack the Ripper Museum in Cable Street. Picture: Vickie Flores/What's in Wapping

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# JACK THE RIPPER MUSEUM



## EXPLORE VICTORIAN LONDON AT THE JACK THE RIPPER MUSEUM

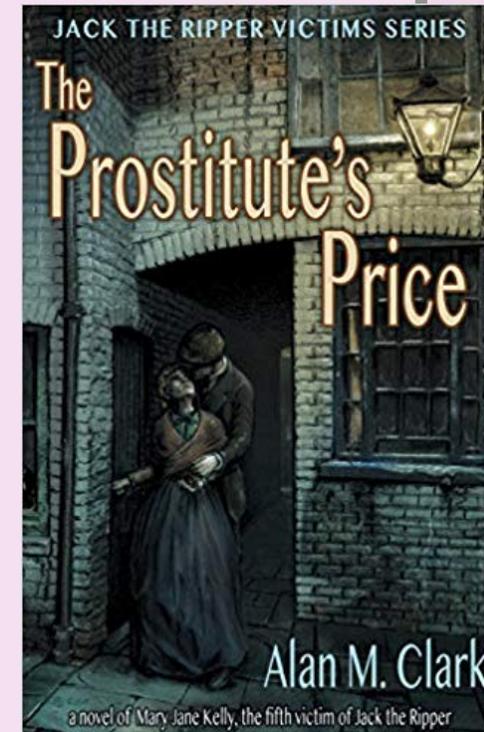
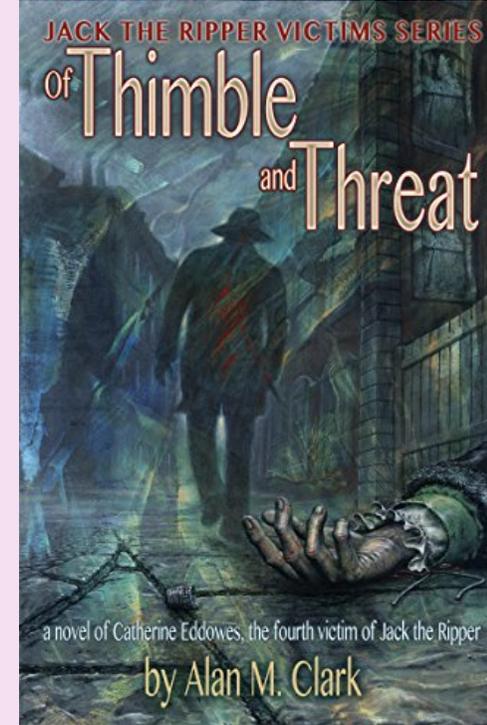
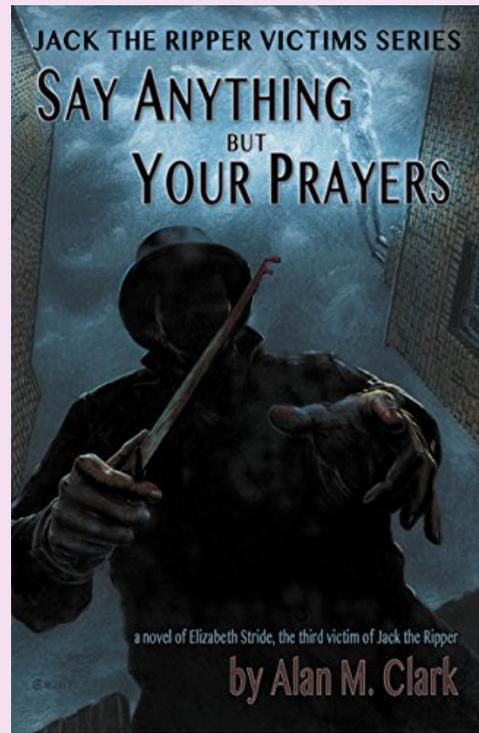
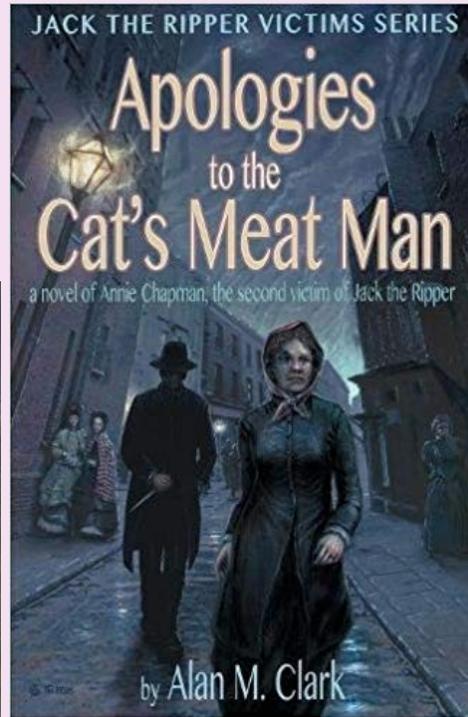
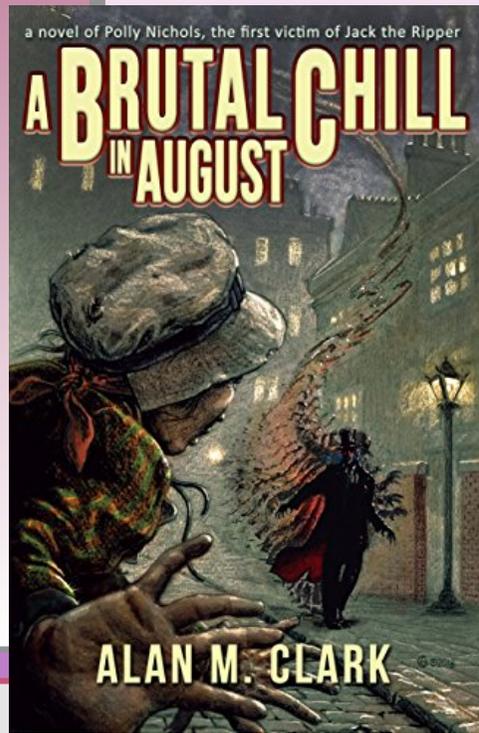
The museum is a dedicated to the history of the East London in the 1880s, providing a serious examination of the crimes of Jack the Ripper within the social context of the period. For the first time it tells the story of the man known as 'Jack the Ripper' from the perspective of six of the women who were his victims.

MUSEUM ADDRESS:

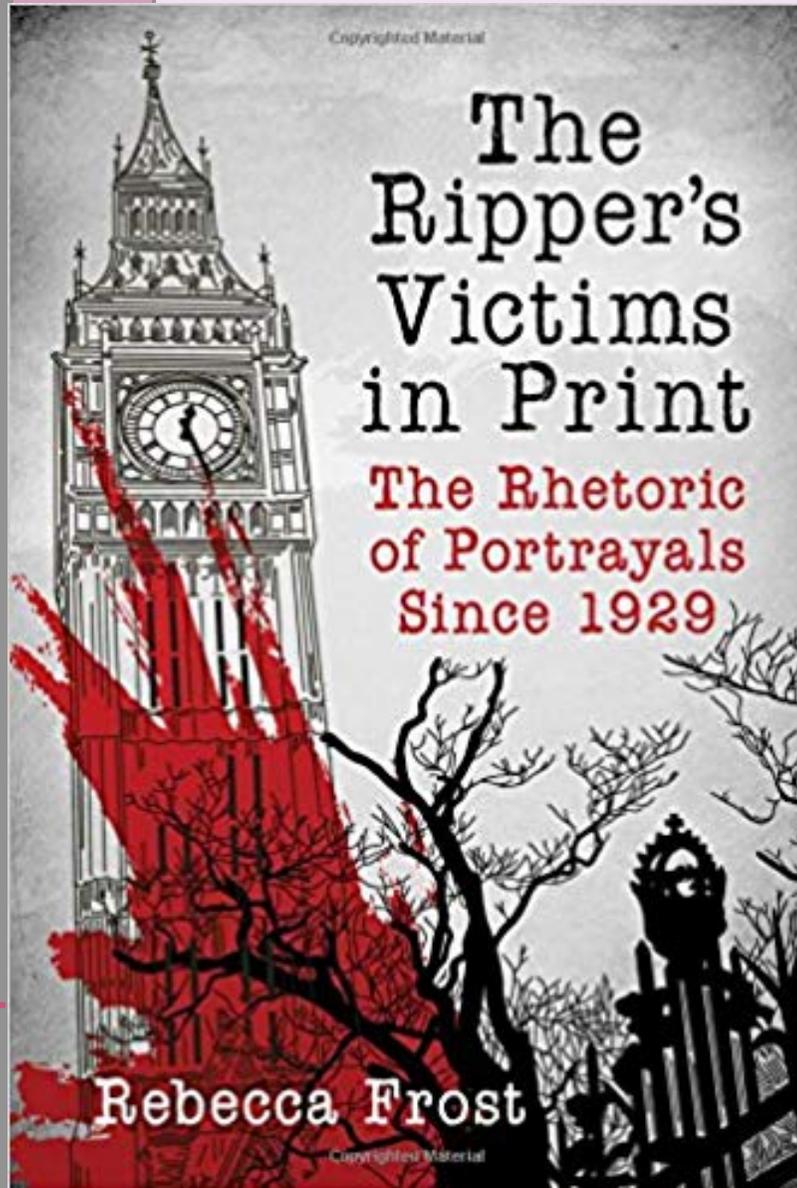
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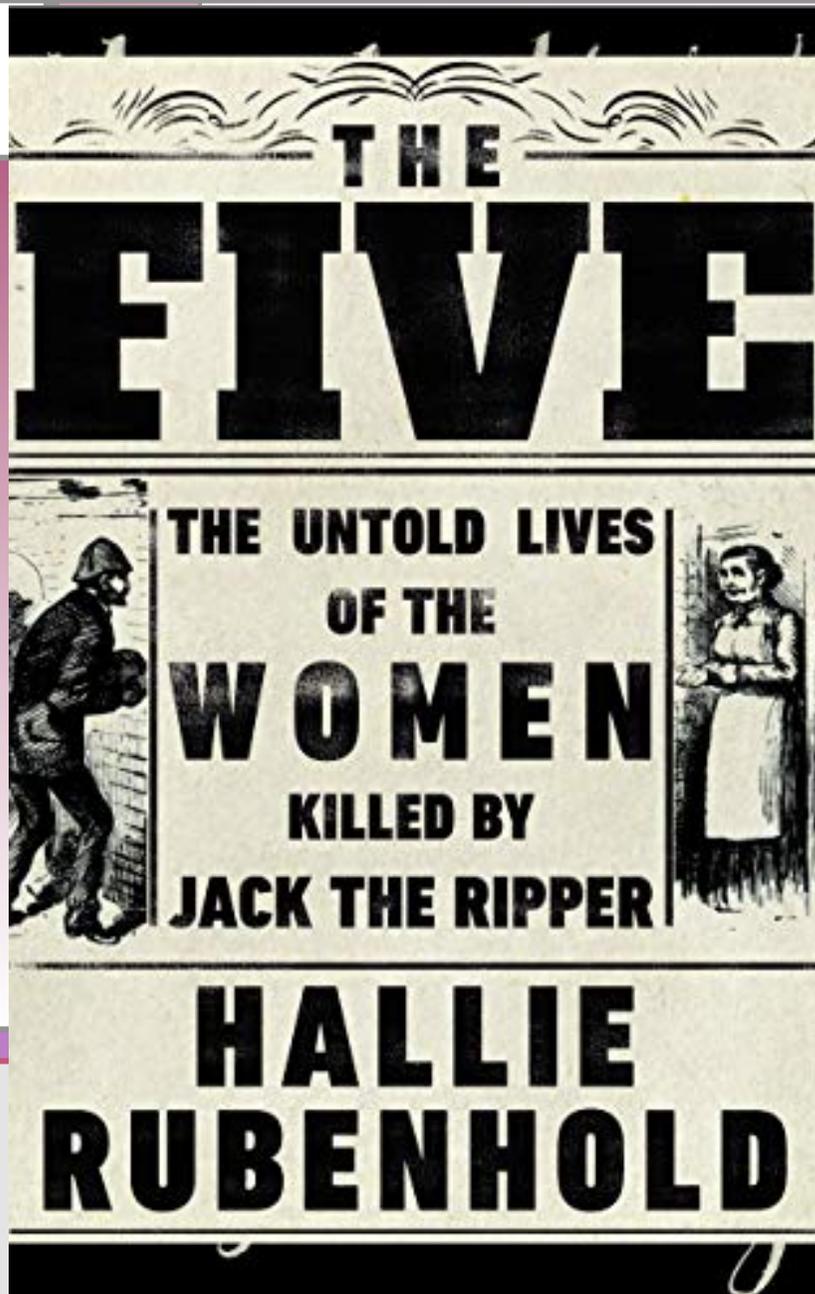
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Polly Nichols, Annie Chapman, Liz Stride, Kate Eddowes, and Mary Jane Kelly might be contenders for the most written about women in all of history, and yet their names mean little unless connected with that of their killer: Jack the Ripper. Every text that pursues the Ripper must mention them-and describe their mutilated bodies in detail-but the women themselves remain just as mysterious as their murderer. It has been over a century since the Ripper stalked prostitutes through the streets of Whitechapel, and myriad authors have tried again and again to give the murderer a name, a face, and a biography. But what of the women? Here for the first time we see a survey of what those books have had to say about the Canonical Five victims of Jack the Ripper. These authors have at times nearly passed over the living women in order to focus on their corpses, but each has revealed something about how contemporary society viewed those who met the Ripper's knife. This book explores the changing attitudes toward these five women in order to examine how cultural perception of victims has-or has not-changed since the Victorian era.



**Five devastating human stories and a dark and moving portrait of Victorian London - the untold lives of the women killed by Jack the Ripper.**

Polly, Annie, Elizabeth, Catherine and Mary-Jane are famous for the same thing, though they never met. They came from Fleet Street, Knightsbridge, Wolverhampton, Sweden and Wales. They wrote ballads, ran coffee houses, lived on country estates, they breathed ink-dust from printing presses and escaped people-traffickers.

What they had in common was the year of their murders: 1888. The person responsible was never identified, but the character created by the press to fill that gap has become far more famous than any of these five women.

For more than a century, newspapers have been keen to tell us that 'the Ripper' preyed on prostitutes. Not only is this untrue, as historian Hallie Rubenhold has discovered, it has prevented the real stories of these fascinating women from being told. Now, in this devastating narrative of five lives, Rubenhold finally sets the record straight, revealing a world not just of Dickens and Queen Victoria, but of poverty, homelessness and rampant misogyny. They died because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time – but their greatest misfortune was to be born a woman.

# Capturing Jack the Ripper: The Ripper Mythos 130 Years On

