



Somebody's Mother, Somebody's Daughter True Stories from Victims and Survivors of the Yorkshire Ripper

Carol Ann Lee

Keynote

In *Somebody's Mother, Somebody's Daughter*, Carol Ann Lee tells, for the first time, the stories of those women who came into Peter Sutcliffe's murderous orbit, restoring their individuality to them and giving a voice to their families, including the twenty-three children whom he left motherless.

Description

Much has been written about the brutal crimes of **Peter Sutcliffe**, the **Yorkshire Ripper**, and – thirty-five years after he was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of **thirteen women** – scarcely a week goes by without some mention of him in the media. In any story featuring Sutcliffe, however, his victims are incidental, often reduced to a tableau of nameless faces. But each woman was much more than the manner of her death, and in ***Somebody's Mother, Somebody's Daughter***, Carol Ann Lee tells, for the first time, the stories of those women who came into Sutcliffe's murderous orbit, restoring their individuality to them and giving a voice to their families, including the twenty-three children whom he left motherless.

Based on **previously unpublished material** and fresh, first-hand interviews the book examines the Yorkshire Ripper story from a new perspective: focusing on the **women** and putting the reader in a similar position to those who lived through that time. By talking to **survivors** and their families, and to the families of the **murdered** women, Carol Ann Lee gets to the core truths of their lives and experiences, not only at the hands of Sutcliffe but also with the Yorkshire Police and their crass and appalling handling of the case, where the women were put into two categories: prostitutes and non-prostitutes. In this book they are, simply, women, and all have moving backstories.

Recent news stories have shown that women and girls who come forward to report serious crimes of a sexual nature are often judged as harshly – and often more so – than the men who have wronged them. The Rochdale sex abuse scandal, the allegations against Harvey Weinstein, and the US President's deplorable comments about women are vivid reminders that those in positions of power regard women as second class citizens. The son of **Wilma McCann**, Sutcliffe's first known murder victim, told the author, 'We still have a very long way to go,' and in that regard he is correct. Hard-hitting and wholly unique in approach, this timely book sheds new light on a case that still grips the nation.

Sales Points

- A compelling and detailed account of the women, their families and the cultural and political melting pot from which the crimes emerged
- Based on first-hand research, including interviews with the women who survived the attacks and with the victims' families
- A wholly unique perspective on this horrific case – from the point of view of the women who were involved and their families
- Carol Ann Lee is a best-selling author. She is a very experienced interviewee and will be available for PR

Reviews

- 'Original, intelligent and thought-provoking, Carol Ann Lee's book sheds new light on the human stories behind the headlines. A touching and timely insight into all of Sutcliffe's victims.' - Roberta Kray
- 'Carol Ann Lee's book is a striking and innovative approach to the crimes of the most notorious serial killer of modern times, focusing on both the victims and those left behind. Lee provides a remarkable panoply, full of both humanity and rage at the treatment of the victims by both the authorities and the media.' - Barry Forshaw, author and journalist
- 'A new and strong perspective on the story, opening the gates for a fresh narrative.' - Survivor Mo Lea

Author Biography

Born in Wakefield, Yorkshire, in 1969, Carol Ann Lee graduated from Manchester University. Three years later, her first book, *Roses from the Earth: The Biography of Anne Frank* was published to great acclaim, and has been published in fifteen countries to date. She went on to write several more best-selling books, including biographies and fiction, returning to non-fiction in 2010 with *One of Your Own: The Life and Death of Myra Hindley*, *A Fine Day for a Hanging* (2012) and *The Murders at White House Farm* (2015).

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