True Crime

Murder, the mafia, serial killers, art forgery... whatever the crime, this book list has a true crime story for everyone.

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The Five: the Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper
Hallie Rubenhold NEW 362.88 R
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. In this 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. Their common misfortune: they were all born as women.

Hacker, Hoaxer, Whistleblower, Spy: The Many Faces of Anonymous
Gabriella Coleman 364.16 C
Here is the ultimate book on the worldwide movement of hackers, pranksters, and activists who operate under the non-name Anonymous, by the writer the Huffington Post says "knows all of Anonymous’ deepest, darkest secrets."

The Man in the Rockefeller Suit: The Astonishing Rise and Spectacular Fall of a Serial Impostor
Mark Seal 364.1633 S
The career con man who convincingly passed himself off as Clark Rockefeller was born in a small village in Germany. At seventeen, obsessed with getting to America, he flew into the country on dubious student visa documents and thus began his journey of deception. Over the next thirty years, boldly assuming a series of false identities, he moved up the social ladder through exclusive enclaves on both coasts, culminating in a stunning twelve-year marriage to a rising-star businesswoman with who believed she’d wed a member of the infamously wealthy Rockefeller family.

I: the Creation of a Serial Killer
Jack Olsen 364.1523 D
In February 1990, Oregon State Police arrested John Sosnovke and Laverne Pavlinac for the vicious rape and murder of Taunja Bennet, a troubled 23-year-old barfly who had suffered mild retardation since birth. Pavlinac had come forth and confessed, implicating her boyfriend and producing physical evidence that linked them to the crime. Authorities closed the case. There was just one problem... they had the wrong people.

The Great Pearl Heist: London's Greatest Thief and Scotland Yard's Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Necklace
Molly Crosby 364.162 C
The exquisite strand of pearls, bought by a Hatton Garden broker, are worth more than the Hope Diamond—and have disappeared while in transit from London to Paris. While Inspector Alfred Ward earned his stripes catching some of the great murderers of Victorian London, he is asked to turn his forensic talents to finding the missing pearls and the thief who stole them.

The Whistleblower: Sex Trafficking, Military Contractors, and One Woman’s Fight for Justice
Kathryn Bolkovac 364.15 B
A private military contractor risks her life uncovering the sex trafficking and abuse of officers within the very corporation she works for. This is her story and the story of the women she helped achieve justice for.
I'll Be Gone in the Dark
Michelle McNamara, 364.1523 M
A masterful true crime account of the Golden State Killer—the elusive serial rapist turned murderer who terrorized California for over a decade—from Michelle McNamara, the gifted journalist who died tragically while investigating the case.

Black Edge: Inside Information, Dirty Money, and the Quest to Bring Down the Most Wanted Man on Wall Street
Sheelah Kolhatan 364.16 K
Black Edge offers a revelatory look at the gray zone in which so much of Wall Street functions. It's a riveting, true-life legal thriller that takes readers inside the government's pursuit of Cohen and his employees, and raises urgent and troubling questions about the power and wealth of those who sit at the pinnacle of modern Wall Street.

The Fact of a Body: a Murder and a Memoir
Alexandria Morgan 364.1 M
An intellectual and emotional thriller that is also a different kind of murder mystery, THE FACT OF A BODY is a book not only about how the story of one crime was constructed -- but about how we grapple with our own personal histories. Along the way it tackles questions about the nature of forgiveness, and if a single narrative can ever really contain something as definitive as the truth. This groundbreaking, heart-stopping work, ten years in the making, shows how the law is more personal than we would like to believe -- and the truth more complicated, and powerful, than we could ever imagine.

While Innocents Slept: a Story of Revenge, Murder, and SIDS
Adrian Havill 364.1523 H
A medical thriller that stretches from Maryland to Texas and Florida. Death seemed to be part of Garrett Wilson's life. Both of his parents had died by the time he was in his early twenties. So friends shrugged when sadly, an infant daughter, and then a son, succumbed to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Six years later, after he divorced his wife, Missy, and married another woman, his former spouse became convinced that their child's passing was anything but natural.

Shooting the Moon: the True Story of an American Manhunt Unlike Any Other, Ever
David Harris 364.177 H
Tracing the secret investigation, the exciting four-year manhunt, and the bizarre incidents that shook U.S. foreign policy to its roots, "Shooting the Moon" is at once a page-turning story and a first-rate work of investigative journalism.-- One of the most outrageous true crime stories ever recorded.-- A fast-paced narrative that holds strong appeal for readers of military and legal thrillers.

Crimes of New York: Stories of Crooks, Killers, and Corruption from the World's Toughest City
Clint Willis 364.87471 C
Journey from the tortured, violent life of David Berkowitz, aka Son of Sam, who terrorized the city in the process of killing six young women to the story of the Manhattan yuppie millionaire whose marriage dissolved in drug abuse and ended in murder; from the life of a woman struggling to stay straight in the South Bronx to the violent childhood of teen killer Cape Man Salvatore Agron. Their crimes reflect our common failings intensified by the brutality and sophistication of the unique pressure cooker that is New York.

Zodiac Unmasked: the Identity of America's Most Elusive Serial Killer Revealed
Robert Graysmith 364.1523 H
After painstaking investigation and more than thirty years of research, Robert Graysmith finally exposes Zodiac's true identity. With overwhelming evidence he reveals the twisted private life that led to the crimes, and provides startling theories as to why they stopped. America's greatest unsolved mystery has finally been solved. Includes photographs and a complete reproduction of the Zodiac's letters.

The Spy Who Couldn't Spell
Erik Larson 364.15 B
Before Edward Snowden's infamous data breach, the largest theft of government secrets was committed by an ingenious traitor whose intricate espionage scheme and complex system of coded messages were made even more baffling by his dyslexia. His name is Brian Regan, but he came to be known as The Spy Who Couldn't Spell.

Provenance: How a Con Man and Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art
Laney Salisburg 364.163 S
Provenance is the extraordinary narrative of one of the most far-reaching and elaborate deceptions in art history. Investigative reporters Laney Salisbury and Aly Sujo brilliantly recount the tale of a great con man and unforgettable villain, John Drewe, and his sometimes unwitting accomplices.