



Blood Secrets: Chronicles of a Crime Scene Reconstructionist

By Rod Englert, Kathy Passero



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Blood Secrets reveals how forensic experts read the story of a murder told in the traces of blood left behind, providing crucial evidence that has helped convict criminals who might have otherwise walked free.

When Rod Englert began his career in law enforcement, virtually no police force in the world knew how to correctly examine blood spatter. He spent years studying and testing how blood behaves, pioneering a vital new tool that is now a part of any criminal investigation. In *Blood Secrets* he demonstrates how detectives and forensic experts use blood-spatter analysis to solve real cases.

How can the police tell what type of murder weapon was used when the body is missing and all that's left is a trace of gore? How can they tell if a victim was moved, or which person in a room fired the fatal shot? Englert lays out what he's learned on a variety of intriguing cases, from puzzling murders in tiny, remote towns to the highest-profile celebrity trials--including O. J. Simpson, Robert Blake, and many others.

Filled with fascinating details of forensic science and real-life CSI stories, *Blood Secrets* shows the techniques and tools used to decipher blood spatter's code.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Proving that one person's bloody mess is another's treasure trove of clues, blood spatter analyst Englert takes readers on a fascinating journey into the study of crimson drops. Englert's first encounter with blood—and the stories it can tell—came when, as a young cop, he mistakenly assumed a bloody corpse had been the victim of an ax attack; in reality the victim had succumbed to a particularly nasty case of bleeding ulcers. He educated himself about the behavior of blood by recreating crime scenes in his Oregon barn using cow's blood and attending every available seminar on the subject. Englert presents case studies for each principle he discusses, from the varying velocities of blood spatter to the trajectory of a killer's bullet. It's easy to see why he's a favorite expert witness of prosecutors around the country, even in celebrity cases like O.J. Simpson's and Robert Blake's. With the help of reporter Passero, Englert deftly balances real-life examples and detailed scientific analysis, giving readers a richer understanding of this developing avenue of forensic science. 11 b&w photos. (Apr.)

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From [Booklist](#)

This book is rather less colorful and intriguing than the ghostly Jackson Pollock look-alikes with which blood-spatter analyst Englert works. Still, it's highly instructive about his methods, which are the opposite of a perp's, hence more like Pollock-boosting critic Clement Greenberg's than the painter's. Painter and perp are each telling stories through apparently random spattering; critic and analyst are each trying to read them. An early chapter relates how Englert's acquisition of a cattle-raising operation inspired his interest in blood patterns. With Passero's aid, he writes lovingly of the intricate splatter patterns resulting from slaughtering, which, once he noted them, he studied. Readers may be challenged by this particular bit of scene-setting, but plowing through it stands one in good stead when discussion turns to the case histories of famous bloody cases. Pretty good as entertainment, this book also has backgrounding value for true-crime and crime-fiction fans in its revelatory detail about the particular component of criminal investigation on which it focuses. -- Mike Tribby

Review

"This is one great read, and I hope for more. . . . keeps the reader engaged and interested in every turn of the 268 page hardcover." *?The Portlander*

"A fascinating collection of human stories and emerging science that includes discussions of blood basics. . . . If crime novels and shows like "CSI" are in your blood, Englert's book is a must-read." *?The Sunday Oregonian*

"Providing that one person's bloody mess is another's treasure trove of clues, blood spatter analyst Englert takes readers on a fascinating journey into the study of crimson drops. . . . With the help of reporter Passero, Englert deftly balances real-life examples and detailed scientific analysis, giving readers a richer understanding of this developing avenue of forensic science." *?Publishers Weekly*

"Has backgrounding value for true-crime and crime-fiction fans in its revelatory detail about the particular component of criminal investigation on which it focuses." *?Booklist*

"In this engaging and readable book, Englert includes many different types of cases, some involving

celebrities, some with a vexing mystery, and some from long ago, including a bullet trajectory analysis from the 1863 battle at Gettysburg. . . . Gives readers a human side as much as an educational source-- there's something for true crime readers as well as for experts in the field.” ?*Writers Forensics Blog*

“[Englert] has transcended his own distress and sorrow at man's (or woman's) inhumanity to man to offer remarkable insights into what the dead can tell us, even after they can no longer speak. *Blood Secrets* is a fascinating book.” ?*Ann Rule, from the foreword*

“From the crime scene to the courtroom Rod Englert bridges the myriad of gaps between fantasy and forensic reality. This book is packed with sensational murder cases articulated in such a manner that it will have you reading voraciously and wanting more.” ?*Detective Tom Lange, author of Evidence Dismissed: The Inside Story of the Police Investigation of O.J. Simpson*

“Rod Englert is the ideal forensics professional. *Blood Secrets* shares many special insights and lessons learned from his long and storied law-enforcement career. The reader will appreciate his honesty and conviction as he weaves his way through the world of forensics and criminal investigation.” ?*Dayle Hinman, criminal profiler, host of Body of Evidence: from the case files of Dayle Hinman*

Users Review

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What do you in relation to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what yours problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. They have to answer that question mainly because just their can do that. It said that about reserve. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this kind of *Blood Secrets: Chronicles of a Crime Scene Reconstructionist* to read.

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Your reading sixth sense will not betray anyone, why because this *Blood Secrets: Chronicles of a Crime*

Scene Reconstructionist e-book written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book which might be understood by anyone who all read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, dripping every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism Blood Secrets: Chronicles of a Crime Scene Reconstructionist as good book not only by the cover but also by content. This is one guide that can break don't assess book by its cover, so do you still needing another sixth sense to pick this!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

John Morris:

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