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The Murder Room: The Heirs of Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases

By Michael Capuzzo



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Thrilling, true crime tales from the Vidocq Society - a team of the world's finest forensic investigators whose monthly lunches lead to justice in ice-cold murders.

Three of the greatest detectives in the world were heartsick over the growing tide of unsolved murders. Good friends and sometime rivals William Fleisher, Frank Bender, and Richard Walter decided one day over lunch that something had to be done, and pledged themselves to a grand quest for justice.

The Murder Room draws the reader into a chilling, darkly humorous, awe-inspiring world as the three partners travel far from their Victorian dining room to hunt ruthless killers, among them the grisly murderer of a millionaire's son, a serial killer who carves off faces, and a child killer enjoying fifty years of freedom and dark fantasy.

Acclaimed bestselling author Michael Capuzzo brings true crime realistically and vividly to life in this account of a group of passionate men and women, inspired by their own wounded hearts to make a stand for truth, goodness, and justice in a world gone mad.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Despite journalist Capuzzo's obvious reverence for the crime fighters he profiles, his account of the formation of the legendary Vidocq Society is as scattered as many of the cold case files they wade through. Based in Philadelphia, the Vidocq Society was the brainchild of three wildly different men brought together by their desire to speak for the dead: freewheeling exboxer turned forensic sculptor Frank Bender; FBI and U.S. Customs agent William Fleisher; and pre-eminent forensic psychologist and profiler Richard Walter. What began as an informal meeting of colleagues in 1990 evolved into an expansive international think tank of sorts modeled and named after France's famed criminal-turned-sleuth Eugène Vidocq, a model for Sherlock Holmes. The cases--ranging from Philadelphia's long-festering "Boy in the Box" murder to the "Butcher of Cleveland," a serial killer who taunted Elliot Ness in the 1930s--are fascinating, but Capuzzo (Close to Shore) loses much of his narrative momentum by abruptly shifting between the founding members' individual backstories and homicides the society investigates. Yet there is no denying that the 82 "VSMs" (Vidocq Society Member) do an immeasurable service in the name of justice.

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From [Booklist](#)

Here is the Pickwick Club for people who study psychopaths: once a month, several forensic experts gather in a posh Victorian brownstone in downtown Philadelphia, have a sumptuous lunch, and then consider cold cases brought to them by baffled detectives. The club is called the Vidocq Society, named after the nineteenth-century French criminologist who was one of the inspirations for Sherlock Holmes. Journalist Capuzzo (formerly of the Philadelphia Inquirer and Miami Herald) has gained access both to this club (his description of one meeting ending with the projected image of a murder victim is brilliant) and to its founders, including a forensic psychiatrist, a forensic artist, and a former FBI special agent. Members also include Robert Ressler, the father of criminal profiling; forensic pathologists; and some Philadelphia cops. Capuzzo provides background on the founders and gives sketches of some famous cold cases the group has solved. This is compelling reading, but Capuzzo's narrative style often has the reader guessing at details, methods, and outcomes. --Connie Fletcher

Review

"

"The Murder Room" is a gripping page-turner, masterfully drawn and full of truth, dedication, and darkness."

-Michael Connelly, "New York Times" bestselling author of "Nine Dragons"

"At once terrifying and satisfying."

-"Philadelphia Inquirer"

"Novelists know to be wary of those slices of reality that are just too outlandish to be transformed into the stuff of fiction. In the superb and tantalizing "The Murder Room," Michael Capuzzo dares readers to believe the can-they-really-be-true stories of the heartbreaking cold cases that have been investigated by the forensic dream team that is the legendary Vidocq Society. The once forgotten crimes are horrendous, each bigger-than-life detective more outrageous than the next, and the circuitous paths they take to find long-delayed justice are impossible to forget."

-Stephen White, "New York Times" bestselling author

"Some of the most exciting detective work I've ever read."

-John Walsh, host of "

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Stefanie Roach:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day every day to reading a guide. The book *The Murder Room: The Heirs of Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases* it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can more very easily to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book provides high quality.

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Dorothy Payne:

This *The Murder Room: The Heirs of Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases* is completely new way for you who has interest to look for some information since it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this *The Murder Room: The Heirs of Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases* can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this specific book is easy to get by anyone. These books develop itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, yeah I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this e-book is the answer. So there isn't any in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book sort for your better life and also knowledge.

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