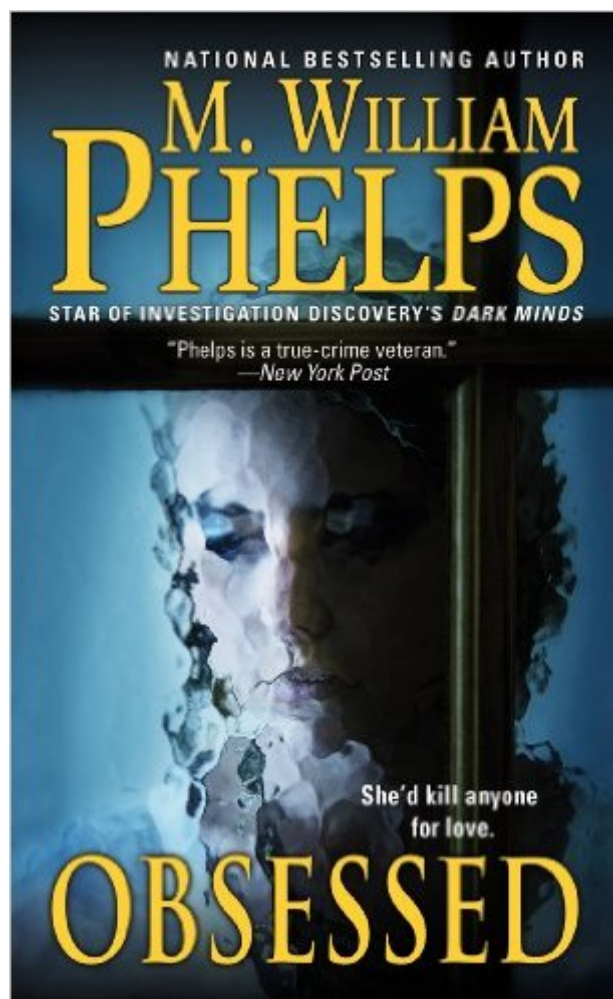


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Obsessed



Synopsis

"Anything by Phelps is always an eye-opening experience." --Suspense Magazine
Sheila Davaloo was young, attractive, and successful. When she started a new job at a cutting-edge research lab in Stamford, Connecticut, she met the man of her dreams. Nelson Sessler had no idea how violently Sheila would react when he began seeing a co-worker, Anna Lisa Raymundo. Sheila eliminated her rival in a bloody knife attack--and then turned her rage on another victim she saw as an obstacle to her passions. M. Williams Phelps recounts the riveting story of a white-collar love triangle gone horribly wrong. . .and the terrifying infatuation that drove one woman to kill. "Phelps is the Harlan Coben of real-life thrillers."--Allison Brennan
"M. William Phelps dares to tread where few others will: into the mind of a killer." --TV Rager
Includes 16 Pages Of Dramatic Photos

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (333 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

There is a sameness about many true murder stories, often it is just the time and place that differs. This one is REALLY different. The killer's degree of evilness hidden behind a normal façade is the worst I have read about (and I have read everything I can lay my hands on in this genre!). It is a clichéd term: "it defies belief" but that term applies to this one. The most imaginative writer could not conjure up these characters (killer and associated personalities) if they tried. William Phelps always delivers a good product but he has surpassed himself this time. Don't miss this one.

The book is in dire need of a competent editor. As a fellow reviewer wisely pointed out, this

convoluted, disjointed account of a true crime, is hard to follow, and hard to enjoy. Too many pages for a story that jumps around like a disoriented kangaroo, and even though the crime is one of those too crazy to imagine it could happen, it is at the same time way too predictable for the veil of mystery the writer tries to convey initially. A sentence, out of so many found in the book, that goes like this: "There were several kids in the distance playing basketball. They did not seem to notice what was going on. Paul put an eye on them, however." After a while the reader realizes that maybe this author thinks he can write, and really believe it, but not so, and as I put an eye on the pages in this book, I realized that the best part of the book were some of the photographs included, showing some of the protagonists in this bizarre true crime story. 2 Stars.

This is the second true crime book I've read by M. Phelps and both have left me tepid. I'm not sure why exactly, except to say he relies heavily upon what I consider weak material to make suppositions about the killers. In the previous book "Too Young To Kill" he used 'writing exercises' by one of the young girls as source material throughout the book. He tried to make it sound like a journal of sorts (to get inside her head) when it was nothing more than 5 minute free writing assigned by a teacher. Here he uses the visits to a social worker by Sheila (I think there were 2 visits in total) to base much of his material upon. He even goes so far as to create conversation between Sheila and the social worker. I'm sorry, but that's just not good fact finding IMO. Sure as a part of the book, but to use it throughout??? Especially to bolster his own armchair psychology. I've not seen his TV shows, but other reviewers seem to be swayed by this. The books should be judged as stand alone, not based on how much you dig his show. I might try another by him, as I am a fan of the genre. Maybe third time will be a charm.

Not the greatest writer in the world and the worst editing I've seen in a while. Repeats cliches and pap often. We don't need to have temperatures followed by "fahrenheit", for instance. Whatever happened to the red truck and the brother??? No follow-up. I will try another book by this author in the hope that he will get better over time. As I said, good story and couldn't put it down; but not totally wrapped-up. Could have been better presented. AND the photos in the Kindle edition had the pictures of his next book, not this one. That was disappointing.

I read this book in 2 days, it was that fascinating. First time I read a book from this author where he infused his sense of humor within (against the murderer). Although it is apparent in the beginning whom the guilty party is, still a great read!

I had preordered Obsessed but apparently in the rush to publish this book the wrong photo insert was added. It's from a previous book. The editor apparently didn't know the book very well. Hopefully the author takes pride in his work and will have our books updated. I contacted the author who advised this will be corrected shortly.

Phelps found a great story and did a marvelous job sharing it -- were it not for his editorializing. His side commentaries are disappointing and distracting for the reader. Let the story speak for itself. It's a great story! The woman on whom the book focuses is a total whack job, and the people around her are also flawed and flaky, with a bunch of well meaning but short-sighted choices to deal with her. I get it. So the author's interpretive comments are not only necessary but wholly unwelcome. Phelps is a better writer than that in other books of his. The story is awesome, but he disappointed me a bit here.

This book had me from start to finish. No boring times here! It is just amazing how someone can be such a psychopath, but all everybody sees is the NICE, SWEET, HELPFUL PERSON! She was certainly a master. So much so that even her husband stayed in denial for some time after the facts were very plainly shown to him. Cause she was SO NICE. During the earlier part of this book some things sounded 'familiar', so I checked if I had this book already. I didn't. So, it's just that so many of these persons have the same m.o. Where in the blazes do they learn to think and act like they do, and become so experienced at fooling others into thinking they are the most normal, wonderful people? Even with the similarities, this book held shocking surprises. I would definitely recommend it. The only complaint I have about this book is that the photos were from a totally different case. I really would have liked to see the photos that went with this case, especially the sample of her extreme handwriting he said he was including a picture of. What a disappointment to have no pictures to go with this story. You can google Sheila Danaloo, Nelson Sessler and Anna Lisa Raymundo, and see pictures of the first 2, but there is a Dateline piece that is quite interesting, and shows various persons in the book, including the 911 call. This Dateline episode is very interesting to watch, and will add to what you read in this truly fascinating book. I also googled "handwriting of Sheila Danaloo" and found 2 samples, which were also quite fascinating. By the way, Sheila Danaloo is extraordinarily plain, even rather homely. But, the real issue is that she is truly ugly on the inside.

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