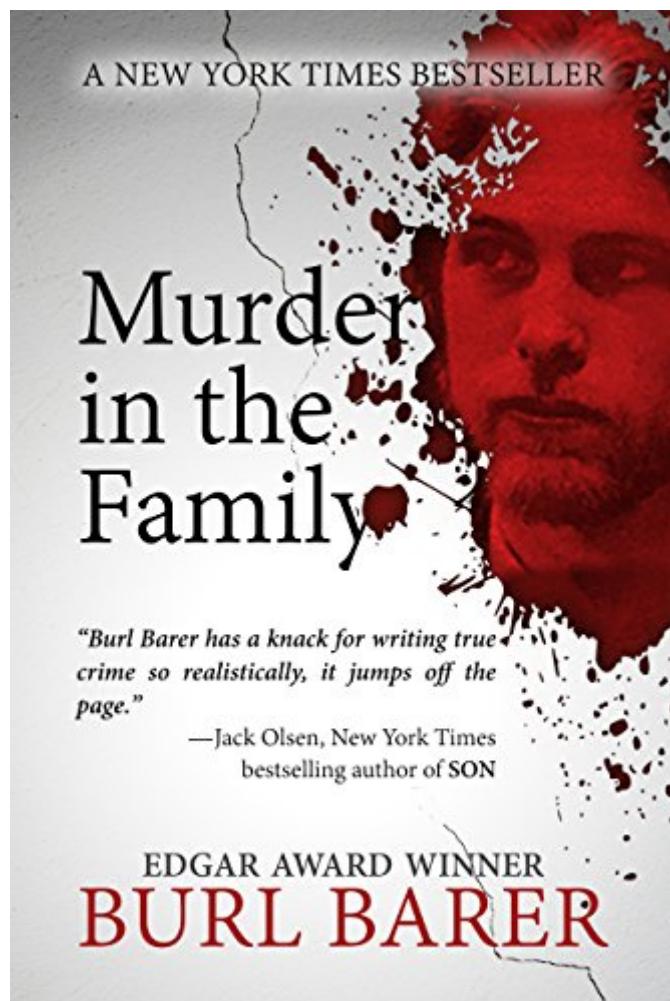


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# Murder In The Family



## **Synopsis**

"The Updated eBook-only Version of Edgar Award Winning Author Burl Barer's Shocking New York Times Bestseller!"" ... where for the first time an FBI profiler was allowed to testify and the controversial pre-DNA science of allotyping was presented to a jury."On March 15th, 1987 police in Anchorage, Alaska arrived at a horrific scene of carnage. In a modest downtown apartment, they found Nancy Newman's brutally beaten corpse sprawled across her bed. In other rooms were the bodies of her eight-year-old daughter, Melissa, and her three-year-old, Angie, whose throat was slit from ear to ear. Both Nancy and Melissa had been sexually assaulted. After an intense investigation, the police narrowed the principle suspect down to 23-year-old Kirby Anthoney a troubled drifter who had turned to his uncle, Nancy's husband John, for help and a place to stay. Little did John know that the nephew he took in was a murderous sociopath capable of slaughtering his beloved family. This true story, shocking and tragic, stunned Anchorage's residents and motivated the Major Crimes Unit of the Anchorage Police Department to do everything right in their investigation. Feeling the heat as the police built their case, Kirby bolted for the Canadian border. But the cops were on to him. First they hunted him down; then the cops and a tenacious prosecutor began their long, bitter battle to convict him up against an equally tough defense lawyer, as well as the egomaniacal defendant himself. This shocking tale reached its climax in a controversial trial where for the first time an FBI profiler was allowed to testify and the controversial, pre-DNA science of allotyping was presented to a jury. But justice would not be served until after the psychopathic Kirby Anthoney took the stand in his own defense - and showed the world the monster he truly was. **MURDER IN THE FAMILY** became an instant New York Times Bestseller when it was first released in 2000. Barer has updated the eBook version of this classic true crime tale of horror. **From The Author Of A TASTE FOR MURDER (with Frank Girardot Jr.)**

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A while ago I read this book after living through this horrific tragedy first hand. In my initial rating of this book I did not give it a very good rating. I would like to revise it at this time. After giving more thought to this, I realize that the author was just telling the story and not making judgement or light of the incident. Therefore, I would like to let him know it was very well written and thank him for keeping my family members "real people".

Having read and reread MURDER IN THE FAMILY several times, the negative review (huh?) from Seattle is obviously about a different book all together. There are no ballistic tests in the book at all -- this is the story of rape and murder -- the killings accomplished by strangulation, stabbing, and beating. No guns. No bullets. None. There are, however, brilliant insights into the rage released by the psychopath, Kirby Anthony, provided by Dr. Robert Hare and other experts who work with and/or train the FBI. The dedicated detectives of the Anchorage Homicide Response team, and the crime scene investigators come off as real people wrestling with the intense personal emotions stirred by this most horrid crime -- the rape and murder of two little girls, ages 8 and 2, and their mother. I found the book exceptionally well structured, with easy flow from one chapter to the next, which may be due to the professional editing job we have come to expect from Pinnacle's True Crime series. Obviously researched in depth, and written by an Edgar Award winning author, I suggest this book to anyone who reads true crime, especially if they can keep track of them so they don't post the wrong review about the wrong book. Ballistics, indeed!

I am not normally the review writing type, but having just completed reading this book i feel compelled to toss my hat into the ring. First off, i was impressed by both the level of research that

the author put into this book as well as the compassion he expressed for the victims and their family. I wanted to also point out that although some of the readers might have felt that the story was "boring" (something I can not understand as I found it quite engaging) the subject matter was by no means dealt with lightly by Barer. This book deals with quite a sensitive subject, the rape and murder of an innocent woman and her 2 young daughters so bear in mind you will not find yourself smiling much while reading. But the care with which Barer tells the tale is reason enough to read the whole thing cover to cover.

A very hard book to read. The book is about three murders, a mother and two of her little girls ages 2 and 8, in Anchorage Alaska. This book is exceptionally well written, the level of research the author Burl Barer did to give the account of this horrific crime is exceptional. Recommend if you are a true crime reader.

Well detailed book. The author covered the subject well with respect to all involved in this tragedy. This was not an easy book for me to read. It's been 25 years since Kirby Anthony committed an act so twisted that it's difficult for me to put my feelings into words. I worked on the Arctic Enterprise in 1987. I witnessed the incident that got Kirby fired from the boat. I was concerned when I got a letter from home telling me of a triple homicide little more than a block from my home. And I was shocked when one day a coworker ran into the galley yelling about the homicides I'd mentioned in my neighborhood. He shouted "Kirby did it". I didn't believe it at first...then the one copy of the Anchorage Daily News was passed around the boat. We were all stunned. When I saw this book listed on, I felt curious. I wanted to read what this author had to present. Much of the book made me feel choked up, angry, a whole range of emotions. The information about the investigators was actually very interesting, particularly FBI agent Judson Ray. It's fascinating how the investigators analyzed every detail and put Kirby away for good. It's just too bad that Alaska has no death penalty. One more point to conclude. I can't express enough my sympathy for all of those who were hurt. Family is the most precious possession we have.

This book, and this crime, is heartbreaking, dramatic, touching, and REAL. I was pleased to see Ms Eastman remind readers that this is a TRUE STORY. I don't know if she gave the book only one star because of the painful memories or the nature of my prose. I shall assume for former. Researching the Newman murders was emotionally draining and painful. My own daughter is only one day younger than Melisa Newman, raped and murdered by Kirby Anthony. The crime

scene photos haunt me to this day. While writing the book, I kept full color school photos of the two little girls taped to my computer monitor so I would never allow myself to forget that they were real people, not characters in a book. When I started this project, my friend and fellow true crime author Gary C. King said, "be prepared to cry a lot, and either be loved or hated by the victims' families for telling the story -- some will help, others would rather not. " My other true crime compatriot, Jack Olsen, said that any true crime book that doesn't talk about why and how the killer became a killer is nothing more than pornography. Having now read my own book, and knowing how difficult these are to write, I honestly give it five stars, with 3 stars of it going to my editor, Karen Haas. Buy the book, then write your review. BB

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