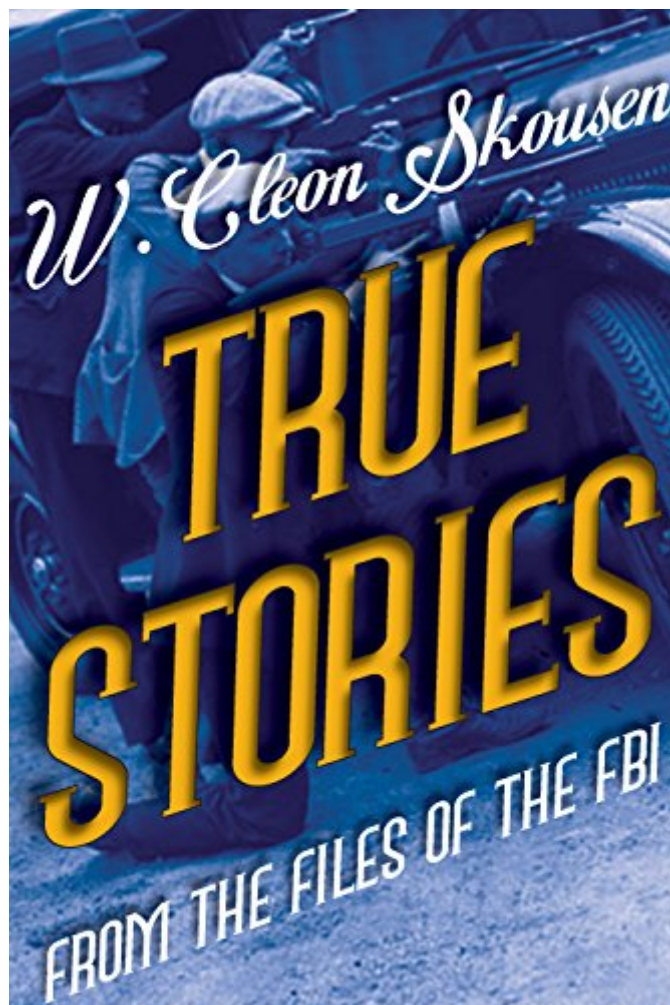


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True Stories From The Files Of The FBI



Synopsis

Be the FBI Agent in training under J. Edgar Hoover and run the gauntlet of Machine Gun Kelly, Baby Face Nelson and the Barker Karpis Gang. Step back into downtown Chicago of the 1930s and retrace the steps of some of America's most notorious mobsters. True Stories from the Files of the FBI was written by W. Cleon Skousen under the direct supervision of Mr. Hoover himself. These first-hand accounts of actual "do or die" situations were used for decades to train thousands of FBI agents. In this riveting retelling of the arresting or killing perpetrators of the country's most violent crimes, learn how the investigations led to clues for the Charles Lindbergh kidnapping case, the Kansas City Massacre, the raids by John Herbert Dillinger and his gang, the "Killer" Kinnie Wagner's murder spree, and more.

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Customer Reviews

True Stories from the Files of the FBI is one of the best true crime books out there. Without over-sensationalizing anything you're immediately drawn into another not-too-distant world. You're pulled into the headlines of the late 1930's as you explore the Charles Lindbergh kidnapping case

that held the national attention years ago. You come away with a different perspective of the mob years as Baby Face Nelson held a grasp on Chicago. With crime running rampant you see why the FBI came to be and J. Edgar Hoover's efforts to "Clean up America". The book moves at a good pace and keeps you entertained, but at the same time you draw comparisons to today's world. I could have read quite a bit more, Skousen left me wanting a sequel.

Not a dull moment! I was amazed to hear about the gangsters of the American past. Great details, great description, great storytelling. Turns out, the movies are pretty accurate with their descriptions of mobsters and their dark and wild ways. The story about mobster lady Ma Barker was amazing. It was funny how she cared so much about her boys but little about those she robbed. I recommend this book to anyone who loves capers and adventure. This book is full of it!

Always good information. Factual and gives good information into crime and what is wrong with the times we are in today as well. History repeats itself and reading this is a good example of that phenomena.

True Stories from the Files of the FBI by W. Cleon Skousen covers a few of the most high-profile cases the FBI solved in the 1930s. Chapters include an introduction to the early FBI (and before it was officially the FBI - the Bureau of Investigation), Kinnie Wagner, the Lindbergh baby kidnapping, the Kansas City Massacre, the Barker-Karpis gang, Dillinger, and - Baby Face - Nelson. As we lament the crime of today, we often forget that the gangsters kept law enforcement busy several decades ago with their crime sprees. Books like this one help us remember that past. Told with the somewhat cold detachment of an FBI agent, the stories are interesting, but have lots of names and details which are sometimes hard to keep straight. I recommend this book to anyone interested in the FBI or and those who enjoy reading true crime stories.

Haven't finished reading quite yet, but this is one read I would recommend to anyone with an interest in crime and the FBI. It's fascinating to read about these stories and how crimes were solved in 'the olden days'.

This book is a slice of history. It is interesting to note that the book was first published in 1945, and that Mr. Skousen was an FBI agent tasked by J. Edgar Hoover to write a report on the FBI. The original title, "The Story of the Federal bureau of Investigation," has been reprinted and distributed

many times since. The stories involve many of the "big names" in crime, from John Dillinger to "Baby Face" Nelson to the Barker-Karpis Gang. Mr. Skousen also includes a chapter on the Lindbergh Kidnapping. Each story details the crimes as well as the efforts of the FBI to bring each criminal to justice. One fascinating aspect of the book is the author's prose. Perhaps it was due to one of Hoover's goals (to teach the youth that it was their job "to clean up America"). The details are written with the flavor of a pulp fiction novel, and the descriptions are filled with the slang terms of the day. For me, this kept the book interesting rather than nothing more than a compilation of dry facts. Recommended reading for anyone interested in this area of crime history.

At first I was disappointed in the book, was slow to start. The pictures were too small to be seen on my kindle. But as I read further my interest was piqued and I did enjoy the book and would recommend it to others.

This was just short of terrible. The truth in these "true stories" is one-sided and simplistic. Add the plodding writing style and it's a dull book. It will disappoint sophisticated true crime and history fans.

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