

Winter of Frozen Dreams

By Karl Harter

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The true story of Barbara Hoffman is a tale of money, men, and the Madison, Wisconsin, massage parlor where a biochemistry major turned into a murderer.

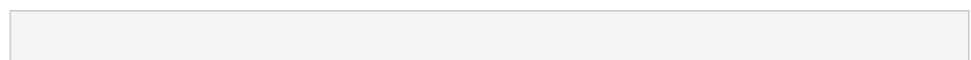
On a freezing Christmas morning, a distraught young man named Gerald Davies led Madison police to Tomahawk Ridge, where they found the body of Harold Berge, naked, bloody, and beaten. Davies insisted that he hadn't killed the man, but that he and his fiancée had simply buried the corpse in a snowbank.

The investigation confirmed that the victim had died in the apartment of Barbara Hoffman—a young woman who had dropped out of the University of Wisconsin and had worked at Jan's Health Studio, a local massage parlor. She and Davies, whom she met at Jan's, had recently become engaged.

The circumstances were suspicious already. But when the police discovered that Berge was Hoffman's ex-lover, that he had signed over his house and an insurance policy to her—and that Davies had also made her his beneficiary—they began to suspect that Davies might also be in danger . . .

The police kept him under watch, but eventually had to stop surveillance. Soon after, Davies turned up dead in his bathtub, a Valium bottle nearby, in an apparent suicide. But, an accomplished student of chemistry, Hoffman knew how tricky it could be to detect cyanide poisoning. It would take a dedicated effort by detectives to sort out the truth about the highly intelligent masseuse, her work in the shadowy local sex trade, and the real circumstances that led two of her clients to their deaths.

Winter of Frozen Dreams is the full story of the case that would become a sensational televised trial and inspire a film of the same name starring Thora Birch. It's a "snappy read" by an author with a "talent for sleuthy description and psychological insight" (*Kirkus Reviews*).



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Winter of Frozen Dreams By Karl Harter Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #211134 in eBooks
- Published on: 2014-04-01
- Released on: 2014-04-01
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

On Christmas Day 1977, Jerry Davies led Madison, Wisconsin police to a snowbank concealing the corpse of Harry Berge. By the day after Easter, Davies lay dead in his bathtub, an apparent suicide. The link between the two was their shared love for Barbara Hoffman, a former honor student and massage parlor queen who had enlisted Davies's aid in removing Berge's body from her apartment. In recounting the complexities of the case, which riveted the community for two and a half years, Harter reveals an eye for the gruesome detail and ironic twist, but when the verdicts are in, Hoffman, and the mens' deaths, seem destined to remain mysteries. Recommended for large true crime collections and libraries serving areas where media coverage was intense.

- *Jim Burns, Pompano Beach City Lib., Fla.*

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About the Author

Karl Harter is the author of WINTER OF FROZEN DREAMS, A True Story of Passion, Greed, and Murder in Madison, Wisconsin. The book was published in 1990. Harter researched the book for four years and lived in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife at the time he wrote the book.

Dennis Holland is a voice actor with an extensive background from commercials for Lucky Charms, Sam Adams, Panasonic, American Express, and others, to audiobooks by authors such as Anita Shreve, William Gibson, and Douglas Brinkley. He previously worked as a talent representative for television sports and news personalities.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jamey Norton:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a guide your ability to survive raise then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading the book, we give you this specific Winter of Frozen Dreams book as basic and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Bryan Foxworth:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The book that recommended for you is Winter of Frozen Dreams this publication consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some study when he makes this book.

Here is why this book appropriate all of you.

Jessica Seymore:

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