

THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL

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BASED ON
ZODIAC
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WILD GAME

AN INSIGHT ARTHUR
LEIGH ALLEN, THE
MOST POPULAR
ZODIAC SUSPECT

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INTRODUCTION

The notorious Zodiac Killer could still be lurking in the shadows of Northern California, he could even be the old man next door. Ever since the late 60s, law enforcement officials still have not caught this mystery man, and unfortunately all of the potential suspects are dead. The murderer would write taunting letters to San Francisco newspapers because he wanted people to know that he is winning against the police.

DEFINITE ZODIAC VICTIMS

*DAVID FARADAY AND BETTY LOU JENSON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1968*

The murders of David Faraday and Betty Lou Jensen are considered to be the Zodiac's first crime. David Faraday was seventeen and a varsity athlete at Vallejo High.

School. Betty Lou Jensen was sixteen, and the two decided to park in a gravel parking lot along Lake Herman Road. This was a popular spot for couples, but around 11:15 p.m. Faraday was shot once in the head, and Jensen was shot five times in the car by a mystery man using a 0.22 caliber semi-automatic. There was no sign of robbery or sexual assault

*DARLENE FERRIN
FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1969*

Darlene Ferrin was twenty-two, married and had a daughter, but one night she decided to go out with Mike Mageau for a ride. Mageau was a nineteen and had a job as a laborer. Darlene liked to go out with lots of people and her husband seemed to be fine with the idea that she was seeing other men. Around midnight in a parking lot near Blue Rocks Springs, California, a light-brown Chevrolet Corvair parked behind Mageau's car. The man parked behind Ferrin and Mageau, stepped out and shot them both with a 9-millimeter Luger. Mageau survived the attack. At 12:40, the killer placed a call to Vallejo P.D. to report a double murder also adding that he "also killed those kids last year" (Graysmith 37).



ZODIACS WRITING IN BLACK FELT-TIP PEN ON HARTNELL'S KARMANN GHIA AFTER THE LAKE BARRYESSA ATTACK

Cecelia Ann Shepard
Saturday, September 27, 1969

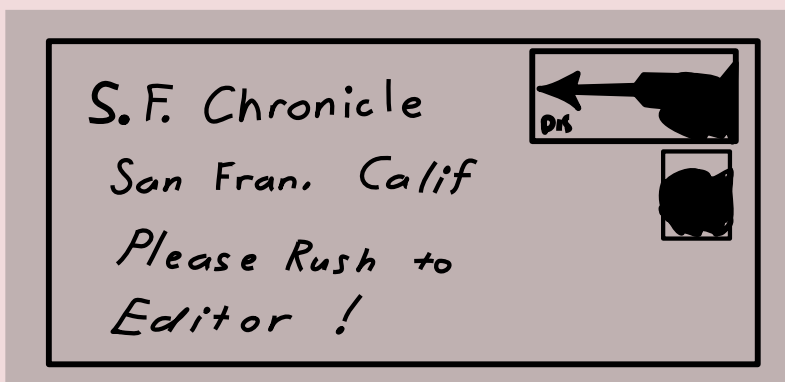
Shepard aged twenty-two, was having a picnic at Lake Berryessa with her boyfriend, Bryan Hartnell. Behind a tree, Shepard saw a man who "resembled some executioner from the Middle Ages" (66). The man approached them, tied them up, stabbed Shepard ten times, and stabbed Hartnell six times on the back. Hartnell survived the attack. While police were investigating the scene, they found writing from the suspect on Hartnell's Karmann Ghia.



ZODIAC WANTED DESCRIPTION SKETCH FROM THE PAUL STINE KILLING

Paul Lee Stine
Saturday, October 11, 1969

At the corner of Washington and Cherry in the Presidio Heights neighborhood of San Francisco, Stine was shot in the head by his passenger in the back seat. Stine, aged twenty-nine, was a student and a cab driver. Witnesses described Stine's killer to a sketch artist, and created one of the nation's most famous wanted posters. Stine's keys and wallets were taken and a bloody fingerprint was found on the backseat of the car. Furthermore, policemen on patrol that night found a white man who fit the description of the killer disappear into a nearby park, but never stopped him because they thought they were looking for a black male. The Zodiac sent letters just a few days after Stine's death, and included a piece of Stine's bloody shirt in the envelope.



A TYPICAL ENVELOP THE ZODIAC SENDS TO NEWSPAPERS WITH A LETTER INSIDE.

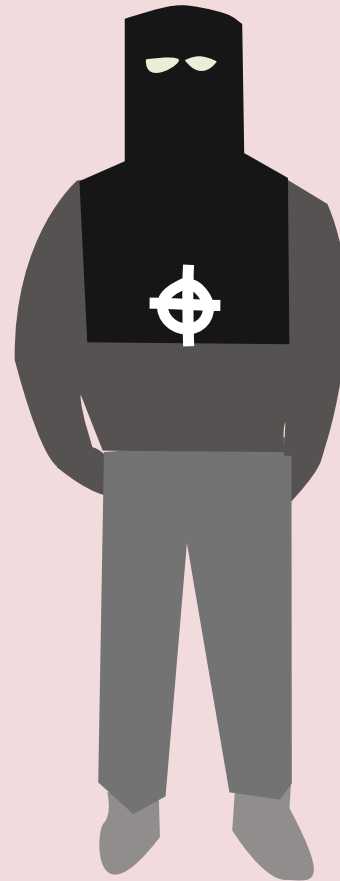
WILD GAME

The author of Zodiac, Robert Graysmith, devoted his life and soul into the investigation into the Zodiac killer and he was not even in law enforcement. He was a cartoonist at the San Francisco Chronicle, and was obsessed about unmasking who the Zodiac killer was. He loved puzzles, and the Zodiac was a puzzle Graysmith could never solve. He has written over ten books about true crime stories, but the Zodiac really hits home for him because of the proximity of where his crimes were committed. In his first book Zodiac, he writes about all of the Zodiac's homicides in great detail with commentary from police and investigators who were at the scene of the crime.

ARTHUR LEIGH ALLEN

Out of all the suspects that were investigated, Graysmith still believes that the Zodiac was Arthur Leigh Allen. Allen was a school teacher who was in and out of jail for sexually assaulting children. When Allen was in prison, no letters from the Zodiac were sent out to newspapers and when he got out, letters were sent.

According to Allen's close friends he even said " 'I would rather hunt people than wild game.. Man, after all, is the most dangerous game' " (273). The phrase "the most dangerous game" can also be found in the cipher the Zodiac sent out to newspapers a month after the death of Darlene Ferrin. Allen was also known to wear a Zodiac brand watch and was ambidextrous. The police got a warrant to search his trailer in Santa Rosa and found dead rodents, gloves, an executioner style mask and guns.



THE ZODIAC AT THE LAKE BERRYESSA ATTACK, SIMILAR WARDROBE TO A CHARACTER IN A MOVE CALLED THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME.



They got handwriting samples from Allen as well, but a handwriting expert ruled him out because it did not match the printing in the original Zodiac letters.

Equally important, the day of the Lake Berryessa killing, Allen's sister asked why there was a bloody knife on the front seat of his car and he said " 'That's chicken blood. I use it to kill chicken' "(263). Furthermore, according to Graysmith "In 1969 he had looked like the Zodiac composite description" (262).

Moreover, Graysmith believes that the Zodiac must have had a garage to hide his Chevrolet and a basement because he mentioned having one in a letter. Coincidentally, Allen had a basement, which was uncommon in the San Francisco and Vallejo area at that time. In addition, Graysmith theorizes that Allen must have known who Darlene Ferrin was because he lived just a fifteen-minute walk away from her house.

AFTER RELEASE

Allen was released from a mental institution in 1977, but in 1978, he was talked into seeing a psychologist, Dr. Thomas Rykoff. Dr. Rykoff explained to Graysmith that "Starr [Allen] is 'extremely dangerous and is a sociopath (feels no guilt)' "(275).

Two years later, Graysmith tracked down where Allen was working and tried to get handwriting samples to send to an expert. Graysmith noticed that on the wall was a sign and the handwriting style was very similar to the Zodiac's printing. He planned to get silhouette photos of Allen but his plan was foiled when Allen was already in his car heading home. Graysmith raced to his car and drove around and a few minutes later a V.W. coupe was right behind him and the man in front of the wheel was Allen. Allen turned the corner and drove east, and Graysmith waited a minute, turned out his headlights, and followed him. Something very interesting happened, "[Allen] stopped, and I [Graysmith] parked about a block away from him... [Graysmith] could see that he was looking around to see if anyone was watching... he walked over And open the door of another car parked on the street. He got in and read off into the blackness" (278).

Allen is most definitely up to some suspicious activity. From hopping into different cars, saying he is the Zodiac, telling friends he likes to hunt humans, owning guns and knives, to having dead rodents and animals in his trailer proves that he is the most likely the Zodiac out of all the suspects investigated. Even if he was not the Zodiac, he was up to something beyond strange.

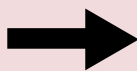


Arthur Leigh Allen died of a natural causes on August 26, 1992. In 2002, Allen's DNA was compared to the DNA found from a confirmed Zodiac letter and the test came out negative. With the lack of physical evidence against Allen, police and investigators had to rule him out as a suspect leaving the identity of the Zodiac killer a mystery after five decades. ~~φ~~



PART 2 OF THE CIPHER THE ZODIAC INCLUDED IN HIS AUGUST 1, 1969 LETTER SEND TO THE S.F. CHRONICLE. THE OTHER TWO CIPHERS WERE SENT TO OTHER LOCAL NEWSPAPERS.

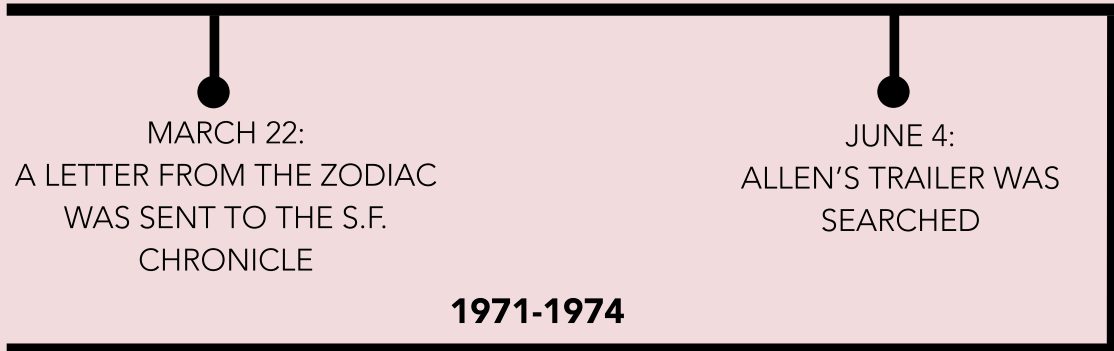
A HISTORY AND ECONOMICS PROFESSOR TEACHER AT NORTH SALINAS HIGH SCHOOL AND HIS WIFE DECIPHERED THE CODE



“ I LIKE KILLING PEOPLE BECAUSE IT IS SO MUCH MORE FUN THAN KILLING WILD GAME IN THE FORREST BECAUSE MAN IS THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL OF ALL ”

ZODIAC & ARTHUR LEIGH ALLEN TIMELINE

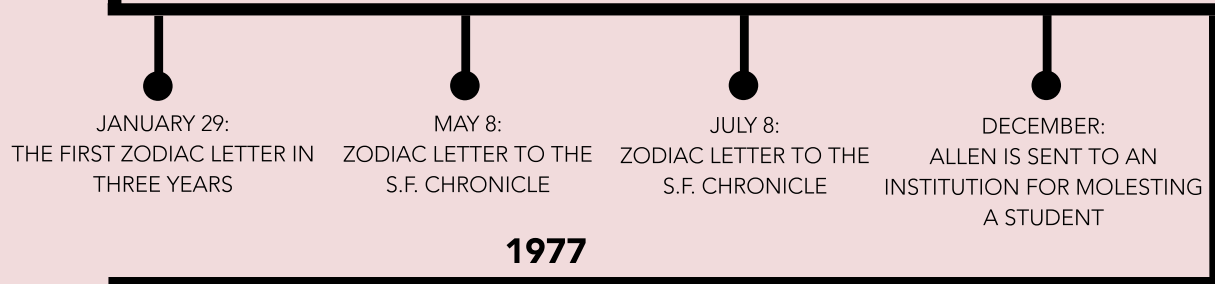
1971



FROM JUNE 1971 TO JANUARY 1974 NO ZODIAC LETTERS
WERE SENT [NO EXPLANATION WHY]

1974

1975



DECEMBER 30:
ALLEN IS RELEASED AND JUST A FEW DAYS LATER, SFPD
DETECTIVE DAVE TOSCHI RECEIVES A TYPEWRITTEN
NOTE FROM THE ZODIAC

1978

APRIL 24:
ZODIAC WRITES TO THE S.F. CHRONICLE
AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 4 YEARS

THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME

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