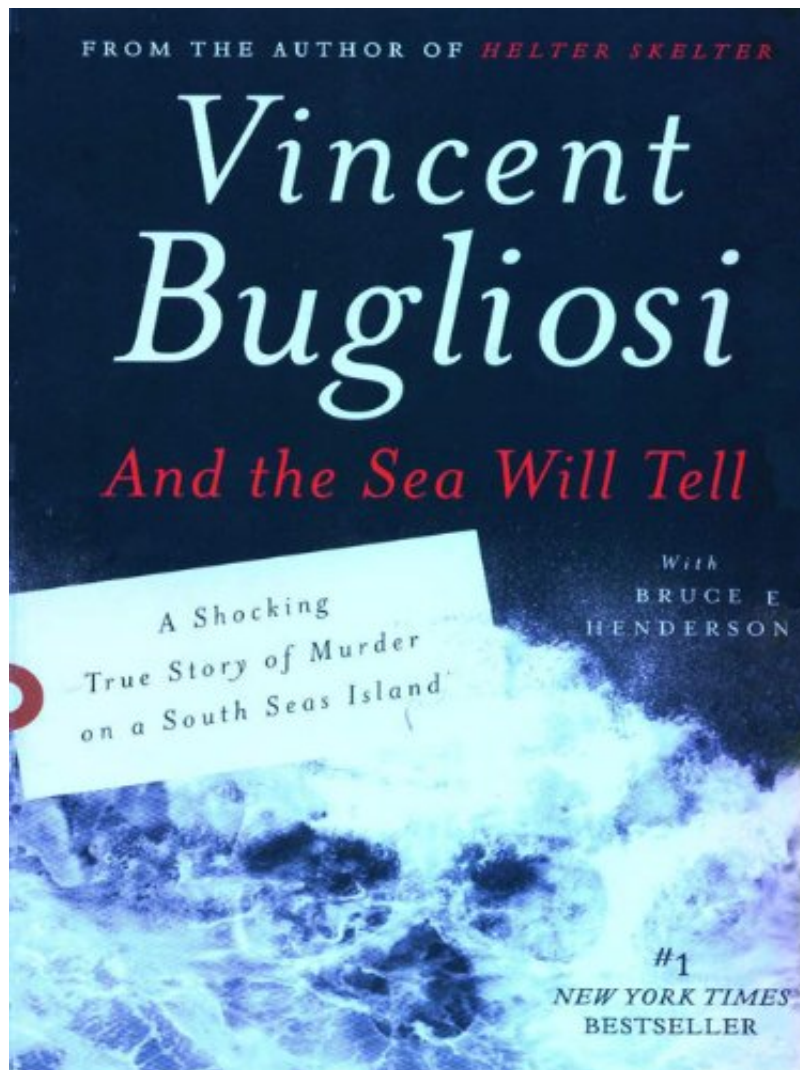


And the Sea Will Tell

by

Vincent Bugliosi



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Synopsis

"Grips you by the throat from beginning to end."—Cleveland Plain Dealer
ALONE WITH HER NEW HUSBAND on a tiny Pacific atoll, a young woman, combing the beach, finds an odd aluminum container washed up out of the lagoon, and beside it on the sand something glitters: a gold tooth in a scorched human skull. The investigation that follows uncovers an extraordinarily complex and puzzling true-crime story. Only Vincent Bugliosi, who recounted his successful prosecution of mass murderer Charles Manson in the bestseller *Helter Skelter*, was able to draw together the hundreds of conflicting details of the mystery and reconstruct what really happened when four people found hell in a tropical paradise. *And the Sea Will Tell* reconstructs the events and subsequent trial of a riveting true murder mystery, and probes into the dark heart of a serpentine scenario of death.

Sort review

Succeeds on all accounts . . . refuses to relinquish its grip on our imaginations. *And the Sea Will Tell* spins a riveting story--a story that could have been the backbone for a classic novel by Herman Melville or Joseph Conrad. Two couples--one wealthy and married, the other an ex-con and his hippie girlfriend-- separately set sail for a remote South Pacific island, each hoping to play "Adam and Eve" in paradise. Instead of getting away from it all, they take it with them-- their pasts and prejudices, and the petty battles over status and material goods that arise from their different social classes. Only two people out of the original four live through the experience. One of them has the extraordinary good luck to be defended in court by master attorney Vincent Bugliosi (author of *Helter Skelter*). As the *Los Angeles Times* writes, "The book succeeds on all counts. The final pages are some of the most suspenseful in trial literature." --This text refers to an alternate kindle_edition edition. From *Publishers Weekly* In 1974, wealthy Californians Mac and Muff Graham sailed to Palmyra Island, 1000 miles south of Hawaii, in their boat the *Sea Wind*. Buck Walker and Jennifer Jenkins arrived soon after on the same atoll, fleeing drug charges in Hawaii. Several months later, Walker and Jenkins returned to Hawaii in the *Sea Wind*, claiming that the Grahams were presumed dead when the dinghy in which they had gone fishing was washed ashore unmanned. However, in 1980, vacationers on Palmyra found bones soon identified as those of Muff Graham, who was determined to have been shot. Walker and Jenkins were charged with murder: in separate San Francisco trials, he was sentenced to life imprisonment and she was acquitted. Writing with Henderson (*Empire of Deceit*), Bugliosi (*Helter Skelter*), who served as Jenkins's attorney, offers a case history which could have been a true-crime classic if not for the 250 tedious pages devoted to his client's 23-day trial. Photos not seen by PW. Literary Guild main selection. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. -- This text refers to an alternate kindle_edition edition. From the Inside Flap **WILL TELL**, written by renowned defense attorney and author of **HELTER SKELTER** Vincent Bugliosi, reconstructs the

events and subsequent trial of a riveting true murder mystery, and probes into the dark heart of a serpentine scenario of death that began when four people found hell in paradise. It was the 1960s and two couples separately set sail in search of a peaceful life: a wealthy yachtsman and his wife, an ex-con and his sexy girlfriend. Their destinies converged on a South Pacific island hundreds of miles from civilization where a savage murder left two of them there forever. . . .

"Grips you by the throat from beginning to end."

THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER --This text refers to an alternate kindle_edition edition.

About the Author Vincent Bugliosi (1934-2015) was an attorney and New York Times bestselling author. His books include *Helter Skelter*, *Outrage*, and *Till Death Us Do Part*. David Colacci is an actor and director who has directed and performed in prominent theaters nationwide. His credits include roles from Shakespeare to Albee, as well as extensive work on new plays. As a narrator, he has won numerous Earphones Awards, earned Audie Award nominations, and been included in Best Audio of the Year lists by such publications as *Publishers Weekly*, *AudioFile* magazine, and *Library Journal*. He was a resident actor and director with the Cleveland Play House for eight years and has been artistic director of the Hope Summer Rep Theater since 1992. Bruce Henderson is the author or coauthor of more than twenty nonfiction books, including the #1 New York Times bestseller *And the Sea Will Tell*, which was made into a highly rated TV miniseries. --

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From *Library Journal* As he did in *Helter Skelter* (LJ 11/1/74), Bugliosi draws readers into the psyches of the criminally inclined in this minutely detailed chronicle of two couples on a remote Pacific island. To Mac and Muff Graham, Palmyra is Paradise; for Jennifer Jenkins and Buck Walker, it is a good deal less. Tension builds between the couples, and when the Grahams are reported missing, everyone except Bugliosi believes Jenkins and Walker are responsible. Convinced of their innocence, he takes on the unfamiliar role of defense lawyer, using his knowledge of the law and keen insight into human behavior to reveal what really happened to the Grahams. Not as grisly as *Helter Skelter*, this tale is just as riveting--proving once again that the best stories come right out of newspaper headlines. Recommended for true crime collections. Literary Guild main selection; previewed in *Prepub Alert*, LJ 9/1/90.- Belinda Pugh, Naval Submarine Base Lib., Kings Bay, Ga. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate kindle_edition edition.

From *AudioFile* This story, familiar from a television mini-series a few years back, portrays Mac and Muff Graham, experienced sailors on the beautiful *Sea Wind*, who meet a hippie couple on the lam on a deserted Palmyra Island. This clash of lifestyles turns deadly when the Grahams "disappear" and the hippies return to Hawaii in the repainted *Sea Wind*. The story ends with a brilliant trial recalled by defense lawyer Bugliosi. What makes the presentation an extraordinary listening experience is Richard Crenna's full-bodied narration, which gives weight and depth to every characterization in a highly dramatic reading. M.J.C. (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine --This text refers to an alternate kindle_edition edition. Read more

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What people say about this book

Pandra Selivanov, "Muff and Jennifer should have sailed away on their own. SPOILERS! I love Vincent Bugliosi's books. He was such a knowledgeable and compassionate man, but in this book, I always wonder at the item in his appendix about being surprised that so many people over the years thought Mac was the one who murdered Muff. Obviously that's not what happened, Mac would never have abandoned his beloved boat the Sea Wind to be rid of his wife, and yet I always thought it was a fair assessment. Bugliosi doesn't just talk about the trial and how hard he worked to save Jennifer Jenkins (real name Stephanie Stearns) from herself. He also talks about Mac and Muff Graham. And it's incredible how really similar Mac and Muff were to Buck and Jennifer. Here you have two men determined to live all alone on a deserted island, and resenting each other's presence. Both Mac and Buck were possessive of Palmyra, and neither of them seemed to care that the island was privately owned and they had no permission to be there. One interesting incident was when a man visiting the island, Tom Wolfe, warned Mac that some rat poison had disappeared from an old bunker. Mac was so unconcerned that Wolfe wondered if it was Buck and Jennifer who had to worry. Mac also told Wolfe that he was tougher than Buck and he would take care of Buck if he tried anything. Then there's Muff and Jennifer. Muff didn't want to be on Palmyra and she was miserable there, according to her own letters that she sent to family and friends. Mac didn't care, and his own sister Kit had chided him about not caring for Muff's feelings. Mac was having a blast on Palmyra, and Muff was descending into despair. Visitors to the island noticed she was unhappy, and that she was afraid of Buck. Muff even confided one night to Jennifer how she didn't want to be on Palmyra and she missed her nice life and her friends and family in San Diego. And Jennifer, the only reason she was on the island was because she loved Buck and wanted to be with him and she was having a hard time too. I always feel that it's a shame the women didn't take the Sea Wind and sail away to civilization and leave the men on Palmyra to duke it out. And I also get the impression that, although no one will ever know what really happened, that Mac and Buck probably got in a fight and that's how Mac died. I can't help wondering if Mac didn't START the fight, since he was the one posturing to others on the island about how he could handle Buck. And then Buck went and killed Muff and that was that. I just have such a strong sense of sadness that these two women were involved with men who wanted to do their own thing and really didn't care about the feelings of the women who loved them. Anyway, it's a great book, and Bugliosi's legal maneuverings make for fascinating reading. I find his thinking on Jennifer's innocence of the killings to be persuasive, particularly the part where he walks the jury through why the body of Muff Graham was found in the lagoon when it would have been so much better from the killer's standpoint to dump it far out to sea. Buck wasn't hiding the body from the authorities when he put it in the lagoon. He was hiding it from Jennifer. One final note is that it's interesting Bugliosi's fish expert thought it was rare for a swordfish to attack a boat. Apparently it's actually not such a rare occurrence, as there are a number of museums with planks of large

ships with swordfish bills stuck in them. Swordfish have attacked smaller boats, submarines, and even oil rigs. Reading about the incident in the book about the Sea Wind getting skewered by a swordfish got me interested to look up more information. That's the best thing about Vincent Bugliosi, how incredibly informative his books are, not just about crime but also other things."

Bbooks, "Long and wordy at times but fascinating. "It is said that the principal element that distinguishes a profession from a business is that in a profession, one's primary obligation is to those he serves, not to himself."— Vincent Bugliosi, *And the Sea Will Tell* I like a good True crime book every now and then and I had already read Bugliosi's book about OJ Simpson so I tried this one. It is extremely long and very wordy. It is also a creeper of a book, all together more of a creeper because you are reading non fiction. So I had a few thoughts. The first one is that there was so much packed in here and some parts were more interesting then others. There was ALOT of courtroom jargon and some aspects of this book were extremely difficult to follow. I also did feel my mind wander at some of the more legal aspects of the book. But it is exceptionally well written and just horrifying to read about. It is much different then his book about Simpson. So yes it is a well written and interesting book but it is quite long and took me awhile. If you are a true crime fan you will most likely want to read this."

Claudine Wolk, "Two Couples On a Remote Island, One Couple Comes Back. You might remember the name of this true crime book from a made for TV movie starring Richard Crenna and Rachel Ward from 1991 by the same name. Bugliosi is one of my favorite writers. He was one cool cat. He was a brilliant, hard-working prosecutor and in this case defense attorney as well. He has been a part of some crazy cases not the least of which was the Charlie Manson case. He wrote about the Charles Manson investigation and case in his book, *Helter Skelter*, also a made for tv movie. Mr. Bugliosi's writing is methodical...he tells the tale in order but leaves elements behind so that you are finding out things as he did during his investigation. He includes courtroom drama and courtroom strategy as well. One of the things that I love about Bugliosi is his commitment to preparation and his yellow legal pads. He felt that there is no excuse for lack of preparation and also felt that his continuing review of his notes has led to his success, that many prosecutor and defense attorneys do their clients a disservice by simply not being prepared. i feel that this is lesson that all of us, no matter our field, can adopt. In *And The Sea Will Tell*, two couples end up on an island...Mac and Muff and Jennifer and Buck. Jennifer and Buck come back to the mainland in Mac and Muff's boat. Mac & Muff are presumed dead. Was it an accident or did Jennifer and Buck conspire to kill them? Gotta read the book to find out."

A. Linton, "Fascinating true crime story. I vaguely remember the TV mini series of this case back in the 90s but I had forgotten most of the facts (if I ever knew them) so I was quite glad to chance upon this book, which is narrated by the defence attorney of one of the defendants whom he

calls 'Jennifer' (really Stephanie Stearns). The first half of the book is totally gripping - two couples sail to a beautiful remote island, one affluent couple (Mac and Muff Graham) in a state of the art well equipped boat, the other two (Jennifer and Buck) pretty much destitute in a boat that is barely seaworthy. What happened, no one can be sure at the time except that the rich couple disappear without trace, supposedly by accident and the poor couple end up in possession of their boat - that is until years later a South African tourist finds skeletal remains on the beach and a murder enquiry takes place. Well the facts as stated here kind of speak for themselves and I was intrigued when VB - who claims he would never defend a client whom he believed to be guilty - ends up defending 'Jennifer' whose lover Buck has already been convicted of the murder of Muff Graham. Surely she must be up to her neck in it? I assumed that he must have pretty compelling evidence of her innocence but as the book progressed I wondered if he had either been fooled by her little girl charm or ignored reality because he wanted to be in on a high profile murder case (which led to a book and a TV mini-series). Surely he must have asked himself why his 'innocent' client lied so much? Or why he had to suppress so evidence that might have made the jury think she was guilty? The second half of the book is a little less fast paced than the first half which often gets bogged down in legal wrangling which becomes tiresome at times. All in all I wasn't surprised that Jennifer/Stearns was found not guilty given the weak nature of the prosecution but I was far from convinced of her innocence - nor I suspect in his heart of hearts was the author. Definitely would recommend to anyone who likes true crime/unsolved mysteries."

G. Robinson, "Superb in every way.. In 1981 while taking a stroll on a very small uninhabited Pacific Island, a woman saw something shiny lying on the sand. On further examination she suddenly realised it was a gold tooth inside a human skull. Close by were more human like bones, a strange old upturned metal box and some twisted metal wire. Little did she know at the time, but she had stumbled upon a bizarre murder scene. But who was the victim or victims? In 1974 two sets of very different couples set sail to the small atoll of Palmyra, neither had any knowledge of the other until they arrived. One couple were married, honest friendly and true, old hands at yachting, very competent and fully prepared for the rigours of ocean life. They also sailed a carefully and obsessively maintained and equipped 35 foot beauty named the Sea Wind. The other couple by contrast were inexperienced, their boat was badly maintained and leaking, the hand made mast was made out of 2x6 timber, they had few supplies, no radio, navigated by the stars, and were described by many as hippies. He was also a twice convicted armed robber and drug dealer who liked guns and had once been a patient in a mental institution. He was also on the run from the authorities for jumping bail and was currently using an alias to evade capture. Described by more than one witness as brooding and violent, he perspired a sense of menace that his girlfriend seemed to either accept or not notice. He was said to create an atmosphere unless he was in a good mood. It seems she was an airhead who seemed to like "bad boys with muscles" and pretty much did as she was told. Although

seemingly intelligent she seems to have been under his spell and was quite happy to constantly lie to the authorities and anyone else who would listen to her, use aliases on official documents when it pleased her, and be happy to aid a gun packing fugitive to evade justice and go to a quiet Island to grow Cannabis to sell back on the mainland. Neither of them were exactly model citizens and when the adventure began to turn very sour (they were not alone as planned and things were harder to do than expected) things got out of hand and two people ended up dead. The first third of this book explains the actual story of their trips to the island and what actually happened, who said and did what etc. The following pages recount the efforts of the authorities to prove murder had actually taken place and who did it. The hoops that the authorities have to go through to first prove murder has taken place and then prove who did it are told in an easy to read way. It does get into quite complex legal issues on occasion, but this only emphasises the difficulty that arises when trying to prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, something happened. It's clear that the late Mr Bugliosi was a very talented and methodical Lawyer. His skill at getting to the truth, through a confusing maze of conflicting and often contradictory evidence, is quite astonishing. His thoughts that at the bottom of even the most complex of cases is a "simple truth" shines off each page. His final summation covering perhaps 40 pages is a master-class in not only getting to that simple truth but explaining it satisfactorily to lay people of the jury. The best true crime book I've ever read by some margin."

subquest, "Not 'Innocent', Simply 'Not Guilty'. Despite this excellent book I still have reservations about the part played by 'Jennifer Jenkins' in the Palmyra saga though this definition of events does offer a believable version of what may have happened. As usual Mr Bugliosi's book is an engrossing read & his defence role is covered in great detail, an aspect of the book I particularly enjoyed - I almost feel I could mount a defence were I to simply follow Vincent Bugliosi's basic plan."

S. Hughes, "One of the best books i've had read. An absolutely gripping book. If you enjoy a superbly written book about a true account, do read this."

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