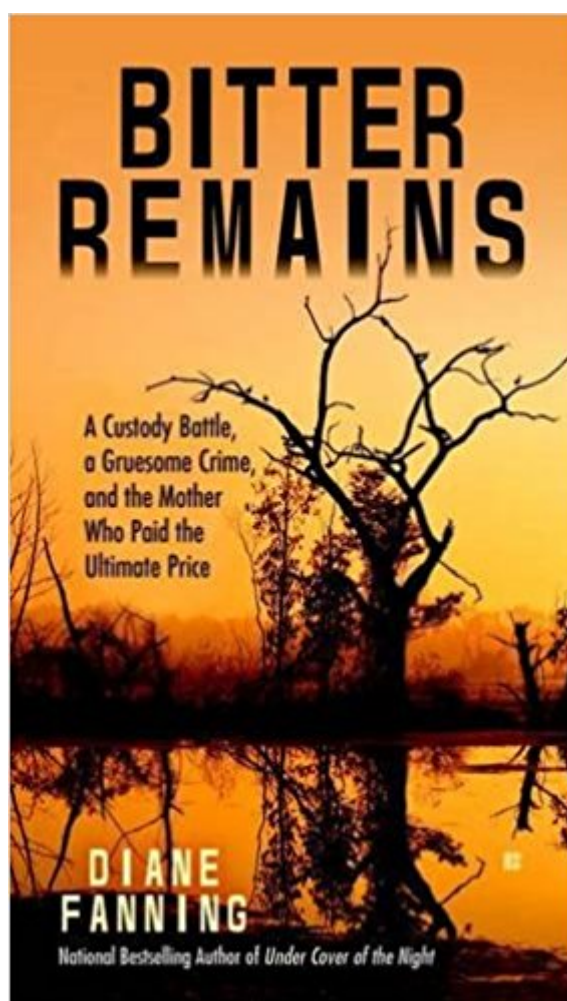


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# Bitter Remains: A Custody Battle, A Gruesome Crime, And The Mother Who Paid The Ultimate Price



## Synopsis

The bestselling true crime author of *Under Cover of the Night* recounts Laura Ackerson's disappearance and murder in North Carolina, the discovery of her remains in Texas, and the aftermath. On July 13, 2011, Laura Jean Ackerson of Kinston, North Carolina, went to pick up her two toddler sons. It would be the last time she was seen alive... Two weeks later, detectives searching for the missing mother made a gruesome discovery on the shores of Oyster Creek near Richmond, Texas: the dismembered body parts of a young woman whom they were able to identify as Laura Ackerson. Laura's ex, Grant Hayes, the father of her two sons, and his wife, Amanda, the mother of his newborn daughter, both pointed the finger at each other as the one guilty of murdering Laura, cutting up her body, and then transporting and disposing of the remains. This is the haunting true crime story of a devoted mother, a disturbed couple, and how these horrific events came to pass... INCLUDES PHOTOS

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

PRAISE FOR DIANE FANNING "Very few writers have the insight and gift to take a true story and make it one hell of a page-turner." Susan Murphy Milano, domestic violence victims' advocate, on *A Poisoned Passion* "Unbelievable stuff!" Mike DeForest, WKMG-TV, on *Mommy's Little Girl* "I couldn't put it down until I had finished it...A story that's enjoyable to read and accurate to detail." Herb Betz on *Through the Window* "I was

astonished by how good this book was—insightful, well written, and fascinating.—Hugh Aynesworth, four-time Pulitzer Prize nominee, on *Out There*

Diane Fanning is the Edgar Award-nominated, national bestselling author of fourteen true crime books, including *Under Cover of the Night*, as well as the *Lucinda Pierce Mysteries*, and a World War II mystery, *Scandal in the Secret City*. She has appeared on numerous network and cable news shows and radio stations across the United States and Canada, including *TODAY*, *48 Hours*, *20/20*, *Forensic Files*, *Snapped*, *bio.*, *Investigation Discovery*, *E!*, and the BBC.

What a great read this was! Such a tragic child custody case that ended up so horribly wrong. When I saw the list of characters at the beginning, I thought it was going to be very complicated book to follow, but it was not. Ms. Fanning obviously spent an enormous amount of time researching this book and she presented it in an easy to follow fashion. I especially liked the way the court proceedings were presented - in a story fashion rather than a court transcript fashion. I highly recommend this to anyone who enjoys true crime.

Sad but true...the story bogs down once they go to trial but at least justice is served. Saw this story on *Snapped* and didn't make the connection at first, but then it came back to me. Hard to believe it's true....

This is one of those true crime books that is interesting at first, but quickly becomes repetitive. Before the half-way point, the author starts simply recounting trial testimonies of those involved. I lost interest and skimmed through the last 60% of this book.

This book started out really good. Then it got to the trial of not one, but two plaintiffs. More than half the book was taken up by boring, redundant trial testimony. I had to force myself to finish.

I found this book to be a several day effort into something which would require 10 pages. I always try to find something nice to say. I found the photos interesting after the tale is told.

A great read and yet another tragic glimpse of what human beings can do to one another. How you could choose to think pre-meditated murder could be the solution to your problems just continues to

baffle me. And in cases such as these, it is apparent that the children are nothing more than possessions to be fought over. And they are ultimately left orphaned by those that were supposed to put their needs above all else.

Reading it now. Another story of how divorce can be deadly. White girl and black husband and he has custody of the two boys. He doesn't want his ex in his life w/his new wife and child.

A good true crime story, once again greed and grudges, warrant the killing of a perfectly good human being. One thing true crime teaches is to take more than one look, pause again and again, before allowing one self to become a victim. Apparently, there are no limits as to who can kill, and this book is just one more example. 4 Stars.

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