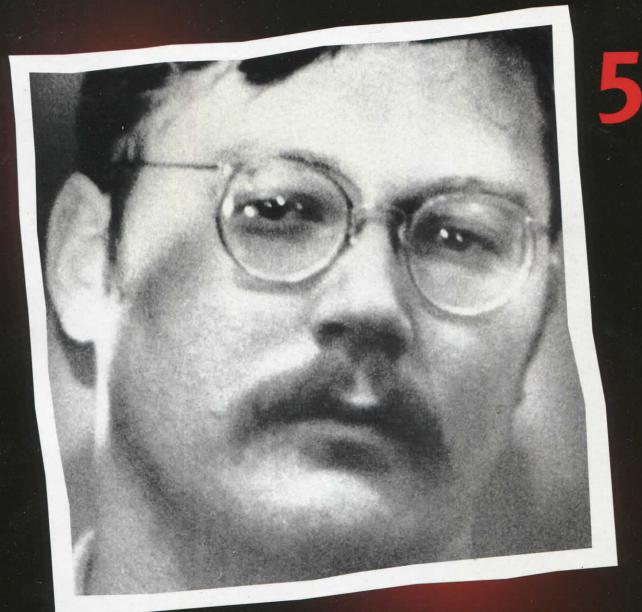
The killers Their crimes Their psychology



Ed Kemper

The American serial killer who got his kicks – and revenge – by dissecting and abusing his female victims



chapter

2

page

contents

First slayings: A killer in the family As an unusually tall 15 year old, Ed Kemper had to deal with the usual adolescent upheavals as well as divorced parents who did not want him. Left on his grandparents' farm, his rage exploded, with deadly results

Beginnings: Victim of divorce

Born in Burbank, California, in 1948, Edmund Emil Kemper found himself at the mercy of his mother Clarnell after his father abandoned the family in 1957. The break-up spawned serious emotional troubles for the youth

Release: Demon at large

After the murder of his grandparents, Kemper spent five years at the Atascadero State Hospital. Released, he stayed with his mother in Aptos, near Santa Cruz; but now the devious giant began his killing campaign

Crime File: Ed Kemper's crime scenes

In pursuance of his killing strategy, Kemper became thoroughly familiar with the freeways and backroads of central California – especially those around the San Francisco Bay area. Here he picked up his female victims

Koo & Schall: One-way lifts

16

In late 1972, Kemper abducted and murdered Aiko Koo, 15, a talented dancer from Berkeley; he then killed 18-year-old Cindy Schall, who was hitchhiking in Santa Cruz. Both had fatally accepted rides in his car

Perspectives: Blood rival

At the same time that Kemper was engaged in murder, another Santa Cruz resident, Herbert Mullin, 24, was spreading deadly mayhem. Like Kemper, Mullin was also a released mental patient, driven by voices in his head

Final murders: An orgy of death

In early 1973, following a fight with his mother, Kemper took his anger out on Santa Cruz students Rosalind Thorpe and Alice Liu. He then murdered his mother and a friend of hers before surrendering to the Colorado police

Insight: Thrill of the chase

Driven though he was by anger and revenge, Kemper also got much pleasure from his murderous behaviour - he liked duping his victims. instilling fear into them, and sexually abusing and dissecting their bodies

Judgement: Edmund the confessor

33

Under arrest, Ed Kemper gave long and detailed accounts of his crimes. He felt a deep need to tell all, despite its horror. His trial in Santa Cruz lasted three weeks, and the jury's verdict meant a lifetime imprisonment

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