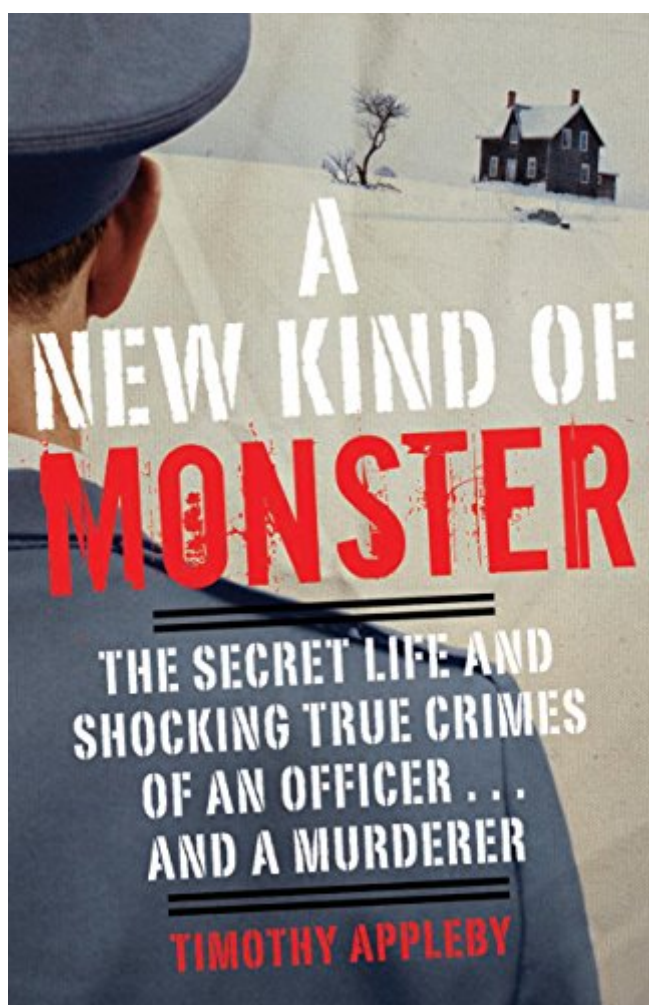


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A New Kind Of Monster: The Secret Life And Shocking True Crimes Of An Officer . . . And A Murderer



Synopsis

The horrific and astonishing true story of the double life of Russell Williams, who was at once a respected figure in the Canadian military and a ruthless sado-sexual serial criminal and murderer. A model officer and elite pilot, Colonel Russell Williams was trusted with flying international dignitaries including Queen Elizabeth, as well as commanding Canada's most important military airbase. Yet his dark and violent secret life included breaking into 82 homes of girls and women; thefts of vast amounts of lingerie (which he dressed in); two bizarre sexual assaults that left an uncomprehending Ontario village on a knife's-edge; and eventually, two rape-murders. In *A New Kind of Monster*, veteran *Globe and Mail* crime reporter Tim Appleby chronicles a true story that could have been lifted from the darkest pages of pulp fiction, one that offers fascinating--and troubling--insights on human psychopathology.

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Customer Reviews

Some of the book was interesting, but the author went on and on about military facts way too much. I didn't really get a picture of this "new kind of monster." The fact that Williams was sad over his cat's death did not convince me that he isn't a sociopath. He admitted to crimes he couldn't wrangle

out of because of overwhelming evidence. That just shows me he was smart. The author also needs to take some psychology courses. He stated that Williams's obsession with dressing in women's undergarments was unusual because he isn't a homosexual. The fact is, dressing in the opposite genders' clothing has nothing to do with one's sexual orientation. The term used for that type of behavior is "transvestite;" and most transvestites are not gay. Additionally, the author referred to most killers as being, among other things, schizophrenic. Few people with schizophrenia commit murder.

I have a part-time home in Canada and was there when the Russ Williams story rocked the country. This was a man who flew the Queen of England, planned for other high-dignitary visits, and was very respected as commander of the country's largest Air Force base. Tim Appleby, the author, is a talented, seasoned crime reporter for the national newspaper, Globe and Mail. Without writing an encyclopedia, he cites the background, family issues, psychology of cross dressing (and new studies of this behavior,) and goes as far as anyone probably can to answer the question "why." A consummate journalist allows others to voice opinions, rather than presenting a position, and that's what Appleby gives us. Also, I much appreciated his non-sensational approach; the sociology and other factors of this crime are more important to the author than sensationalizing the unspeakable details of the crimes. While no one should live in deep suspicion of other human beings, this cautionary tale reminds us to plan our personal and home security against the likes of a Russ Williams. I hope that the hottest spot in hell will be reserved for Williams and those like him who so freely take the lives of others, absolutely destroy mothers and other relatives of the victims, and feel nothing. Williams appears to have far more grief over the death of his (very mean) cat than he does for the women he raped and murdered. I hasten to point out that Williams is now incarcerated in a tiny maximum security cell in a medieval-like prison at Kingston, Ontario, 23 hours per day, and long may he remain exactly there. I highly recommend this well-written, well-documented book.

I had this on my Kindle for over a year and have no plausible reason as to why I hadn't read this until now. This is no understatement when I write that this book was upsetting but also fascinating. Aren't murderers and sexual predators supposed to send off signals that something is off with them? Aren't little voices supposed to go off in one's head when danger is approaching? I go on my instincts and more often than not I know when something isn't quite right. In the case of Colonel Russ Williams I'm not sure anything would have kicked in had I met him in the course of my normal life. Apparently, no one had any instincts about the man. A star in the Canadian Air Force who rose

meteorically within the hierarchy of the military, Williams was the envy of his peers. While some critics may have viewed him as a pompous jerk or without humor or devoid of personality, there was no denying that he had intelligence and superior organizational skills. From what can be established, Williams had a sexual drive that manifested itself in a strange and perverted way. He liked to steal female undergarments, wear them, masturbate in them, photograph himself in them. Beyond breaking and entering combined with the previously mentioned activities, his behavior included stalking and repeated break ins to the same residences. His confidence and behavior escalated to sexual assaults, pornographic photography, and murder. This book details Williams spiral to hell and his descent into increasingly hostile and violent behavior while still maintaining a facade of normalcy. As I read it, I found it easy to empathize with his victims who felt violated. As his behavior turned murderous, I kept wondering how long it would take for this guy to get caught. This was a very well written and structured book. In reality, there were no early warning signs. The author did a great job of detailing all of Williams' crimes and his escalating bold yet risky behavior. I can only liken it to waiting for a train to crash. Despite the fact that I already knew the outcome of this case, it was getting there that heightened my appreciation of good reporting coupled with suspense and incredulous behavior. There was beyond the factual information about this case, an explanation of differences between American and Canadian law as well as the interviewing techniques used to coax a confession from Williams. This was an intense reading experience and a good one.

A very compelling book about a sexual predator and serial killer who had everyone fooled. While I find it acceptable to find Williams as liar and doing all he can, to this day to mask the real him. I find it disturbing that his family has circle their wagons offering little if any insight into what actually created this monster. Are they monsters as well?

For me it was hard to understand how someone so smart and intelligent could be so depraved. I am glad that I read it even as horrible as it is.

Good read

Well written account of a very demented human being; a true story.

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