The Grisly History of French Serial Killers: From Gilles de Rais to Michel Fourniret



The case of Doctor Petiot (1897-1946): History of a

French serial killer by Louis Jacob

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France has a long and bloody history of serial killers, from the notorious Gilles de Rais to the more recent Michel Fourniret. This article explores the lives and crimes of some of the most infamous French serial killers, and examines the factors that may have contributed to their evil deeds.

Gilles de Rais

Gilles de Rais was a French nobleman who lived in the 15th century. He is best known for his role as a military commander in the Hundred Years' War, but he is also infamous for his sadistic crimes against children. Rais was accused of kidnapping, raping, and murdering hundreds of children, and he was eventually burned at the stake for his crimes.

Rais's crimes were particularly shocking because he was a member of the upper class and a respected military leader. He was also a close friend of Joan of Arc, and he fought alongside her in several battles. Rais's crimes cast a shadow over Joan of Arc's legacy, and they have been the subject of much speculation and debate over the centuries.

Marquise de Brinvilliers

The Marquise de Brinvilliers was a French noblewoman who lived in the 17th century. She is best known for her role in the Poison Affair, a series of poisonings that terrorized Paris in the 1670s. Brinvilliers was accused of poisoning her father, her brother, and her sister, and she was eventually executed for her crimes.

Brinvilliers's crimes were particularly shocking because she was a woman of high social standing. She was also a skilled poisoner, and she was able to evade detection for several years. Brinvilliers's crimes cast a shadow over the reign of Louis XIV, and they have been the subject of much speculation and debate over the centuries.

Henri Désiré Landru

Henri Désiré Landru was a French serial killer who lived in the early 20th century. He is best known for his role in the Bluebeard Affair, a series of murders that terrorized Paris in the 1910s. Landru was accused of murdering 10 women, and he was eventually executed for his crimes.

Landru's crimes were particularly shocking because he was a charming and well-educated man. He was also able to evade detection for several years. Landru's crimes cast a shadow over the Belle Époque, and they have been the subject of much speculation and debate over the centuries.

Michel Fourniret

Michel Fourniret was a French serial killer who lived in the late 20th century. He is best known for his role in the Ogre of the Ardennes case, a series of murders that terrorized Belgium and France in the 1980s and 1990s. Fourniret was accused of murdering 10 girls and young women, and he was eventually sentenced to life in prison for his crimes.

Fourniret's crimes were particularly shocking because he was a married man with children. He was also a respected member of his community. Fourniret's crimes cast a shadow over the 1990s, and they have been the subject of much speculation and debate over the centuries.

France has a long and bloody history of serial killers. The lives and crimes of these individuals have fascinated and horrified people for centuries. What drives someone to commit such heinous crimes? Is it nature or nurture? Is it a combination of both? These are questions that have no easy answers. But by studying the history of serial killers, we can gain a better understanding of the human capacity for evil.



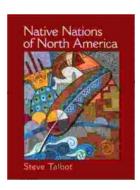
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