

A MARGARET BARLOW MYSTERY

MURDER IN THE NAPA VALLEY

DAVID

O. S. BORN

Murder In The Napa Valley

Jessica Fletcher, Donald Bain



Murder In The Napa Valley:

Murder and Mayhem in the Napa Valley Todd L. Shulman, 2012-08-14 The picturesque vineyards of California's Napa Valley one of the world's premier tourist destinations disguise a tangled history of lawlessness depravity and frontier justice Some crimes were committed over debts some for retribution and others in the name of love Famed photographer Eadweard Muybridge killed a man for seducing his wife but was acquitted Other criminals were not so lucky and met the gallows like murderer William Roe the state's final public execution From the Pomo massacre the first criminal case heard by the California Supreme Court to the cold cases that continue to haunt the region Napa Police Detective Todd Shulman decants the crimes of the Napa Valley memorializing the victims and honoring the efforts of local law enforcement *Nightmare in Napa* Paul LaRosa, 2007-04-24 The Shocking True Story Of Murder In California Wine Country An award winning journalist delves behind the scenes of a chilling true crime story aired on TV's 48 Hours Mystery and uncovers twisting revelations inside an already shattering case of double homicide Halloween night in idyllic Napa California two young women roommates a transplanted Southern beauty queen and a popular engineering graduate from the Napa area are brutally stabbed by an intruder who entered their home through a first floor window A third roommate heard the horrific commotion but never saw the killer News of the tragedy sent shockwaves throughout the peaceful region as well as the nation but while investigators pursued every angle from a satanic cult to a disgruntled suitor the murders of Leslie Mazzara and Adriane Insogna remained unsolved Until someone came forward with a shocking confession someone who was close enough to the women to escape suspicion Someone who knew the victims all too well Complete with up to the minute court action and the stunning crime scene breakthroughs that turned the case around here is the full story of the Nightmare In Napa [Murder Napa Valley](#) David Osborn, 2000-10-06 Margaret Barlow investigates a series of unfortunate incidents at L Abbaye Ste Denise a 200 year old winery nestled among the sprawling hills and vineyards of the magnificent Napa Valley [Murder in the Napa Valley](#) David Osborn, 1993 At a hot air ballooning rally in northern California free lance journalist and amateur sleuth Margaret Barlow accepts a request from Elissa Seldridge to investigate a series of accidents at L Abbaye Ste Denise **Murder Alfresco** Nadia Gordon, 2010-07-01 A disturbing murder scene makes a Napa Valley chef hungry for justice in this cozy mystery by the author of Death by the Glass Returning from a party late one night chef Sunny McCoskey is the first to discover the body of a murdered woman left outside a local winery Shortly before she'd seen a truck leaving a local winery driving without its headlights on Was it the murderer And did the murderer see her as well Thrust into the center of a crime that has rattled the tranquil Napa Valley Sunny pursues her own investigation a journey that takes her from northern California's wine country to the insular houseboat community of Sausalito along the San Francisco Bay Uncovering a tangle of secret liaisons Sunny closes in on the murderer who responds with one more desperate act With Murder Alfresco author Nadia Gordon again takes us into the heart of the food and wine culture of the Napa and Sonoma Valleys and introduces us

to an array of irreverent characters As the Los Angeles Times said Sunny is a welcome energetic heroine She and her pals are fun to be around Praise for Sharpshooter Sunny is bright tenacious and extremely likable and Gordon paints a vivid portrait of the Napa Valley and its wine and food culture I m looking forward to many more novels in this intriguing new series Marcia Muller New York Times bestselling author of the Sharon McCone mysteries Napa Valley the good life sunny skies fine cuisine and fleshy reds But isn t there something murky at the bottom of the bottle Yes and it is murder no less The mystery of wine If a wine does not have some mystery to it we call it plonk Sharpshooter is not plonk A crime novel with taste Kermit Lynch author of Adventures on the Wine Route Those of us who enjoy an authentic look into another culture while reading a mystery are going to enjoy joining Nadia Gordon in the wild weird wine industry Tony Hillerman New York Times bestselling author of the Leaphorn and Chee novels Napa Murder of Anita Fagiani Andrews, The: A Cold Case That Caught a Serial Killer Raymond A. Guadagni,2021 In 1974 the brutal murder of Anita Fagiani Andrews a fifty one year old former beauty queen and mother of two shook the small working class town of Napa Detectives criminalists and forensic experts raced to identify who d struck Anita down in her own bar but despite their efforts the case went cold Decades passed during which the town grew into a world renowned wine region and tourist destination but the case remained an open question After thirty seven years thanks to DNA evidence the killer imprisoned for a different murder was finally found and brought to justice Join author and retired judge Raymond A Guadagni as he tells the story of the shocking murder the investigation and the subsequent trial over which he presided in 2011 Murder & Mayhem in the Napa Valley Todd L. Shulman,2012-08-14 The picturesque vineyards of California s Napa Valley one of the world s premier tourist destinations disguise a tangled history of lawlessness depravity and frontier justice Some crimes were committed over debts some for retribution and others in the name of love Famed photographer Eadweard Muybridge killed a man for seducing his wife but was acquitted Other criminals were not so lucky and met the gallows like murderer William Roe the state s final public execution From the Pomo massacre the first criminal case heard by the California Supreme Court to the cold cases that continue to haunt the region Napa Police Detective Todd Shulman decants the crimes of the Napa Valley memorializing the victims and honoring the efforts of local law enforcement Murder in Napa Valley David Osborne,Donada Reader Peters,1993 **Napa Valley Case Files: Justice in Wine Country** Raymond A. Guadagni,2022 Well known for its picturesque setting Napa Valley is also home to crimes perpetrated in the name of greed love and rage Shocking incidents have rocked the small communities nestled among the vineyards like that of greedy young Billy Duvall who killed his parents as they slept and Bob Edwards who suffocated his beloved wife in a misguided attempt to keep a promise Two victims of domestic violence came to very different ends one murdered and the other offered a second chance at life after a jail sentence Join author and retired Napa Superior Court judge Raymond A Guadagni as he offers his unique perspective on these notorious court cases and the criminal justice system Murder Uncorked Michele Scott,2015-12-12 Nikki Sands was

like every other aspiring actress waiting tables between jobs But Nikki had taken serving wines to heart She knew enough to impress Napa Valley s golden boy Derek Malveaux who offered her a job at his vineyard And though Nikki may have left her dreams of stardom behind the world of wine is ripe with intrigue and the seeds of sleuthing are planted Nikki has just set foot on Napa Valley s rich soil when she realizes her new job may not be as safe as she thought First off Derek Malveaux is disconcertingly sexy Second his top winemaker is dead in the bushes outside Nikki s cottage It doesn t take a connoisseur of foul play to know something s taken a terrible turn

Death by the Glass Nadia Gordon,2010-07-01 A Napa Valley chef investigates after her new beau is accused of dishing out murder in this cozy mystery by the author of Sharpshooter High stakes wine fraud and murder disguised as a heart attack compel Sunny McCoskey to again toss aside her chef s apron and don the role of sleuth When the list of suspects includes her new lover the celebrity chef at a posh Napa Valley eatery the personal risks of her investigation rise dramatically With the same eclectic crew of gourmet friends and sassy co workers who helped her in Sharpshooter Sunny proves that she has a nose for crime as well as for a good Cabernet Sauvignon Praise for Death by the Glass Jolly high calorie pleasure almost as good as a trip to the scene itself Chicago Tribune Sunny s adventures offer readers an amusing romp in the culinary underworld Booklist

[Murder in California: The Topography of Evil](#) Marques Vickers,2015-09-30 The second edition of Murder in California The Topography of Evil is Marques Vickers visual return to 108 infamous crime scenes detailing the shocking and often searing narratives behind each tragedy Over 225 images amplify insight by escorting the reader to the crime location offering a critical context and perspective for understanding The captured snapshots portray visual testimonies of extinguished lives removed by acts of violence Crime scenes often revert back into unremarkable landscape or unassuming buildings over the ensuing years and decades Several have altered little since their moment of infamy Many are passed daily by pedestrian and vehicular traffic unaware of a location s unique significance California has been the residence for many notorious profiled individual and serial killers including the Zodiac Ted Unabomber Kaczynski Charles Manson Sirhan Sirhan Jim Jones Richard Allen Davis David Carpenter The Menendez Brothers Juan Corona Rodney Alcala Phil Spector Dan White Juan Corona Richard Ramirez and Scott Peterson The media has christened some monikers including the Trailside Killer Children of Thunder Co ed Killer Vampire of Sacramento Zebra Killers and the Death House Landlady The state has been the death site of notable victims including Senator Robert Kennedy San Francisco Mayor George Moscone Supervisor Harvey Milk Mobster Bugsy Siegel Black Panther Huey P Newton Journalist Chauncey Bailey Nicole Simpson Brown Rapper Notorious B I G Polly Klaas Lacy Peterson the Heaven s Gate cult singers Marvin Gaye Sam Cooke and actors Haing Ngor Ramon Novarro and Sal Mineo The Murder in California edition profiles are segmented into nine categories including assassinations abductions historical legacies reckless homicides chance encounters and manslaughters law enforcement fatalities and controversies unsolved murders rampage and serial killers Within the context of examining each profile many important issues and questions are

raised without necessarily culminating in resolution These include capital punishment racial perceptions contributing parental influences media reporting public opinion juvenile sentencing self incrimination protections and the impartiality of our judicial system An extensive and updated listing of fatality victims is included along with convicted and deceased killers Each living convict still registered within the United States penal systems is identified by their current penitentiary residence Vickers own introduction to the consequences of murder began with the 1968 killings of David Faraday and Betty Lou Jenson by the Zodiac killer in the author s hometown Faraday was an acquaintance of Vickers through Boy Scouts and his older sister knew both victims His reflections on the trauma inflicted on his intimate suburban community correspond with the realization that a single homicide affects far more individuals than simply the victim Hundreds and often thousands may be touched by the arbitrariness and unfairness of life being terminated abruptly and prematurely Cases Profiled By Sequential Order and Category Assassinations Oakland School Superintendent Dr Marcus Foster Mobster Bugsy Siegel Journalist Chauncey Bailey Mickey and Trudy Thompson San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk Rapper Christopher Wallace Notorious B I G The Marin County Courthouse Shootout Massacre Senator Robert F Kennedy Hitman Joseph The Animal Barboza Vic Weiss and the Wonderland Gang Abductions Patty Hearst Nicholas Markowitz Brooke Hart The Onion Field Killings Polly Klaas Ramona Irene Price Cal Poly Student Kristin Smart Kevin Collins Rachel Newhouse Aundria Crawford and Karen Mitchell Historical Legacies Fung Little Pete Jing Toy Charles Crawford US President Warren Harding Ned Doheny and Hugh Plunkett Mary Ellen Pleasant Orcutt Freeway Sniper Miles Archer and Eastside Salinas Gang Killings Chance Encounters and Manslaughter Killings Ennis Cosby Diane Whipple Haing Ngor Huey P Newton Johnny Stompanato Barbara Graham Marvin Gaye Phil Hartman Phil Spector Ramon Navarro Ronni Chasen Sal Mineo Sam Cooke and Father Eric Freed Unsolved Murders The Black Dahlia Lindsay Cutshall and Jason Allen Bob Domingos and Linda Edwards Santa Rosa Hitchhiker Murders Crips Gang Founder Raymond Washington David Nadel Geneva Ellroy Virginia Rapp Kym Morgan William Desmond Taylor Ted Healy and the Visalia Ransacker Rampage Mass Murders Elliot Rodger The Helzer Brothers Bruce Pardo The 101 California Building Rampage John Linley Frazier Edward Charles Allaway Golden Dragon Restaurant Meritage Salon John Kenney Frederick Martin Davidson Lynwood Jim Drake High School student Andy Williams Oikos University Shootings Nicolas Holzer the Cleveland Elementary Schools in San Diego and Stockton and Marcus Wesson Premeditated Murders Playboy Playmate Dorothy Stratten Laci Peterson John Morency Artie Mitchell Nicole Brown Simpson Menendez Brothers Bonnie Lee Bakley Vincent Brothers Marin County Barbeque Killings and Ewell Family Executions Law Enforcement Fatalities and Controversies Captain Walter Auble Oscar Grant III Newhall CHP Massacre Office Thomas Guerry Oakland Macarthur Boulevard Shooting Demetrius DeBose Policeman Matthew Pavelka and the North Hollywood Bank of America Shootout Serial Killings Zodiac Killer Charles Manson Dorothea Puente Efren Saldivar Ted Unabomber Kaczynski The Two Night Stalkers The Zebra Killings Heaven s Gate Suicide Edmund Kemper III Lawrence

Bittaker and Roy Norris Juan Corona Richard Trenton Chase Speedfreak Killers Herbert Mullin David Carpenter Reverend Jim Jones and the People's Temple Massacre Hillside Strangler and Rodney Alcala *Dead in the Dregs* Peter Lewis, 2010-07-10 It's murder in Napa Valley in this thrillingly knowledgeable insider's odyssey into the world of fine wines and particularly lurid homicides Anthony Bourdain With a stroke of a pen prominent wine critic Richard Wilson lives to elevate and more often destroy winemakers' reputations How fitting his death found murdered floating in a vat of a particularly bold Cabernet Sauvignon at a Napa Valley tasting Who did it Any vintner whose career was ruined by Wilson's sour grapes But when those trail turns cold Wilson's sister Janie enlists the help of her ex husband Babe Stern The ex sommelier turned Sonoma County bar owner is following his own lead to Burgundy France In cellars and tasting rooms from Beaune to Nuits Saint Georges Stern tracks down a family of vigneronns whose troubled son was interning at the winery the night Wilson died But it doesn't end there And as the investigation uncovers secrets bottled up for years Wilson won't be the last to die In fact the further Stern digs for the truth he may be the next An evocative insider's tour of French wine country that a tourist will never see Seattle Times restaurateur and former wine columnist Peter Lewis's juicy mystery is a rare and engrossing wonder dealing with the murderous grotesqueries of the wine world in an atmosphere of homicide sex and food Jim Harrison author of *Legends of the Fall* **Decanting a Murder** Nadine Nettmann, 2016-05-08 Can Katie Solve a Case of Chateau Murdeaux Katie Stillwell focuses on two things in her life work and practicing for Sommelier Certification with her blind tasting group The exam was supposed to be the hardest part of her week but that was before a body was found at an exclusive Napa Valley winery party When all the evidence points to Katie's best friend the outspoken and independent Tessa Katie drops everything to clear Tessa's name Using her deductive wine skills she tries to track down the real killer But when repeated attempts are made on her life Katie discovers that everyone's secrets must be uncovered including her own Praise A 2017 Anthony Award Finalist for Best First Novel A 2016 Agatha Award Finalist for Best First Novel A 2017 Lefty Award Finalist for Best Debut Mystery Novel Filled with amusing characters snappy dialogue and delicious wine pairings this mystery delivers a fast sophisticated ride with just enough twists and turns to keep readers guessing until the final confrontation RT Book Reviews This debut mystery has a sympathetic main character with secrets in her past well drawn secondary characters a possible love interest and fascinating detail on wine wineries and wine making skillfully woven through the story Booklist Nettmann's lead character Katie Stillwell aka The Palate as an amateur sleuth is a perfect pairing in this intricately crafted sommelier mystery At turns fascinating and suspenseful I was thoroughly captivated by the story and enjoyed every turn of the page Uncork me another Jenn McKinlay New York Times bestselling author The quiet hillsides and vineyards of California's famed Napa Valley have produced many famous vintages over the years and first time mystery author Nettmann knows this territory well The first in a very promising series Brendan DuBois a multiple award winning author and a three time Edgar nominee **Sharpshooter** Nadia Gordon, 2002-06-01 Sunny McCoskey is the independent

chef owner of Wildside a little cafe nestled in Napa Valley where the food is exactly right When the heir apparent to a major vineyard is shot dead and Sunny's eccentric winemaker friend Wade is arrested for the murder she launches her own investigation The solution lies in the tangled personalities and politics of the wine industry and in the threat posed to the valley by the glassy winged sharpshooter Set in a region renowned for its food and wine Sharpshooter launches an entertaining mystery series featuring Sunny and an engaging cast of wine professionals cooks socialites and suspects

Murder Uncorked Michele Scott,2020-08-28 Nikki Sands was like every other aspiring actress waiting tables between jobs But Nikki had taken serving wines to heart She knew enough to impress Napa Valley's golden boy Derek Malveaux who offered her a job at his vineyard And though Nikki may have left her dreams of stardom behind the world of wine is ripe with intrigue and the seeds of sleuthing are planted Nikki has just set foot on Napa Valley's rich soil when she realizes her new job may not be as safe as she thought First off Derek Malveaux is disconcertingly sexy Second his top winemaker is dead in the bushes outside Nikki's cottage It doesn't take a connoisseur of foul play to know something's taken a terrible turn **In**

Search of Toxic Silicon Valley Marques Vickers,2017-03-30 Over forty years after the groundwater table of the Silicon Valley was declared contaminated the source remains tainted and unfit for human consumption Twenty five former toxic waste sites are profiled In Search of Toxic Silicon Valley The Subterranean Poisoning From High Technology Manufacturing The edition focuses on visually documenting the contemporary redevelopment of these properties decades after they have become removed from closer public and media scrutiny During the 1960s through early 1990s an environmental disaster originated from leaking hazardous chemicals and solvents employed in semiconductor manufacturing A lethal combination of Volatile Organic Compounds VOCs seeped through on site industrial storage containers These concentrated leakages formed toxic plumes that penetrated between thirty and five hundred feet beneath the ground surface The plumes ranged from three hundred feet to ten miles in length Drinking water regional creeks streams and estuary lands were affected The result has left the technology heartland with an extended network of contaminated groundwaters The resulting contamination of soils and waters created a large scale clean up dilemma for a region that has sustained prosperity from the evolution of the technology industry Neighboring public health consequences have included documented elevated statistics on cancer rate spikes and birth defects Limited follow up litigation has generally resulted in no fault disclosure financial settlements Only one individual has faced criminal related disposal charges and was convicted of ten misdemeanors Federal Superfund clean up projects began in the 1980s coordinated by the U S Environmental Protection Agency EPA The Silicon Valley has the highest concentration of Superfund sites in the United States Reclamation projects transported polluted soils to federal hazardous waste sites Water excavation pumping filtering and monitoring stations were established These ongoing treatments have reversed groundwater contamination levels to acceptable EPA standards They have not completely eliminated the toxic compound presence or eradicated the risk of vapor intrusion aboveground Silicon Valley groundwater

remains unacceptable for public consumption The most affected cities currently outsource drinking water from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir in Yosemite Sacramento Delta San Luis Reservoir and long established municipal and private wells The subsequent reuses of formerly contaminated parcels currently include residential retail and commercial developments a shopping center and church Only a small percentage of lands remain dormant and these are targeted for future development The Silicon Valley manufacturing era remains a discreetly mentioned blight to the legacy of the industry The semiconductor manufacturing process has subsequently been relocated offshore Instead of prioritizing hygienic solutions for production and waste disposal the shifting has reportedly created an equally dangerous source of dioxin pollution transported globally by prevailing winds and ocean currents The author's research is based exclusively from EPA archived documentation and related contaminant databases The text and photographs are best summarized in his chilling opening paragraph This is a story about unhappy endings This is a narrative about how the manufacture of technology has potentially forever poisoned the subterranean strata of the Silicon Valley In brief this is a horror story

The Topography of Evil: Notorious Northern California Murder Sites Marques Vickers, 2015-04-16 The Topography of Evil Notorious Northern California Murder Sites is author and photographer Marques Vickers visual return to 43 infamous crime scenes detailing the shocking narratives behind each tragedy Over 95 visual images amplify the experience by escorting the reader to the precise physical location offering a critical context and perspective for understanding Obscured by time and collective memory revisiting a dormant crime scene is a process of comprehending the convergence of evil absorbed into a physical space Crime scenes typically revert back into unremarkable landscape or unassuming buildings over the ensuing years and decades Many are passed daily by pedestrian and vehicular traffic unaware of a location's unique significance The captured snapshots portray searing testimonies of extinguished lives removed by acts of violence Northern California has been the residence for many notorious individual and serial killers including the Zodiac Ted Unabomber Kaczynski Dan White Edmund Kemper III Jim Jones Richard Allen Davis David Carpenter Juan Corona and Scott Peterson The media has renamed some such as the Trailside Killer Co-ed Killer Children of Thunder Vampire of Sacramento Zebra Killers and the Death House Landlady Over 40 convicted or deceased murderers are profiled including 24 who remain incarcerated and 5 awaiting execution at San Quentin Prison The region has also buried notables among the profiled victims including San Francisco Mayor George Moscone Supervisor Harvey Milk Black Panther Huey P Newton Journalist Chauncey Bailey Oscar Grant III Polly Klaas Lacy Peterson and 412 unclaimed bodies from the People's Temple Massacre in Jonestown Guyana The Topography of Evil edition is segmented into seven categories including assassinations abductions historical legacies reckless homicides unsolved murders rampage and serial killers Within the context of each profile crucial issues and questions are raised regarding capital punishment American racial perceptions parental influences media reporting public bias self incrimination protections and the fairness of judicial sentencing A controversial alternative of voluntary euthanasia for the condemned is raised following

the observation of California's hopelessly backlogged number of inmates awaiting execution. Currently 743 inmates are sentenced to Death Row. Florida is second with 403 and Texas third at 276. The last California execution was in 2006. An extensive listing of fatality victims is included along with convicted and deceased killers. Each living convict still registered in the California penal system is identified by their respective current penitentiary verdict and length of original jury sentencing.

Vickers's own introduction to the consequences of murder commenced with the 1968 killings of David Faraday and Betty Lou Jensen by the Zodiac killer in the author's hometown. Faraday was an acquaintance of the author through Boy Scouts and his older sister knew both victims. His reflections on the trauma inflicted on his intimate suburban community correspond with the realization that a single homicide affects far more individuals than simply the victim. Hundreds and ultimately thousands may be touched by the arbitrariness and unfairness of life being terminated abruptly and prematurely. While acknowledging that some of the killings defy understanding and others may not properly be defined as evil, each remains uniquely tragic and generates substantial consequences. Remembering the legacies of the slain can seem uncomfortable for the living. Although absent from immediate view, the author stresses these victims should never be forgotten and merit our remembrance. Their legacies and the acts that ultimately killed them were final and irreversible. History weighs the significance.

Cases Profiled By Sequential Order and Category: Assassinations: Oakland School Superintendent Dr. Marcus Foster; San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk; Journalist Chauncey Bailey; The Marin County Courthouse Shootout Massacre; and The Contract Killing of Joseph The Animal Barboza. Abductions: Kevin Collins; Cal Poly Student Kristin Smart; Brooke Hart and the Resulting San Jose Public Lynching; Patty Hearst; Polly Klaas and Rex Allen Krebs. Historical Legacies: Miles Archer; Mary Ellen Pleasant; Fung Little; Pete Jing Toy; Roscoe Fatty Arbuckle and Warren Harding. Reckless Homicides: Oscar Grant III; Artie Mitchell; Diane Whipple; Huey P. Newton; Laci Peterson and Lovelle Mixon. Unsolved Murders: David Nadel; The Santa Rosa Hitchhiking Murders; Lindsay Cutshall and Jason Allen Rampage; Mass Murders: Reverend Jim Jones and the People's Temple Massacre; The Helzer Brothers; The 101 California Building Rampage; Dr. Victor Ohta; The 1977 Golden Dragon Bloodbath; Mel and Elizabeth Grimes; The Oikos University Shootings; Eastside Salinas Gang Killings; and Lynwood Jim Drake Serial Killings; Ted Unabomber; Kaczynski; Edmund Kemper III; Richard Trenton Chase; Juan Corona; and Herbert Mullin.

Dorothea Puente; David Carpenter; The Zebra Killings; and The Zodiac Killer. [Murder, She Wrote: Blood on the Vine](#) Jessica Fletcher, Donald Bain, 2001-04-01. Jessica Fletcher must solve a wine country caper when she takes a trip to Napa Valley in this mystery in the long running series. Jessica Fletcher is visiting California wine country while doing research for her next book and invites her old friend Scotland Yard detective George Sutherland to join her at a cozy Bed and Breakfast. No sooner do they arrive than they find the valley abuzz over the murder of a waiter at the restaurant owned by infamous ex-Hollywood heavyweight Bill Ladington. Ladington's blatant womanizing and involvement in a bitter vineyard land dispute have already marked him as a dubious character and a possible suspect. But when Ladington turns up dead himself from a supposed

suicide Jessica knows that a murderer is on the loose and with a little help from George she must try and bottle up a motive for murder from an extensive list of less than vintage suspects

You Can't Return Home Except Through Photographs and Memory Marques Vickers, 2017-03-03 Author Marques Vickers returns to his hometown of Vallejo California with his memoir *You Can't Return Home Except Through Photographs and Memory* The personal narrative traces his formation within a community that through his eyes has slipped a notch from both the middle class and affluence Vickers employs a light but candid tone on a gravely perceived subject Vallejo's regressive deterioration The suburban San Francisco Bay Area town of 120 000 was formerly the California State Capital twice and home to the Mare Island Naval Shipyard The base closed in 1996 creating an employment void that prompted stagnation within the downtown core Vickers was raised locally during the 1960s 70s He traces the specific causes for decline as the proliferation of long simmering racial tensions homelessness aggressive criminality and drug trafficking Returning in 1987 as an adult following a twelve year absence he was struck by the town's smallness of scale In spite of the successful recruitment of Marine World Africa USA in 1986 the addition has not elevated Vallejo into a desirable extended stay tourist destination He observes that seemingly for every positive step forward the city tends to relapse two steps backwards Despite the deterioration most Vallejoans he knows are proud of their grounded heritage His text is far from bleak and bitter He cites the town's distinctiveness attractions and diversity that positively impacted his personal development His photo compilation was prompted by a return for the funeral service of a 90 year old friend Andy who died on New Years Day 2017 Andy a former longtime resident avoided local visitations noting the degenerating conditions from his residence in adjacent Benicia The author's own series of memories were exhumed at the same time as the body of his friend was being lowered into the ground for burial Vickers surveys the present tense community with his camera lens portraying a bittersweet reality Although he cannot overlook the obvious he hopes the current downtown may ultimately be viewed as an isolated puzzle piece fitting into a larger positive legacy Balancing his criticism with objectivity humor and insight Vickers attempts to accurately portray a subject he mourns and knows intimately

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Murder In The Napa Valley Introduction

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