



Love, Murder, and Corruption in Lancaster County: My Story

By Lisa Michelle Lambert and David Brown

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The police and prosecutorial misconduct was not only outrageous, but also led directly to the conviction of a woman we have found by clear and convincing evidence to have been actually innocent of first-degree murder. So said Philadelphia federal court judge Stewart Dalzell in 1997 as he overturned Lisa Lambert's 1992 conviction for the murder of her supposed romantic rival, Laurie Show. Sixteen months later, Lambert's conviction and life sentence were reinstated through further corruption in Lancaster County. Since then, she has fought doggedly to regain her freedom.

From her prison cell, Lambert vividly recounts the details of her turbulent childhood; her relationship with her violent boyfriend, Lawrence Yunkin, along with the couple's friend Tabitha Buck; her long, circuitous odyssey through the judicial system; and her attempts to survive in some of the country's toughest women's prisons.

David Brown, a lawyer in Philadelphia who conducted extensive research on the case, analyzes the complex legal issues at hand and reveals the sleazy, politically motivated misconduct engaged in by judges and prosecutors hell-bent on keeping Lisa incarcerated. Together, the authors tell a gripping story about a travesty of justice and a woman's boundless determination to vindicate herself.

In the end, it is you, the reader, who must decide: Did Lisa do it? Was she a killer or the victim of severe prosecutorial misconduct?

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

"It is clear that this is an extraordinary case]].[The Court] has found that virtually all of the evidence which the Commonwealth used to convict Lisa Lambert of first-degree murder was either perjured, altered, or fabricated]].The police and prosecutorial misconduct was not only outrageous, but also led directly to the conviction of a woman we have found by clear and convincing evidence to have been actually innocent of first-degree murder]].In making a pact with the devil, Lancaster County lost its soul and almost executed an innocent, abused woman." With these powerful words in April 1997, Philadelphia federal court judge Stewart Dalzell threw out Lisa Lambert's 1992 conviction for the murder of a younger acquaintance, Laurie Show, and ordered the 24-year-old woman's immediate release from prison. However, corruption in Lancaster once again reared its ugly head, and 16 months later, Lisa's murder conviction and life sentence were reinstated. Since then, she has doggedly fought to have her wrongful conviction set aside and to regain her freedom. From her prison cell, Lisa vividly recounts the details of her turbulent childhood; her relationship with her violent boyfriend, Lawrence Yunkin, along with a third figure, Tabitha Buckher long, circuitous odyssey through the judicial system; and her ordeal trying to survive in some of the country's toughest women's prisons. Coauthor David Brown, who conducted extensive research on the case, analyzes the complex legal issues in this story, and reveals the sleazy and politically motivated misconduct engaged in by judges and prosecutors who were hell-bent on keeping Lisa incarcerated at all costs. Love, Murder, and Corruption in Lancaster County is a gripping account about a travesty of justice and a woman's boundless determination to vindicate herself at last.

About the Author

Lisa Michelle Lambert, then a 19-year-old in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was convicted in 1992 of the December 19, 1991 murder of 16-year-old Laurie Show. She received a life sentence and, except for a brief reprieve in 1997-98, has been incarcerated, serving time in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Massachusetts. While at the Massachusetts Correctional Institution in Framingham, Lisa obtained her bachelor s degree in liberal studies from Boston University in 2011, finishing as the valedictorian of her prison class. She has steadfastly maintained her innocence.

David Brown, a Philadelphia attorney who lives with his wife and children in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, is the author of four previous books.

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