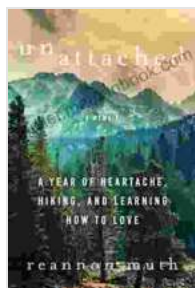


# Unattached: A Harrowing Memoir and a Riveting True Crime Tale

In the annals of American true crime, few cases have captivated the public's imagination quite like that of the Golden State Killer. For decades, the elusive serial killer terrorized California, leaving behind a trail of brutal murders, rapes, and burglaries. Despite countless investigations, his identity remained shrouded in mystery until the advent of DNA technology in the 21st century.



## Unattached: A Memoir by Paul Holes

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1586 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 209 pages



Paul Holes, a veteran detective who dedicated years of his life to the Golden State Killer investigation, played a pivotal role in cracking the case. His memoir, [Unattached, offers an intimate and unflinching account of the investigation, providing readers with a rare glimpse into the mind of a relentless hunter and the labyrinthine world of cold case investigations.](#)

[The Genesis of an Obsession](#)

Holes' fascination with the Golden State Killer case began in the early 1990s, when he was assigned to a team tasked with reexamining unsolved murder cases in Contra Costa County, California. One of the cases he inherited was the 1980 murder of Charmaine Sabbock, a young woman who had been brutally stabbed to death in her own home.

As Holes delved into the details of the case, he was struck by the eerie similarities to several other unsolved murders and rapes that had occurred in California over the past decade. The perpetrator's modus operandi—breaking into homes at night, terrorizing and assaulting the occupants, and leaving behind cryptic messages—was eerily consistent. Holes suspected that they were dealing with the work of a single serial offender.

### The Hunt for a Phantom

Over the next several years, Holes and his team painstakingly gathered evidence and interviewed countless witnesses, but the Golden State Killer remained elusive. The investigation seemed to hit dead end after dead end, leaving the detectives frustrated and the victims' families desperate for closure.

In the early 2000s, DNA analysis emerged as a powerful tool in forensic investigations, and Holes saw a glimmer of hope. He obtained DNA samples from crime scenes and began searching for matches in national databases. However, the technology was still in its early stages, and the results were inconclusive.

### The Golden State Killer Unmasked

In 2018, a breakthrough occurred when the DNA profile from the Golden State Killer cases was uploaded to a public genealogy website. This allowed investigators to identify several potential relatives of the killer and,

through painstaking detective work, eventually narrowed down their search to Joseph James DeAngelo, a former police officer.

On April 24, 2018, DeAngelo was arrested at his home in Citrus Heights, California. DNA evidence irrefutably linked him to the Golden State Killer crimes, bringing closure to decades of terror and providing solace to the victims and their families.

Unattached: A Window into the Investigator's Soul

In *Unattached*, Holes recounts his personal journey throughout the investigation, from the early days of uncertainty to the final arrest of the Golden State Killer. He shares his frustrations, his doubts, and his unwavering determination to bring justice to the victims.

Beyond the gripping narrative of the case itself, *Unattached* also offers a profound exploration of the psychological toll that such investigations can take on those who pursue them. Holes candidly discusses the emotional exhaustion, the sleepless nights, and the lingering trauma that he and his fellow investigators experienced.

Legacy of a Cold Case Solved

The arrest and conviction of the Golden State Killer is a testament to the power of perseverance and the dedication of law enforcement professionals like Paul Holes. *Unattached* serves as a reminder of the horrors that can lurk in the shadows and the importance of never giving up hope, even when the search for justice seems impossible.

While the Golden State Killer investigation has come to a close, the legacy of the case continues to reverberate. It has highlighted the transformative potential of DNA technology in solving cold cases and has inspired

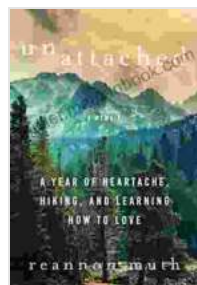
countless other investigators to pursue justice for victims of unsolved crimes.

: A Riveting Memoir and a Tribute to Unsung Heroes

Unattached is not only a true crime masterpiece but also a deeply personal and introspective memoir. Through Holes' vivid prose and raw honesty, readers gain an unprecedented understanding of the complexities of cold case investigations and the sacrifices made by those who pursue justice.

As the world continues to grapple with the scourge of unsolved crimes, Unattached stands as a powerful reminder of the importance of perseverance, the strength of human connection, and the unwavering pursuit of justice for all.

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