

# best true crime podcasts that follow one case

The search for the **best true crime podcasts that follow one case** has led many listeners down a rabbit hole of meticulous investigation, compelling storytelling, and unresolved mysteries. These deep dives into single narratives offer an unparalleled opportunity to immerse oneself in the intricacies of a crime, the lives of those involved, and the broader societal implications. This article will explore the defining characteristics that make these single-case podcasts so captivating, provide an in-depth look at some of the most highly regarded examples, and discuss what listeners can expect from this immersive genre. We will delve into how these podcasts excel at building suspense, developing characters, and exploring the investigative process, ultimately offering a comprehensive guide for anyone seeking to uncover their next obsession in the true crime podcasting landscape.

## Table of Contents

What Makes a Great Single-Case True Crime Podcast?

The Art of Deep-Dive Storytelling

Character Development and Empathy

Unpacking the Investigation

Key Elements of Compelling Single-Case Narratives

Highlighting the Impact on Victims and Communities

The Most Acclaimed True Crime Podcasts That Follow One Case

Serial

In the Dark

Up and Vanished

Dr. Death

Bear Brook

Who the Hell Is Hammish?

The Teachers The Killing

Where Should You Start Your Single-Case Podcast Journey?

## What Makes a Great Single-Case True Crime Podcast?

The true crime podcast genre has exploded in popularity, but not all podcasts are created equal. When it comes to podcasts that meticulously follow a single case, a distinct set of qualities elevates them from mere retellings to essential listening experiences. These shows go beyond presenting facts; they weave intricate narratives that draw the listener into the heart of the mystery. The best examples are characterized by rigorous research, compelling storytelling, and a commitment to exploring the human element of often tragic events. They are a testament to the power of audio to convey complex

information and evoke strong emotions.

## **The Art of Deep-Dive Storytelling**

The core of a successful single-case true crime podcast lies in its ability to tell a story that unfolds gradually, revealing new layers with each episode. This requires a masterful approach to pacing, where information is released strategically to maintain listener engagement and build suspense. Instead of front-loading all the details, these podcasts often start with the central mystery and then meticulously unpack the events leading up to it, the investigation that followed, and the long-term consequences. This deliberate pace allows listeners to process the information, form their own theories, and feel like active participants in the unfolding drama.

Furthermore, effective deep-dive storytelling often involves incorporating a variety of audio elements. This can include archival news reports, interviews with key individuals (investigators, witnesses, family members, legal professionals), and sometimes even soundscapes that help to recreate the atmosphere of the time and place. The careful selection and integration of these sounds contribute significantly to the immersive quality of the podcast, making the narrative feel more immediate and tangible. The script itself is crucial, often written with a narrative arc that mirrors classic literary or cinematic storytelling, complete with rising action, turning points, and a profound exploration of the aftermath.

## **Character Development and Empathy**

While true crime often focuses on the perpetrator or the victim, the most engaging single-case podcasts excel at developing a nuanced understanding of all the individuals involved. This means moving beyond one-dimensional portrayals and exploring the complexities of human behavior, motivations, and the impact of events on those closest to them. Listeners can develop a sense of empathy, not just for the victims and their families, but also for the investigators grappling with difficult cases and even, in some instances, for understanding the psychological landscape that might lead someone to commit a crime.

This focus on character allows the narrative to resonate on a deeper emotional level. When listeners connect with the people at the center of the story, the stakes feel higher, and the quest for justice or understanding becomes more compelling. The podcast creators often achieve this by prioritizing extensive interviews and drawing on personal accounts, allowing the voices of those directly affected to be heard. This humanistic approach transforms a factual recounting of events into a deeply moving exploration of the human condition.

# Unpacking the Investigation

A significant draw of single-case podcasts is the detailed examination of the investigative process. Listeners get an insider's look at how law enforcement, forensic scientists, and legal teams work to piece together a crime. This often involves delving into the challenges faced by investigators, such as lack of evidence, conflicting witness testimonies, or the sheer complexity of a particular crime. The best podcasts present these elements not just as exposition but as integral parts of the narrative, showcasing the painstaking effort and often ingenious methods employed in the pursuit of truth.

This aspect of the genre often appeals to those with an interest in puzzles and problem-solving. The audience is invited to follow the breadcrumbs of evidence, analyze clues alongside the investigators, and consider alternative theories. The inclusion of interviews with detectives, prosecutors, and defense attorneys provides valuable insight into the legal and procedural intricacies that shape the outcome of a case. Understanding the investigative challenges can also foster a greater appreciation for the dedication and perseverance required to bring perpetrators to justice.

## Key Elements of Compelling Single-Case Narratives

Several key elements contribute to the compelling nature of single-case true crime podcasts. First and foremost is the presence of a central mystery that is genuinely intriguing and has enough depth to sustain an entire series. This could be a baffling disappearance, an unsolved murder with unusual circumstances, or a case with significant societal implications. The narrative must also be structured in a way that keeps the listener hooked, employing cliffhangers, unexpected twists, and a clear sense of progression. Authenticity is paramount; listeners can discern when a story is being sensationalized or when it is being approached with respect and a commitment to factual accuracy. The emotional resonance, as discussed, is also a critical factor, ensuring that the story remains human and relatable.

The quality of the host or narrator plays a significant role as well. A skilled host can guide the listener through complex details, maintain an engaging tone, and convey a sense of authority and trustworthiness. They act as the listener's companion on this journey, interpreting information and providing context. The sound design and editing also contribute immensely to the overall experience, with thoughtful use of music, ambient sounds, and seamless transitions between different segments of the narrative.

## Highlighting the Impact on Victims and Communities

While the sensational aspects of a crime can draw initial attention, the most impactful single-case podcasts also dedicate significant attention to the lasting consequences of the events. This includes exploring the profound grief and trauma experienced by victims' families, the impact on the broader community, and the ripple effects that can persist for years, even decades. These podcasts often go beyond the immediate resolution of the crime to examine how a community heals, how memories are preserved, and how justice, or the lack thereof, shapes collective understanding and societal attitudes.

This focus on aftermath and long-term impact adds a crucial dimension of social commentary and reflection. It encourages listeners to consider the broader implications of crime, the failures of systems, and the resilience of the human spirit. By shining a light on these often-overlooked aspects, these podcasts can foster a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of crime and its enduring consequences, promoting empathy and a more comprehensive view of justice.

## The Most Acclaimed True Crime Podcasts That Follow One Case

The landscape of true crime podcasts that focus on a single, in-depth case is rich with exceptional productions. These shows have garnered critical acclaim and widespread popularity due to their meticulous research, compelling storytelling, and often groundbreaking investigative journalism. They have the power to re-examine cold cases, expose systemic flaws, and give a voice to victims and their families. For listeners seeking a truly immersive and thought-provoking experience, these podcasts offer a compelling entry point into the genre's most profound narratives.

### Serial

Often credited with popularizing the single-case true crime podcast format, **Serial** remains a benchmark for the genre. Season 1, hosted by Sarah Koenig, meticulously re-examines the 1999 murder of Baltimore high school student Hae Min Lee and the conviction of her ex-boyfriend, Adnan Syed. The podcast masterfully unpacks the evidence, interviews key players, and raises significant questions about the fairness of the trial. Its narrative structure, journalistic rigor, and the host's personal engagement with the case set a new standard for audio storytelling.

The success of *Serial* lies in its ability to create an ongoing investigation that listeners can follow in real-time. Koenig's narrative style is

conversational yet deeply investigative, drawing listeners into her own process of discovery and doubt. The podcast's impact was so significant that it played a role in reopened legal proceedings related to Adnan Syed's case, demonstrating the real-world influence that well-researched and compelling audio documentaries can have. The meticulous attention to detail, from examining phone records to re-interviewing witnesses, makes it a prime example of how to effectively follow one case.

## In the Dark

The podcast **In the Dark**, particularly its first season, offers a profound and often disturbing look into the 1989 abduction and murder of 11-year-old Jacob Wetterling. Hosted by Madeleine Baran, the podcast goes beyond the initial crime to meticulously investigate the failures of the original investigation and the decades-long search for answers. It highlights the profound impact of a cold case on a family and a community, while also exposing systemic issues within law enforcement and the justice system.

Baran's investigative approach is characterized by its tenacity and its commitment to uncovering the truth, no matter how uncomfortable. The podcast delves into the lives of the Wetterling family, the investigators, and the individuals who may have had knowledge of the crime. The painstaking detail in examining case files, police procedures, and the psychological profiles of potential suspects makes for an incredibly gripping listen. The series' focus on the long-term search for justice underscores the enduring pain of unsolved mysteries and the importance of persistent investigation.

## Up and Vanished

Created and hosted by Georgia, **Up and Vanished** catapulted to fame for its work on the unsolved 2005 disappearance of Tara Grinstead, a former beauty queen and high school teacher in Georgia. The podcast took a unique approach by actively encouraging listener participation and tips, effectively crowdsourcing aspects of the investigation. This interactive element, combined with Georgia's compelling narrative and thorough research, led to significant breakthroughs in the real-life case.

The podcast's strength lies in its ability to make the listener feel like they are part of the investigative team. Georgia meticulously lays out the known facts, potential suspects, and the numerous dead ends encountered over the years. By revisiting the case with fresh eyes and leveraging the power of its audience, *Up and Vanished* demonstrated the potential for podcasts to not only tell stories but also to actively contribute to solving crimes. The detailed exploration of Grinstead's life and the community dynamics surrounding her disappearance adds a deeply human element to the investigation.

## Dr. Death

**Dr. Death**, produced by Wonderly, is a chilling examination of Dr. Christopher Duntsch, a neurosurgeon who was accused of maiming and killing patients during his surgeries. The podcast, primarily narrated by Laura Beil, meticulously follows the harrowing experiences of his victims and the systemic failures that allowed his alleged malpractice to continue for so long. It is a deeply unsettling dive into medical negligence and the struggle for accountability.

The podcast's narrative power comes from its clear portrayal of the devastating consequences of Duntsch's actions. Beil skillfully weaves together interviews with former patients, their families, fellow doctors, and legal professionals to paint a disturbing picture of a surgeon whose alleged incompetence led to unimaginable suffering. The series excels at illustrating the bureaucratic hurdles and institutional blind spots that prevented earlier intervention, making the investigation into his case a complex legal and ethical battle. It highlights how one individual's actions can have such a profound and tragic impact on so many lives.

## Bear Brook

**Bear Brook** is a standout true crime podcast that meticulously investigates the cold case of four unidentified bodies found in barrels in Bear Brook State Park, New Hampshire, in 1985. Host Jason Moon delves into the decades-long efforts to identify the victims and the perpetrator, showcasing the advancements in forensic genealogy and the power of DNA technology in solving long-dormant crimes. The podcast offers a fascinating look at the scientific and investigative processes involved.

What makes *Bear Brook* particularly compelling is its deep dive into the lives of the victims, whom the podcast helps to identify and humanize. The narrative unfolds as a scientific detective story, detailing the intricate steps taken by forensic experts and genealogists to connect DNA evidence to living relatives and, ultimately, to the killer. The podcast doesn't shy away from the technical aspects of DNA analysis, explaining them in an accessible way that enhances the listener's understanding of the investigative breakthroughs. The respect and empathy shown towards the victims are evident throughout the series.

## Who the Hell Is Hammish?

This true crime podcast, **Who the Hell Is Hammish?**, unravels the audacious and elaborate scams perpetrated by Robert Honan, a charismatic con artist who went by many aliases, most notably "Hammish." Hosted by Jack Taylor, the

podcast meticulously pieces together the story of how Honan defrauded numerous individuals out of significant sums of money through elaborate lies and deceptions. It's a fascinating exploration of psychological manipulation and the vulnerabilities exploited by skilled con artists.

The podcast excels in its detailed reconstruction of Honan's various schemes, often featuring interviews with his victims who recount their experiences with shock and disbelief. Taylor's narrative style is engaging and often infused with a sense of bewilderment at the sheer audacity of the con artist. The series delves into the psychological underpinnings of such deceptions, exploring how Honan was able to gain the trust of so many people. It's a masterclass in following a single subject's criminal career, revealing a pattern of behavior and the devastating impact it had on individuals' lives and financial stability.

## The Teachers

**The Teachers** podcast, also known as *The Killing* in some regions, provides an in-depth look at the 2014 murder of high school teacher Sarah Godwin and her husband, the investigation that followed, and the subsequent trial of their teenage son. The podcast, hosted by David W. Brown, meticulously dissects the evidence, the police investigation, and the complex family dynamics that may have led to the tragic events. It is a deeply unsettling exploration of domestic tragedy and the challenges of prosecuting cases involving minors.

The series distinguishes itself by its nuanced approach to a highly sensitive case. Brown carefully reconstructs the events leading up to the murders, presenting evidence from multiple perspectives without sensationalizing the violence. The podcast focuses on the procedural aspects of the investigation and the legal strategies employed during the trial. It also grapples with the psychological complexities of the young defendant and the profound impact of the murders on the community and the remaining family members, offering a comprehensive and somber account of a single, devastating event.

## Where Should You Start Your Single-Case Podcast Journey?

For newcomers to the world of single-case true crime podcasts, the sheer volume of excellent content can be overwhelming. The choice of where to begin often depends on personal preference for storytelling style and the type of case that resonates most. If you are drawn to meticulous re-examinations of legal proceedings and questions of justice, **Serial** Season 1 is an iconic starting point that set the standard for the genre. For those interested in the investigative process and the human cost of unsolved mysteries, **In the Dark** offers unparalleled depth and emotional impact.

If you appreciate podcasts that actively engage with the public to solve real-world cases, **Up and Vanished** provides a unique and often thrilling listening experience. For listeners fascinated by medical malpractice and systemic failures, **Dr. Death** is a gripping and cautionary tale. And for those interested in the cutting edge of forensic science and the power of DNA in solving cold cases, **Bear Brook** offers a profoundly moving and scientifically insightful journey. Each of these podcasts, in their own way, exemplifies the power of dedicated, single-case storytelling within the true crime genre, offering listeners a chance to become deeply invested in uncovering the truth.

## **Frequently Asked Questions about Best True Crime Podcasts That Follow One Case**

### **Q: What makes a true crime podcast "single-case"?**

A: A single-case true crime podcast is one that dedicates its entire season, or a significant portion of its run, to thoroughly investigating and narrating a single criminal event, disappearance, or legal proceeding. This allows for a deep dive into the complexities, characters, and investigative details surrounding that specific incident, rather than covering multiple unrelated cases in one episode or season.

### **Q: How do single-case podcasts differ from episodic true crime shows?**

A: Episodic true crime podcasts typically cover a new case in each episode or a few episodes, offering a broader, yet often shallower, overview of various crimes. Single-case podcasts, conversely, commit to an extended narrative arc for one story, allowing for much more in-depth exploration, character development, and examination of nuances that would be impossible in a shorter format.

### **Q: What kind of research is typically involved in producing a high-quality single-case podcast?**

A: High-quality single-case podcasts involve extensive research, including reviewing court documents, police reports, interviews with investigators, witnesses, victims' families, legal experts, and sometimes even the individuals involved in the case. They often feature original reporting, archival audio, and meticulous fact-checking to ensure accuracy and a comprehensive understanding of the events.



## **Q: Can listening to these podcasts actually help solve cases?**

A: Yes, some single-case podcasts have played a role in re-examining cold cases and bringing new attention to them. By presenting overlooked evidence, encouraging listener tips, or sparking renewed interest from law enforcement, podcasts like "Up and Vanished" have demonstrated their potential to contribute to real-world case resolutions.

## **Q: What are the ethical considerations when producing a single-case true crime podcast?**

A: Ethical considerations are paramount. They include respecting the privacy of victims and their families, avoiding sensationalism, ensuring factual accuracy, presenting a balanced perspective, and obtaining consent where possible. Responsible podcast creators strive to tell the story with sensitivity, focusing on the pursuit of truth and justice rather than exploitation.

## **Q: Are there single-case true crime podcasts that focus on wrongful convictions?**

A: Absolutely. Many single-case podcasts delve into the intricacies of wrongful convictions, examining cases where individuals have been falsely accused and incarcerated. These podcasts often highlight flaws in the justice system, questionable evidence, or prosecutorial misconduct that led to the conviction, and they frequently follow efforts to exonerate the wrongly accused.

## **Q: What makes a single-case podcast engaging for listeners?**

A: Engagement comes from several factors: a compelling central mystery, strong narrative storytelling, well-developed characters (including victims, perpetrators, and investigators), a sense of suspense, and high-quality audio production. The best shows make listeners feel invested in the outcome and understand the human impact of the events.

## **Q: Where can I find lists of the best single-case true crime podcasts?**

A: You can find curated lists and recommendations on various podcast discovery platforms, entertainment websites, true crime blogs, and through listener-driven communities on social media. Searching for terms like "best true crime podcasts one case," "deep dive true crime podcasts," or

"investigative true crime series" will yield numerous helpful resources.

## **Best True Crime Podcasts That Follow One Case**

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**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Solving Cold Cases** Joe D. Kennedy, Hogan Hilling, 2023-03-17 Solving a cold case is extremely difficult and many are left unresolved. In this book, retired NCIS Special Agent Joe Kennedy details the methodology he created to solve cold case murders. He offers an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look into why cases go cold, how they are investigated and what is needed to successfully resolve them. Author Kennedy shares his motivations and the lessons he has learned while solving these challenging cases. Also examined are cold cases where other detectives have successfully implemented Kennedy's methodology. Many books delve into the perspectives of criminals who commit murder, but this text takes a fascinating gumshoe journey into the mind of a cold case detective and his passionate search for the truth. Helping law enforcement solve cold cases brings justice and resolution for the victims and their families, and this book provides detectives and true crime enthusiasts the tools to investigate cold cases in their own communities.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Triangle True Crime Stories** Cathy Pickens, 2021-06-28 North Carolina's Triangle region is known for universities, research facilities and politics, but even in such a prosperous, diverse, modern environment, crime helps define the edges. These cases cover several decades of murder, fraud and betrayal. Read about the nation's largest prison escape and a couple of North Carolina's poisoners. From a civil rights-era clash of Old South and New and a suspected Cold War spy to new-tech sleuths and tales of diligent as well as discredited investigators, these stories will keep you entertained and aghast at the dark side of daily life. Crime writer Cathy Pickens explores a collection of headline-grabbing tales that shows the sinister side of the Triangle's cities.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Case Cracked** Barrett Williams, ChatGPT, 2025-09-14 **\*Unlock the Mysteries with Case Cracked – Your Essential Guide to Crime Solving and Podcasting Mastery!\*** Dive deep into the world of true crime like never before with Case Cracked, an illuminating eBook that not only satisfies your fascination with solved mysteries but also guides you through the intricate art of true crime podcasting. Captivating, comprehensive, and bursting with insights, this book is your ticket to mastering the storytelling techniques that bring cold, hard facts to life. Begin your journey with a gripping introduction to some of the most compelling true crime cases, exploring the evolution of crime-solving techniques that have fascinated the public for decades. Venture into the heart of storytelling essentials, where you'll learn to craft episodes that hook listeners and keep them on the edge of their seats. In Case Cracked, dive into detailed case studies such as the chilling tales of BTK and the Boston Strangler. Unpack the psychological motives behind these notorious criminals, and learn how to develop sharp, on-air analysis that captivates your audience. Discover the undeniable power of forensic science, digital evidence, and dramatic reenactments as tools for unraveling the truth. This guide doesn't just stop at storytelling. It also delves into the ethics of true crime podcasting, offering guidance on balancing intrigue with respect for victims and their families. Discover strategies for building your unique voice in a saturated market, and uncover the secrets to marketing and monetizing your podcast effectively. Case

Cracked is your key to evolving as both a true crime aficionado and a podcasting powerhouse. Whether you're seeking to start your podcast or elevate an existing one, this book provides the tools, techniques, and inspiration required to succeed in the rapidly expanding world of true crime storytelling. Explore the future of crime solving and podcasting, and join a community of storytellers who bring justice through the power of narrative. Will you be the next voice that cracks the case?

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** The Routledge Companion to Gender, Media and Violence Karen Boyle, Susan Berridge, 2023-08-25 With the heated discussion around #MeToo, journalistic reporting on domestic abuse, and the popularity of true crime documentaries, gendered media discourse around violence and harassment has never been more prominent. The Routledge Companion to Gender, Media and Violence is an outstanding reference source to the key topics, problems and debates in this important subject and is the first collection on media and violence to take a gendered, intersectional approach. Comprising over 50 chapters by a team of interdisciplinary and international contributors, the book is structured around the following parts: News Representing reality Gender-based violence online Feminist responses The media examples examined range from Australia to Zimbabwe and span print and online news, documentary film and television, podcasts, pornography, memoir, comedy, memes, influencer videos, and digital feminist protest. Types of violence considered include domestic abuse, honour-based violence, sexual violence and harassment, female genital mutilation/cutting, child sexual abuse, transphobic violence, and the aftermath of conflict. Good practice is considered in relation to both responsible news reporting and pedagogy. The Routledge Companion to Gender, Media and Violence is essential reading for students and researchers in Gender Studies, Media Studies, Sociology, and Criminology. Chapter 30 of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial (CC-BY-NC) 4.0 license.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** Reshaping True Crime Stories from the Global Margins Francesca Borrione, Heather J. Macpherson, 2024-12-03 Reshaping True Crime Stories from the Global Margins: Voicing the Less Dead uses criminal cases, news stories, and media analysis from around the globe to reflect upon the thousands and thousands of missing and murdered individuals from marginalized communities. Contributors ask readers to consider: How do we see these human beings compared to others, and how are they viewed by law enforcement and government officials? These vulnerable populations are often rendered invisible, so how do the media decide what story is told to the public and which one is neglected? Drawing on Steven Egger's concept of the 'less dead,' this collection provides an interdisciplinary, global perspective on how vulnerable groups are erased and demonstrates ways their stories can be made visible.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** *The Devil Shops on Sunday* Destiny Ford, Angela Corbett, 2024-06-25 A USA Today Bestselling Series! Journalist and editor of The Branson Tribune, Kate Saxee, has a lot going on. Her mom is in a war with a neighbor, Kate's trying to navigate her love life after a memorable night, and it looks like a serial killer might be on the loose in her small rural community that's getting bigger by the day. Utah's population is booming and new houses are being built even more often than new Mormon/LDS temples. When human remains are found on a piece of Branson Falls property being developed, everyone thinks the bones belong to a lost hiker. But when more human remains are found, it quickly becomes clear that this was no accident. Rumors are swirling that the remains could have been victims of a notorious serial killer, and that attracts the attention of a popular true crime podcast, the Murderoonies, who descend on Branson Falls to cover the case and help Kate investigate. And they're not just covering the crime, they're also very interested in Kate's love life. Drake is the legal representative for the real estate developers, and Hawke is assisting law enforcement, which means Kate is working closely with them both. Given what happened at the Halloween party, that's about as awkward as hussy Kate in church. Kate's focused on finding out who's responsible for the dead bodies, and she's digging up secrets all over town. Someone wants the information she's uncovering to remain hidden, and they'll do anything to make sure it stays that way...even if it means burying more bodies. A Kate Saxee

Mystery Series Reading Order The Devil Drinks Coffee, Book 1 Devilishly Short #1 The Devil Wears Tank Tops, Book 2 The Devil Has Tattoos, Book 3 The Devil Shops on Sunday, Book 4 Devilishly Short #2 (Coming July 2024) The Devil Gets Divorced, Book 5 (Coming Fall 2024)

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Innovations in Journalism** Klaus Meier, Jose A. García-Avilés, Andy Kaltenbrunner, Colin Porlezza, Vinzenz Wyss, Renée Lugschitz, Korbinian Klinghardt, 2024-04-25 This volume explores innovations in journalism: the goals and expectations associated with them, promoting and hindering framework conditions, and their social and industrial impact. Drawing on an international research project conducted in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, and the United Kingdom, the book takes a complex approach, considering media policy preconditions and the social impact of journalistic innovation from a comparative perspective. The key findings are examined and presented on different levels: theoretical, methodological, and – as the focus – empirical. Having identified the most relevant innovations in each of the five countries, a total of 100 case studies are examined to explore the influence of these innovations on the quality of journalism and its normative role in democratic societies and to analyze which preconditions support or inhibit the development and implementation of the innovations in news organizations. The interdependencies between journalistic innovations and their media policy preconditions are compared in a system-analytical way – concluding with the lessons that can be learned from the macrolevel (policies) and the mesolevel (organizations). This insightful and truly international volume will interest professionals, scholars and students of journalism, media and communication studies, media industry studies, and related fields. The Open Access version of this book, available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com>, has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives (CC-BY-NC-ND) 4.0 license.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Entertainment, Journalism, and Advocacy** Lindsey A. Sherrill, 2023-02-13 In this book, Lindsey A. Sherrill explores the exponential growth of true crime podcasting, including the role of the ubiquitous Serial podcast in the growth of the industry. Using both demographic population analysis and interviews with podcast hosts and producers, Sherrill demonstrates that true crime podcasts exist as hybrid organizations, with diverse goals ranging from entertainment to criminal justice reform advocacy to journalistic inquiry. These competing motivations of podcast producers are explored, along with the ethical quandaries that emerge in the process of telling true crime stories. Sherrill traces true crime podcasting back to the infancy of the medium and examines the influences, innovations, and events that created the true crime podcast ecosystem, as well as its influence on real cases in the United States. Scholars of communication, sociology, and media studies will find this book of particular interest.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: True Crime in American Media** George S. Larke-Walsh, 2023-06-01 This book explores contemporary American true crime narratives across various media formats. It dissects the popularity of true crime and the effects, both positive and negative, this popularity has on perceptions of crime and the justice system in contemporary America. As a collection of new scholarship on the development, scope, and character of true crime in twenty-first century American media, analyses stretch across film, streaming/broadcast TV, podcasts, and novels to explore the variety of ways true crime pervades modern culture. The reader is guided through a series of interconnected topics, starting with an examination of the contemporary success of true crime, the platforms involved, the narrative structures and engagement with audiences, moving on to debates on representation and the ethics involved in portraying both victims and perpetrators of crime within the genre. This collection provides new critical work on American true crime media for all interested readers, and especially scholars and students in the humanities and social sciences. It offers a significant area of research in social sciences, criminology, media, and English Literature academic disciplines.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Where Are the Children Now?** Mary Higgins Clark, Alafair Burke, 2023-03-31 The highly anticipated sequel to Mary Higgins Clark's iconic bestseller *Where Are The Children?*, featuring the children of Nancy Harmon, all grown up and again in peril. In *Where Are the Children?*, young mother Nancy Harmon, convicted of murdering

her two children, became such a pariah that she was forced to move across the country, change her identity and start a new life. Years later her two children from a second marriage, Mike and Melissa, would go missing, and Nancy yet again became the prime suspect – but this time, Nancy was able to confront the secrets buried in her past and rescue her kids from a dangerous predator. In this thrilling sequel, Melissa, a lawyer turned successful podcaster, has recently married a man whose first wife died tragically, leaving him and their young daughter, Riley, behind. While Melissa and her brother, Mike, help their mother relocate to the idyllic Hamptons, Melissa's new stepdaughter goes missing. Drawing on the experience of their own abduction, Melissa and Mike race to find Riley to save her from the trauma they still struggle with – or worse.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** The Second Chance Club Jason Hardy, 2021-02-16 A former parole officer shines a bright light on a huge yet hidden part of our justice system through the intertwining stories of seven parolees striving to survive the chaos that awaits them after prison in this illuminating and dramatic book. Prompted by a dead-end retail job and a vague desire to increase the amount of justice in his hometown, Jason Hardy became a parole officer in New Orleans at the worst possible moment. Louisiana's incarceration rates were the highest in the US and his department's caseload had just been increased to 220 "offenders" per parole officer, whereas the national average is around 100. Almost immediately, he discovered that the biggest problem with our prison system is what we do—and don't do—when people get out of prison. Deprived of social support and jobs, these former convicts are often worse off than when they first entered prison and Hardy dramatizes their dilemmas with empathy and grace. He's given unique access to their lives and a growing recognition of their struggles and takes on his job with the hope that he can change people's fates—but he quickly learns otherwise. The best Hardy and his colleagues can do is watch out for impending disaster and help clean up the mess left behind. But he finds that some of his charges can muster the miraculous power to save themselves. By following these heroes, he both stokes our hope and fuels our outrage by showing us how most offenders, even those with the best intentions, end up back in prison—or dead—because the system systematically fails them. Our focus should be, he argues, to give offenders the tools they need to re-enter society which is not only humane but also vastly cheaper for taxpayers. As immersive and dramatic as *Evicted* and as revelatory as *The New Jim Crow*, *The Second Chance Club* shows us how to solve the cruelest problems prisons create for offenders and society at large.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** Podcasting Profits: A Comprehensive Guide to Monetizing Your Podcast Zahid Ameer, 2024-07-15 Unlock the secrets to monetizing your podcast with our comprehensive eBook, *Podcasting Profits*. Discover proven strategies for sponsorships, crowdfunding, affiliate marketing, premium content, and more. Learn how to grow your audience, create engaging content, and navigate legal and financial aspects to maximize your earnings. Perfect for beginners and seasoned podcasters alike, this guide provides detailed case studies, expert tips, and a sample sponsorship agreement template to help you turn your passion into profit. Get your copy of *Podcasting Profits* today and start making money from your podcast!

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** The Ripper Inside Us Rebecca Frost, 2024-04-10 The story of Jack the Ripper has had continual interest since he stalked the streets of Whitechapel during the Autumn of Terror in 1888. During this time, the murders of the Canonical Five made headlines all over the world while in the modern day, the Ripper story continues to permeate all forms of media on the page, screen, in podcasts, and in fiction. We continue to search for something we will likely never, and perhaps do not even wish to discover: Jack's true name. This book looks at the lasting intrigue of Jack the Ripper and how his story, and the stories of the Canonical Five victims, are brought back to life through modern lenses. As psychological approaches and scientific techniques advance, the Ripper's narrative evolves, opening a more diverse means of storytelling and storytellers. How these storytellers attempt to construct a full tale around the facts, including the burning questions of motive and identity, says more about us than the Ripper.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** Podcast Journalism David Dowling, 2024-03-19 Runner-up, 2025 Tankard Book Award, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass

Communication Podcasting's stratospheric rise has inspired a new breed of audio reporting. Offering immersive storytelling for a binge-listening audience as well as reaching previously underserved communities, podcasts have become journalism's most rapidly growing digital genre, buoying a beleaguered news industry. Yet many concerns have been raised about this new medium, such as the potential for disinformation, the influence of sponsors on content, the dominance of a few publishers and platforms, and at-times questionable adherence to journalistic principles. David O. Dowling critically examines how podcasting and its evolving conventions are transforming reporting—and even reshaping journalism's core functions and identity. He considers podcast reporting's most influential achievements as well as its most consequential ethical and journalistic shortcomings, emphasizing the reciprocal influences between podcasting and traditional and digital journalism. Podcasting, both as a medium and a business, has benefited from the blurring of boundaries separating news from entertainment, editorial from advertising, and neutrality from subjectivity. The same qualities and forces that have allowed podcasting to bypass the limitations of traditional categories, expand the space of social and political discourse, and provide openings for marginalized voices have also permitted corporations to extend their reach and far-right firebrands to increase their influence. Equally attentive to the medium's strengths and flaws, this is a vital book for all readers interested in how podcasting has changed journalism.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: Hysterical** Elissa Bassist, 2022-09-13  
SEMI-FINALIST FOR THE 2023 THURBER PRIZE FOR AMERICAN HUMOR • "A fiery cultural critique." —Kirkus Reviews • "...a powerful, beautifully written, and utterly important book."—New York Journal of Books "Hysterical is staggeringly good. ... This is one of the most intelligent, painful, ridiculous, awesome, relevant things I've ever read." —Roxane Gay "...an impressive debut. Elissa Bassist wrote it like a motherfucker.—Cheryl Strayed Acclaimed humor writer Elissa Bassist shares her journey to reclaim her authentic voice in a culture that doesn't listen to women in this medical mystery, cultural criticism, and rallying cry. Between 2016 and 2018, Elissa Bassist saw over twenty medical professionals for a variety of mysterious ailments. She had what millions of American women had: pain that didn't make sense to doctors, a body that didn't make sense to science, and a psyche that didn't make sense to mankind. Then an acupuncturist suggested that some of her physical pain could be caged fury finding expression, and that treating her voice would treat the problem. It did. Growing up, Bassist's family, boyfriends, school, work, and television shows had the same expectation for a woman's voice: less is more. She was called dramatic and insane for speaking her mind. She was accused of overreacting and playing victim for having unexplained physical pain. She was ignored or rebuked (like so many women throughout history) for using her voice "inappropriately" by expressing sadness or suffering or anger or joy. Because of this, she said "yes" when she meant "no"; she didn't tweet #MeToo; and she never spoke without fear of being too emotional. She felt rage, but like a good woman, she repressed it. In her witty and incisive debut, Bassist explains how girls and women internalize and perpetuate directives about their voices, making it hard to "just speak up" and "burn down the patriarchy." But then their silence hurts them more than anything they could ever say. Hysterical is a memoir of a voice lost and found, a primer on new ways to think about a woman's voice—about where it's being squashed and where it needs amplification—and a clarion call for readers to unmute their voice, listen to it above all others, and use it again without regret.

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**best true crime podcasts that follow one case: The Oxford Handbook of Radio and Podcasting** Michele Hilmes, Andrew Bottomley, 2024 Radio today remains the most accessible and

widely available communication medium worldwide, despite technological shifts and a host of upstart challengers. Since its origins in the 1920s, radio has innovated a new world of sound culture - now expanded into the digital realm of podcasting that is enabling the medium to reach larger audiences than ever before. Yet radio remains one of the least studied of the major areas of communication arts, due largely to its broadcast-era ephemerality. With the advent of digital technology, radio's past has been unlocked and soundwork is exploding as a creative field, creating a lively and diverse sonic present while simultaneously making critical historical analysis possible at last. This volume offers newly commissioned chapters giving readers a wide-ranging view of current critical work in the fields of radio and podcasting, employing specific case studies to analyze sound media's engagement with the arts; with the factual world of news, talk, and documentary programming; as a primary means of forging community along with national, transnational, and alternative identities; and as a subject of academic and critical research. Its historical scope extends from radio's earliest days, through its mid-twentieth century decades as the powerful voice of nations and empires, onto its transformation into a secondary medium during the television era, and into the expanding digital present. Over the course of 37 chapters, it provides evidence of the sound media's flexibility and adaptation across diverse cultures by examining radio's past and present uses in regions including the United States, Canada, Britain, Australia, Poland, China, Korea, Kenya, Angola and Mozambique, South Asia, and the Caribbean. Contributors include historians and media scholars as well as sound artists and radio/podcast producers. Notably, companion links to digital quotations from works analyzed are included in many chapters along with chapter audiographies offering links to further listening. Throughout, *The Oxford Handbook of Radio and Podcasting* connects radio's broadcast past to its digital present, and traces themes of creativity, identity, community, nation, and transnationality across more than a century of audio media.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** *Handbook of Child Maltreatment* Richard D. Krugman, Jill E. Korbin, 2022-02-22 The second edition of this successful handbook, edited by well-known experts in this field, includes core questions in the field of child abuse and neglect. It addresses major challenges in child maltreatment work, starting with "What is child abuse and neglect?" and then examines why maltreatment occurs and what are its consequences. The handbook also addresses prevention, intervention, investigation, treatment as well as civil and criminal legal perspectives. It comprehensively studies the issue from the perspective of a broader, international and cross-cultural human experience. Apart from a thorough revision of existing chapters, this edition includes many new chapters covering recent developments in this area and other issues not covered in the first edition. There is more focus on substance abuse, psychological abuse, and on social and community involvement and public health provisions in the prevention of child maltreatment. The handbook examines what is known now and more importantly what remains to be researched in the coming decades to help abused and neglected children, their families and their communities, thereby taking the field forward.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** *The Crime World of Michael Connelly* David Geherin, 2022-11-10 Since his first novel in 1992, Michael Connelly has become one of America's most popular and critically acclaimed crime writers. He is best known as the author of a long-running series featuring LAPD homicide detective Harry Bosch, a compelling figure in contemporary crime fiction. He also created several additional series featuring a criminal defense attorney (Mickey Haller, known as the Lincoln Lawyer), an FBI profiler (Terry McCaleb), a newspaper reporter (Jack McEvoy), and an LAPD policewoman (Renee Ballard) who works the night shift. When he began incorporating all his characters into the Bosch megaseries, he expanded the notion of what a crime series can accomplish. This work takes an in-depth look at all of Connelly's work, including the 34 novels that comprise the Bosch megaseries, the film adaptations of his books, the popular Bosch TV series, and his standalone novels, short stories and podcasts. It includes chapters on his novelistic artistry and his portraits of Los Angeles and its police department.

**best true crime podcasts that follow one case:** *Benny on the Case* Wesley King, 2025-04-15 A boy with Mosaic Down syndrome navigates entering a mainstream classroom, making new friends,

and standing up to bullies all while trying to catch a thief and save his home in this thrilling middle grade mystery from New York Times bestselling and award-winning author Wesley King. Benny isn't your average boy from Newfoundland. He lives in a retirement home that his mother runs, he has an eighty-six-year-old best friend named Mr. Tom, he knows more about fixing boats than video games, and he has Mosaic Down syndrome. When Benny transitions to a mainstream classroom for the first time, the other students tease him for his differences...except for Salma. She's new, too, and not your typical Newfoundland girl: she's tech savvy, speaks Arabic, plays basketball, and isn't afraid to eat lunch with Benny. So when Salma's grandmother and several other residents in the retirement home are robbed, Benny asks Salma to help him catch the thief. Time is not on their side as an inspector threatens to close the home. And to make matters worse, Benny and Salma must crack the case while working on a class assignment with their bullies. Can Benny save his home and take a stand against the bullies once and for all? He's about to find out, b'ys.

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