

Life In And Out Of Britain's Most Insane Group



The Fallen: Life In and Out of Britain's Most Insane Group by Dave Simpson

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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In the annals of British history, there are few groups as infamous as the Krays. Twins Reggie and Ronnie Kray terrorized London's East End in the 1950s and 1960s, running a protection racket, committing armed robbery, and even murder. Their reign of terror came to an end in 1969 when they were arrested and sentenced to life in prison.

But what was life really like for the Krays and their associates? What drove them to a life of crime? And what happened to them after they were sent to prison?

Early Life

Reginald and Ronald Kray were born on October 24, 1933, in the East End of London. Their parents, Charlie and Violet Kray, were both working-class immigrants from Ireland. The Krays had a difficult childhood. Their father was an alcoholic and their mother was often ill. The twins were frequently bullied at school and they soon turned to violence as a way of defending themselves.

In their early teens, the Krays joined a local gang called the "Teddy Boys." The Teddy Boys were a subculture of working-class youth who wore Edwardian-style clothing and listened to rock and roll music. The Krays quickly rose through the ranks of the gang and soon became its leaders.

Criminal Career

In the late 1950s, the Krays began to turn to crime. They started out by running protection rackets, extorting money from local businesses. They also committed armed robbery and burglary. By the early 1960s, the Krays were one of the most powerful criminal gangs in London.

The Krays were known for their violence and brutality. They were responsible for a number of murders, including the killing of rival gang member George Cornell in 1966. The Krays also had a reputation for being ruthless and cunning. They often used intimidation and violence to get what they wanted.

Arrest and Imprisonment

In 1968, the Krays were arrested and charged with murder. They were found guilty and sentenced to life in prison. The Krays were sent to different prisons, where they spent the rest of their lives.

Reggie Kray died in prison in 2000. Ronnie Kray was released from prison in 2000 due to ill health. He died in 2016.

Life in Prison

Life in prison was difficult for the Krays. They were often isolated from other prisoners and they had to deal with the constant threat of violence. Reggie Kray was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia while in prison. Ronnie Kray was diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

Despite the challenges, the Krays managed to maintain their status as crime bosses even from behind bars. They continued to run their criminal empire through associates on the outside. The Krays also became involved in prison politics and they were often able to use their influence to get what they wanted.

Legacy

The Krays remain one of the most infamous criminal gangs in British history. Their story has been told in numerous books, films, and television

documentaries. The Krays have also been the subject of several songs and plays.

The Krays' legacy is a complex one. They were undoubtedly violent criminals, but they were also products of their environment. They grew up in poverty and violence and they turned to crime as a way of escaping their circumstances.

The Krays' story is a cautionary tale about the dangers of violence and crime. It is also a reminder of the importance of providing opportunities for young people to escape poverty and violence.



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