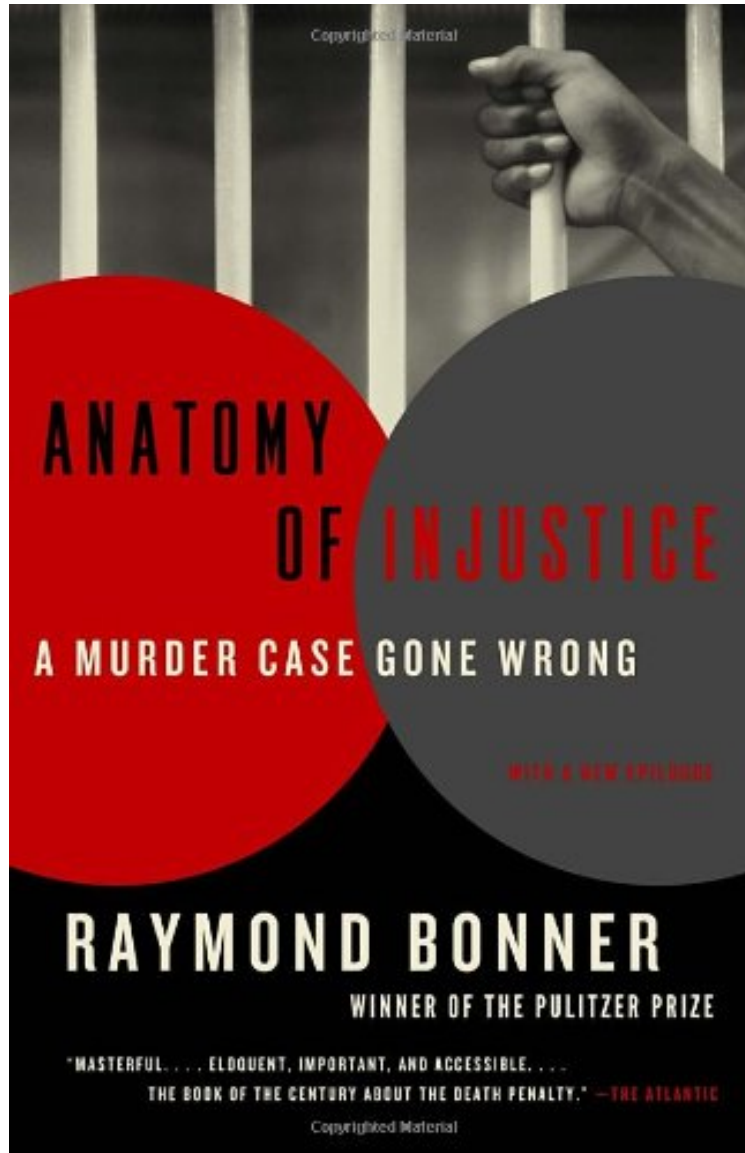


(Free read ebook) Anatomy of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong

Anatomy of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong

Raymond Bonner

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Raymond Bonner : Anatomy of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Anatomy of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read for Those on Both Sides of the Capital Punishment Debate By William Capodanno Before reading this book, I was not ardently for or against the death penalty. For certain criminals and crimes, I find it tough to argue against a sentence of death. However, I have always been troubled that an innocent person may be put to death and find it hard to support a system that could sanction the death of someone that

didn't commit such a crime. "Anatomy of Injustice" examines capital punishment, the fairness of our criminal justice system by provocatively dissecting the case of Edward Elmore. After reading this book, I'd hope even the most hardened capital punishment advocate recognizes the flaws and problems with our current system. This is the system that led someone like former Illinois Governor Ryan, a previously staunch capital punishment supporter, to suspend the death penalty in that state. Elmore's case touches on all the aspects of the death penalty for the reader to reflect and consider. Does the death penalty disproportionately get applied to poor, minority criminals? Do these individuals get adequate counsel? Has our criminal justice system become too adversarial rather than seeking the truth? How do we handle prosecutorial overreach and the denial of basic constitutional rights? These are all questions worth asking, not at the expense of victims and their families, but to ensure the system upholds the standards the founders set forth in the Constitution and the citizens of this country expect. As a society, if we decide the just punishment for heinous crimes is death, we can demand that the individual being put to death is guilty of the crimes and the system has enough checks and balances to prevent an innocent life from being taken. "Anatomy of Injustice" may not change your mind on the death penalty ---it didn't change mine --- but it certainly forces one to question whether the way our system is functioning today is acceptable.

13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding Book on Some Chilling Events
By Mark Wylie
When I was much younger, in what I refer to as the "College Republican" phase of my life, I supported the death penalty. It has been nearly 20 years since I ceased to do so; when I switched sides on this issue, I did so because I came to understand the flaws in our criminal justice system, and in particular in the administration of the death penalty--flaws which I have concluded are irreparable. This excellent book identifies many of those flaws, and I commend it to any reader interested in our criminal justice system and in trying to make it function in a way that is truly just.

The injustice which the title of this book refers to was inflicted on Edward Lee Elmore. In 1982, Elmore, a then 23-year-old African American from Greenwood, South Carolina, was arrested for the murder of an elderly white woman, Dorothy Edwards, for whom he had recently done some home maintenance work. He was convicted of her murder and sentenced to the death penalty. Elmore then spent roughly 30 years in prison, almost all of on death row. While neither I nor any reader can conclude with 100% certainty that he was not guilty, it is hard to avoid the conclusion, after reading Raymond Bonner's book, that Elmore was most likely innocent of the crime for which he spent years in prison and nearly was executed for, and that someone else murdered Dorothy Edwards and got away with it. It is my opinion that this is what happened.

Raymond Bonner is an experienced journalist and a very good writer, the author of excellent books on many subjects. He is also a former lawyer and law professor. As such, he is well equipped to write a book like this. He skillfully guides the reader through both the factual record and the potentially confusing legal issues. Thanks to his excellence as a writer, we come with a real feel for the flesh-and-blood people involved in this case, especially Elmore and his most tenacious defender, attorney Diana Holt. As I noted above, Bonner highlights several flaws in the criminal justice system, flaws which I believe make our current death penalty hopelessly unjust, and which I think are grounds for permanently abolishing the death penalty.

First, it is possible to be convicted of a serious crime, even a capital crime, based on very sketchy evidence. The key evidence presented against Elmore can be summed up as follows: 1) a single thumbprint identified as his was found on the outside of Edwards' house, which was reasonably the result of the maintenance work he had previously done; 2) the clothes he was wearing were found to have a few tiny specks of Type A blood, a blood type Edwards shared with about 40% of the population, and which was not Elmore's blood type; 3) the local medical examiner gave the opinion that the time of death was on a Saturday night during a period when Elmore had no alibi; 4) a police forensic expert testified that a number of hairs entered into evidence were, first, pubic hairs found on Edwards' bed, and second, that these hairs were probably, but not certainly, Elmore's; 5) a jail inmate who had been in jail with Elmore got on the witness stand and asserted that Elmore had confessed the murder to him.

As a corollary to this, it's important to note evidence that was not presented at Elmore's trial: 1) fingerprints were found inside Edwards' house which were not Elmore's or the victim's, but a third party's; 2) Pubic hairs recovered from Edwards' body (not her bed) were established definitively to be Caucasian (meaning they weren't Elmore's), and not from Edwards herself. This evidence was not presented at the trial because the police and prosecutors, in violation of well-established, unambiguous law, did not turn it over to the defense attorneys.

This leads into the second major flaw in the system, the inadequacy of the representation received by many criminal defendants. While it's conceivable that if the jury hearing Elmore's case had included a few tough-minded skeptics, they might have identified the weaknesses in the prosecution case without any guidance, our legal system puts the primary responsibility for doing so on defense attorneys. Certainly, a competent defense attorney could have torn many holes in the prosecution case. For instance, a competent attorney, even working against the handicap of not seeing the illegally suppressed evidence I just mentioned, could have pointed out the implausibilities in the prosecution's scenario for the crime: Why did Elmore have only tiny specks of blood on his clothes, when the victim bled profusely? Why was there no blood at all on his white shirt, especially if he carried her to the closet where her body was found? Why, if the crime took place on Edwards' bed, was none of her blood found there? Why were no photographs taken of the pubic hairs supposedly found on the bed, contrary to fundamental rules of crime scene examination? Likewise, a competent defense attorney could have had an independent expert examine the pathological evidence, and point out that the main evidence, namely the state of Edwards' body,

pointed strongly towards a time of death on Sunday afternoon (when Elmore had a strong alibi). It could then have further been pointed out that the medical examiner's contrary opinion about the time of death was based largely on trivia, such as the fact that the victim's TV Guide was open to the Saturday night listings (all of this was established later, during one of Elmore's appeal proceedings). Finally a good defense attorney could have discredited the testimony of the snitch, possibly even gotten him to admit, as he in fact did admit years later, that his testimony was made up. Unfortunately, Elmore did not have competent representation during his trials. His primary attorney was the local public defender, Geddes Anderson. Anderson was an alcoholic, and was reported by at least one prosecution witness, a state police detective, to have been drunk in court every single day of the trial. Anderson was assisted by a mediocre local attorney, John Beasley, who referred to his client as "a redheaded n---er." Certainly, in a fair system of justice, Anderson's alcoholism in and of itself would be sufficient to establish that Elmore did not have adequate representation. Leaving aside Anderson's drunkenness and Beasley's borderline racism, their performance in the trial was terrible. They raised none of the issues I note above. Their cross-examination of virtually every prosecution witness was perfunctory. It is no surprise that he was found guilty in two criminal trials (the verdict from the first trial was overturned owing to conduct by the judge that was so unfair and discriminatory that it could not be ignored. Amazingly, this judge, one E. C. Burnett, went on to be appointed to the South Carolina Supreme Court). This problem of ineffective representation is endemic throughout the criminal justice system, and is a particular taint on the administration of the death penalty. Stephen Bright, one of the most experienced attorneys in the country in dealing with death penalty cases, has researched this issue. His conclusion is that what happens in practice is that people are sentenced to death "not for the worst crime, but for the worst lawyer." If we are to retain capital punishment, then one mandatory element for it to be a just punishment is that it must be reserved for the worst offenders. This is clearly not the case. This leads into the third major flaw which Bonner brings out. Once someone has been found guilty in a trial court, then no matter how weak the case against them, no matter what exculpatory evidence comes to light after the trial, no matter how procedurally flawed the trial was, it is very, very hard to get the verdict of the trial court overturned. Appellate courts use a standard of what is called "deference to the trial court" when it comes to factual findings. This means that the appellate judge or judges generally will not review the facts of a case and make their own judgment about the innocence or guilt of the defendant; rather, they will accept the findings of fact by the trial judge and/or jury, even if they find them questionable. To a certain extent, such an approach is defensible. The problem that the Elmore case shows is that appellate courts have gone much, much too far in their deference to trial courts. If all Elmore had done in his appeals was to effectively say "Hey, how about if you judges take a second look at the same exact facts that the jury in my trial heard, and let me go if you don't agree with them," then assuming no other procedural errors in the trial (a big assumption, as I'll discuss in a moment), the appellate court would be justified in its deference. However, Elmore did far more than that. In his appeals, he demonstrated that 1) much of the evidence against him in the trial was flawed--the snitch was perjuring himself by his own admission, the medical examiner's estimated time of death was not justifiable based on the physical evidence, etc., and that 2) there were significant pieces of exculpatory evidence which were kept out of his trial because the police and prosecution hid them from his defense attorneys. To my mind, either of these demonstrations should have been sufficient to warrant ordering a new trial for Elmore; both of them together should definitely have gotten him a new trial. The other issue with appellate courts that Elmore's case highlights is the extreme difficulty of getting a verdict overturned when a defendant's attorneys do not do their jobs properly. The deference that appellate courts generally show to the trial courts' factual conclusions is only justified on the assumption that every defendant is getting a competent, vigorous defense. I'm sure that most of us would agree that if your attorney is drunk in court every day, as Geddes Anderson was, they are clearly not capable of representing you effectively--we'd expect that any case where that happened would automatically result in a new trial. The reality is very different. A few minutes of googling led me to numerous cases from different parts of the US where appellate courts denied a new trial even when they acknowledged that it was demonstrated that the defense attorney was "drunk on duty," as it were (in one case, the attorney had actually been arrested for drunk driving in the middle of the trial). Likewise, I found cases where appellate courts ruled that the following circumstances did not constitute ineffective representation: attorneys in multiple cases who slept through significant portions of the trial, an attorney who was going senile and was suffering from severe physical maladies, and an attorney who was insane and openly discussed his paranoid delusions in court. Leaving aside whether the defendants in these cases were actually guilty or not, the fact is that we as citizens need to be able to have confidence in our court system, and when people are represented by attorneys who are drunk, insane, senile or merely sleeping, it is completely impossible for any reasonable person to have that confidence. But the problem of ineffective counsel is even worse. It's not just that drunken or senile attorneys are representing people. The key Supreme Court case on this issue, *Strickland v. Washington*, opens a whole additional can of worms. *Strickland* requires that an appellate court find, before giving a defendant a new trial, not only that their attorney was seriously ineffective, but that there is a substantial probability that the ineffective assistance had an effect on the verdict. This allows appellate courts an immense amount of wiggle room to ignore ineffective representation, by declaring that "it wouldn't have affected the verdict." Justice Thurgood Marshall, dissenting in the case, pointed out the problem with this standard--the justness of the court system depends

not only on reaching the right outcomes, but on reaching them through recognizably fair procedures. I agree with Marshall--the ability of ordinary citizens to have confidence in our judicial system rests on our perception that we, along with our family, friends, co-workers, etc., will get a fair deal if ever we find ourselves in court. One issue that Bonner does not spend a large amount of time on is solutions. Abolishing capital punishment would clearly make our system of justice more fair, by eliminating the potential for the ultimate injustice--the execution of someone who is innocent. But that by itself would not solve the problems Bonner identifies. A few further steps come to my mind: 1) We need to implement strong measures to prevent police and prosecutors from keeping exculpatory evidence from defense attorneys. Elmore's case is not an isolated one; evidence is withheld, hidden, destroyed, etc., all over the country. Nate Blakeslee's book *Tulia: Race, Cocaine, and Corruption in a Small Texas Town* is an excellent account of how dozens of criminal convictions were obtained, in part because the local prosecutor withheld significant evidence on a systematic basis. I think any prosecutor who actively participates in withholding evidence should be disbarred (as happened to Mike Nifong of Duke lacrosse case infamy). Police officers who actively participate in withholding evidence should be fired and barred for life from working in law enforcement. Needless to say, if police or prosecutors go beyond withholding evidence and actually fabricate evidence (as also happened in *Tulia*), even stronger steps, including criminal charges, should be taken. 2) The justice system as a whole needs to seriously scale back its reliance on the testimony of jailhouse informants, aka "snitches." Several studies have shown that testimony by lying snitches is one of the leading causes of wrongful convictions in capital cases in the US. Alexandra Natapoff's excellent book *Snitching: Criminal Informants and the Erosion of American Justice* describes a lengthy catalogue of problems with the use of informants in law enforcement and the criminal justice system. In the long run, police and prosecutors will have to stop relying so much on unreliable informants, but in the shorter term, judges and juries can nudge them in the right direction by treating the claims of snitches with extreme skepticism. 3) Most important, we need to ensure that anyone charged with a serious crime, whether it carries a potential death sentence or not, receives competent, effective legal representation throughout the process. I mentioned the Duke lacrosse case above, in which a politically ambitious prosecutor pursued false charges of rape against three Duke students, and persisted in pursuing the case far, far beyond the point where there was any reasonable basis for thinking the students guilty of a crime. If these three young men had not received high-quality legal representation from the moment they were snared by the tentacles of the justice system, they might have gone the way of Edward Lee Elmore or the *Tulia* defendants, and been convicted of crimes they did not commit. Every defendant should be represented as ably. As I said above, without that, we can't have confidence that our judicial system is fair. One way to nudge state and local authorities into ensuring that this is the case is for appellate courts to be much more vigorous in upholding the rights of defendants to effective representation. Needless to say, if an attorney is found to be drunken, mentally ill, etc. during a trial, that should be automatic grounds for giving a defendant a new trial. Also, *Strickland v. Washington* should be overruled, either by the Supreme Court reversing itself or by statute. Until that happens, appellate courts should be much more ready to conclude that ineffective representation has prejudiced the verdict in a case, using the wiggle room in the *Strickland* decision to produce more justice, not less. 4) Finally, all of us, as voters, can do our part. We need to stop being seduced by "tough on crime" rhetoric from politicians, and start paying attention to those elected officials, all too few these days, who respect the right of everyone to due process of law. When politicians promise to "reform" things to make it easier to execute people, we need to vote them out of office, not into office. When candidates go ballistic about "judicial activism" after a court protects the rights of a defendant, we need to vote against them, not for them. I've wandered away from directly discussing Bonner's book for a bit, so let me close by returning to it. Bonner ends his narrative in late 2011, when a panel from the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, probably the most conservative of the federal circuit courts, ruled by a 2-1 majority that Elmore was entitled to a new trial. The majority opinion meticulously catalogues the innumerable injustices which have been inflicted on Elmore; the dissent by Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson is very brief, and I do not find it at all convincing. After Bonner's book went to press, the final resolution of the case took place. South Carolina officials had talked of appealing the case to the US Supreme Court, rather than either giving Elmore the new trial ordered by the 4th Circuit, or acknowledging the injustice they had done him by dropping the charges and freeing him (which in my opinion is what they should have done). In the end, they took a rather craven third option. They offered Elmore the chance to enter a so-called "Alford Plea." An Alford Plea, as I understand it, involves the defendant making a technical plea of guilty while still maintaining his or her innocence. In return for making this plea, the state agreed to a sentence equal to the time Elmore had already served (roughly 30 years). As a result, Elmore was set free after 30 years in prison for a crime that he almost certainly did not commit. Meanwhile, not one of the many South Carolina officials who played a part--whether through malice, indifference to justice, incompetence, or any other cause--in this travesty of justice has paid any sort of price. With one or two partial exceptions--I think primarily of one state judge who overturned Elmore's death sentence, although not his conviction, because Elmore was found to be mentally retarded--none of the South Carolina officials involved in this case can take any pride in their actions, and many of them should be forever ashamed of their conduct. Edward Lee Elmore is now free, but it can't be said that he received justice. The system failed him, over and over. At the same time, the system also failed Dorothy Edwards, and her family and others who loved her. For it is extremely likely that someone

murdered her and got away with it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Flaws of American justice system exposed in this "ordinary" murder case By Niles508A well-written book. A bit long, but the complex ins-and-outs of the justice system, whereby a man could be on death row for 25 years (wrongfully) is not a quick and easy tale to tell. (I recommend that you read this book with a 3x5 card in hand to jot down the names and IDs of the various players in the "story", to make it easier for you to refer back to, as you read. I didn't do this, but I wish I had.) Our justice system is clearly very flawed, and the reader wants to interject shouts into the proceedings: Why don't you ask "this"? What about "that"? The deck was clearly stacked against Edward Elmore, a poor southern uneducated black man. The South Carolina justice system is definitely not favorable to obtaining "justice" as we normally think of justice. A rush to judgement attitude prevailed within the police investigation and then in the prosecutors' office. The State clearly just wanted to clear its books on the crime. We read about these situations in the news periodically. But, it only becomes obvious when someone collects all the data over time and compiles it into a narrative book like this that we see the true nature of our justice system. We can only hope that this is an exception and not the rule. It definitely gives one pause in thinking about the death penalty -- if only because our system is not set up to be flawless. If this example is assumed to be typical, then Houston, we have a problem. The book does not delve into the larger matter to weigh how big a problem this is in our justice system. This is a snapshot of one case. Not even a high-profile case. So, even if the reader supports the death penalty for the "truly evil", the flaws inherent in the justice system and the uneven application of the death penalty argue against having it available as an option. Much background information is also presented about the death penalty and the justice system in general. But, it truly would be an interesting study to see just how many cases of wrongful conviction and suspected wrongful conviction there are in this country. We need to improve some very basics in our justice system -- even if we're not talking about the death penalty. This book is a good intro to the flaws that we can surmise are rampant in the administration of American justice. Perhaps someone would argue that this was just a fluke. But, the repetition of the same legal issues over 25 years argues that this case is not a fluke. It represents the system.

From Pulitzer Prize winner Raymond Bonner, the gripping story of a grievously mishandled murder case that put a twenty-three-year-old man on death row. In January 1982, an elderly white widow was found brutally murdered in the small town of Greenwood, South Carolina. Police immediately arrested Edward Lee Elmore, a semiliterate, mentally retarded black man with no previous felony record. His only connection to the victim was having cleaned her gutters and windows, but barely ninety days after the victim's body was found, he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death. Elmore had been on death row for eleven years when a young attorney named Diana Holt first learned of his case. With the exemplary moral commitment and tenacious investigation that have distinguished his reporting career, Bonner follows Holt's battle to save Elmore's life and shows us how his case is a textbook example of what can go wrong in the American justice system. Moving, enraging, suspenseful, and enlightening, *Anatomy of Injustice* is a vital contribution to our nation's ongoing, increasingly important debate about inequality and the death penalty.

From Booklist Bonner, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his foreign correspondence for the New York Times, turns his considerable reportorial gifts to the issue of wrongful conviction as seen through the lens of a particular, outrageously mishandled case. The case, from 1982, centered on the conviction of a young black man for the murder of a white widow in South Carolina. Although the trial dates back decades, Bonner reanimates the wrongs of racism, inept defense, and prosecutorial misconduct seen in this case and also in cases across the U.S. The narrative, which moves through the initial trial and eventual freeing of the convicted prisoner, Edward Lee Elmore, is given a face and a voice through Bonner's focus on the young female lawyer who never gave up on trying to free her client. Far-ranging in its implications, thoughtful, and utterly absorbing, this book is a fine example of involving narrative nonfiction. --Connie Fletcher Masterful. . . . Eloquent, important, and accessible. . . . The book of the century about the death penalty. Andrew Cohen, *The Atlantic* Mesmerizing. . . . Powerful. . . . An utterly engrossing true-crime tale. Kevin Boyle, *The New York Times Book Review* A genuine whodunit, a page-turner, and a tale of redemption. And it's all true. For all that, however, *Anatomy of Injustice* is also a blistering indictment of the death penalty. . . . Bonner delivers a crackerjack feat of storytelling that steadily administers the truth about capital punishment like a slow, toxic IV drip. . . . In his expert hands, the twists and turns of Elmore's appeals, and the gradual discovery of the travesties in the original investigation and trial by Holt's team, make for excruciatingly suspenseful reading. Laura Miller, *Salon.com* Gripping and enraging. . . . Bonner's book is not a treatise against the death penalty. Rather, it is a look at what happens in America's justice system when justice is absent. *The Economist* Accomplished and meticulously researched. . . . Convincing. . . . As a piece of reporting, the book is masterful. Bonner builds the story, and his argument, carefully, rarely editorializing, mixing in a précis of capital punishment in the United States. . . . Bonner's book is an important addition to the body of evidence against the death penalty. Ethan Gilsdorf, *The Boston Globe* A revealing look at how police and courts grapple with death penalty cases. . . . If you are a staunch advocate of the death penalty . . . you're precisely the person who should read *Anatomy of Injustice*. Nicholas Varchaver, *Fortune* The investigation . . . makes for a gripping read, and exposes some outrageous failures of American justice. *The Must List*, Entertainment

WeeklyCompelling. . . Bonner makes us feel the frustration and inhumanity of a justice system gone awry. Wilbert Rideau, Financial TimesFascinating. . . Anatomy of Injustice moves as swiftly as a great courtroom thriller, and Bonners astutely observed characters are as memorable as any youre likely to encounter in a John Grisham-penned best seller. Doug Childers, The Richmond Times-DispatchOne of the best books written about a dubious conviction. . . . Bonners volume is special for the way it entwines the lives of the principal characters with the nations inglorious history of racial discrimination and capital punishment. Rob Warden, Chicago TribuneGripping, suspenseful, and electrifying. . . This should be required reading for anyone who believes in justice. John J. Kelly, Cincinnati CityBeatA gifted storyteller, Bonners prose is at once stately and matter-of-fact. . . In the context of true crime, of murder stories most especially, [Bonners details] assume a captivating glow. . . As a portrait of contemporary American life, immersed in culture wars and classism, and clogged with the residues of racism, Anatomy of Injustice is authoritative and fascinating. As a study in how things can go from bad to worse, how entire lives can be crushed under the wheels of the justice system, its also urgent and necessary. Jos Teodoro, The Edmonton JournalA lucid, page-turning account. . . Elmores defense winds through nearly three decades of legal maneuverings as suspenseful as the investigation of the mysterious crime itself. Painstakingly researched by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Bonner, the case illustrates in fascinating and wrenching specificity the widely acknowledged inequality and moral failings of the death penalty, while illuminating the less understood details of a criminal justice system deeply compromised by race and class. Indeed, Bonners ability to succinctly and vividly incorporate the relevant case history and explain the operative legal procedures and principles at workincluding the bizarre way in which court-acknowledged innocence is not necessarily enough to spare a life on death rowmakes this not only a gripping human story but a first-rate introduction to the more problematic aspects of American criminal law. Starred review, Publishers WeeklyFascinating. . . Dexterous. . . Well-researched. . . Bonners description of decades of bungling is a reminder of the ways class and race can shape outcomes in the American legal system. Margaret Quamme, The Columbus DispatchFar-ranging in its implications, thoughtful, and utterly absorbing, this book is a fine example of involving narrative nonfiction. BooklistSharp. . . A powerfully intimate look at how the justice system worksor doesnt workin capital cases. KirkusThose interested in human rights, issues of race, and inner workings of the U.S. legal systemnot to mention true crime fanswill want to read this book. Library JournalBonners gripping true-crime thriller shines a shocking light on American justice. I couldnt put it down. Jane Mayer, author of The Dark SideRace, sex, and murder in a Southern town are the explosive core of Raymond Bonners legal drama. Anatomy of Injustice is also a brave dispatch from the trenches of a forgotten war over capital punishment. Told with a reporters tenacity, a lawyers acumen, and an advocates zeal, this book is both a gripping narrative and a chilling indictment of Americas justice system. Tony Horwitz, author of Confederates in the AtticAnatomy of Injustice demonstrates dramatically and shockingly what bad lawyers are capable of doing, and is an inspiring example of what a good one can do. For that alone, law schools should assign it to every entering student. Stephen Engelberg, managing editor, ProPublicaRaymond Bonner uses his skill as a lawyer and journalist to take us on a fascinating journey deep into the heart of the criminal justice system, where the stakes could not be higher or the failures more disturbing. Anatomy of Injustice reads like a novel, but it is, tragically, all too true. Linda Greenhouse, author of Becoming Justice BlackmunMost of us Americans dont have a clue about how the criminal court system really operates and we need a good writer like Bonner to take us through, step by step. But be warned: If you have pressing duties waiting, dont begin reading this book. This is seductive storytelling at its best. Sister Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man WalkingReading Raymond Bonners compelling account of a grossly botched murder case, I was overcome by outrage at the state of our criminal justice system. Rigorously researched and powerfully told, Anatomy of Injustice couldand shouldchange the national debate on the death penalty. Michael Massing"Raymond Bonner's Anatomy of Injustice is a powerful and poignant analysis of the case of Edward Lee Elmore. Bonner's voice is a profound force for truth and justice in our difficult times!" Cornel WestAbout the AuthorRaymond Bonner practiced law for a decade and taught at the University of California, Davis, School of Law. He later became an investigative reporter and foreign correspondent for The New York Times, where he was a member of a Pulitzer Prizewinning team in 1999, and a staff writer at The New Yorker. He has also written for The Economist and The New York of Books, and blogs at the Daily Beast and theatlantic.com. He is the author of Weakness and Deceit: U.S. Policy and El Salvador, which received the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award; Waltzing with a Dictator: The Marcoses and the Making of American Policy, which received the Cornelius Ryan Award from the Overseas Press Club and the Hillman Prize for Book Journalism; and At the Hand of Man: Peril and Hope for Africas Wildlife. He lives in London.