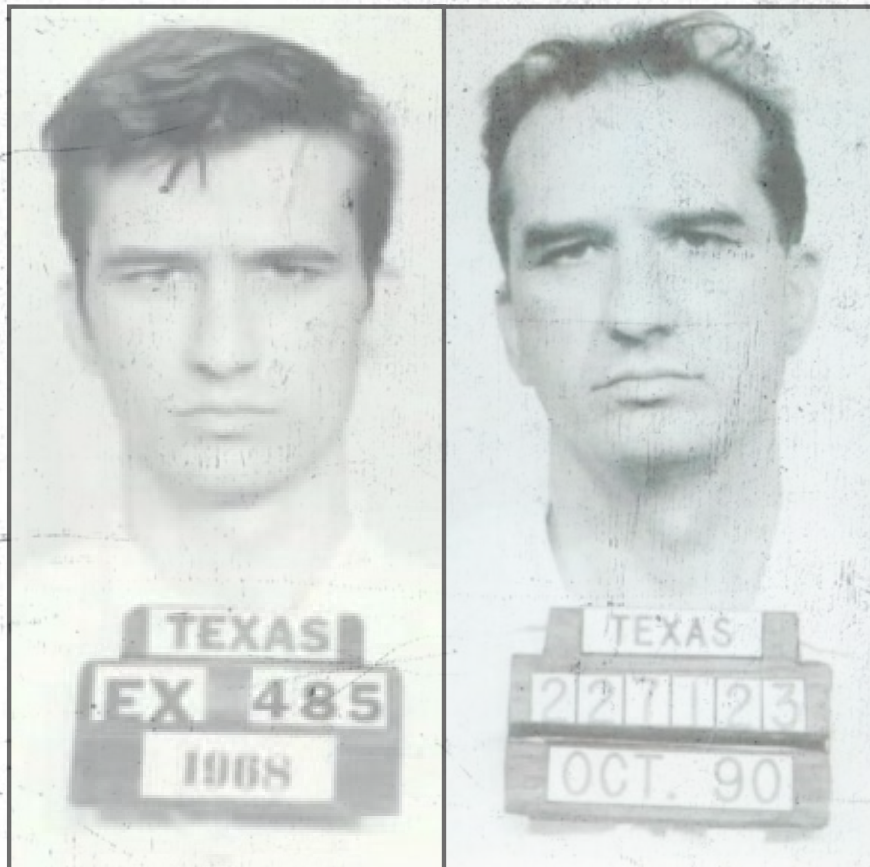


# FREED TO **KILL**



**BIG**  
M E D I A

## SERIES SYNOPSIS:

1992, in Waco, Texas, U.S. Marshal Parnell McNamara and U.S. District Attorney Bill Johnston are investigating the mysterious abduction and murder of Melissa Northrup, a convenience store clerk on a lonely stretch of Interstate 35, when investigators discover a 1985 tan Thunderbird near the crime scene registered to a Kenneth Allen McDuff... a serial killer who was put on death row in the 60s.



## HOW DOES A DEATH ROW INMATE BECOME THE PRIME SUSPECT OF A BRUTAL MURDER 20 YEARS LATER?



BROOMSTICK MURDER VICTIMS

## CONTEXT:

In August of 1966, McDuff brutally murdered two boys with a .38 revolver, raped a young woman several times with a broomstick and murdered her as well. The three victims were high school students and McDuff became known as the Broomstick Killer. Through a mysterious and shady sequence of events occurring between 1966 and 1989, McDuff is spared from death row and eventually paroled to walk the streets freely. Investigators estimate that between 1989 and 1992, McDuff kidnapped, tortured, and murdered more than 15 women in Texas.

# TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

- 08-06-1966 MCDUFF MURDERS 3 FORT WORTH TEENAGERS (BROOMSTICK MURDERS)
- 11-15-1966 MCDUFF FOUND GUILTY OF CAPITAL MURDER, PUT ON DEATHROW
- 10-11-1989 MCDUFF RELEASED ON PAROLE
- 10-12-1989 MCDUFF KILLS SARAFIA PARKER
- 10-14-1989 PARKER'S BODY FOUND NEAR TRADE SCHOOL MCDUFF WAS ATTENDING
- 07-18-1990 MCDUFF ARRESTED FOR VIOLATING PAROLE
- 10-11-1990 MCDUFF RETURNED TO PRISON
- 12-18-1990 MCDUFF RELEASE FROM PRISON AGAIN
- 10-10-1991 BRENDA THOMPSON LAST SEEN ALIVE WITH MCDUFF
- 10-15-1991 REGINA MOORE LAST SEEN ALIVE WITH MCDUFF
- 12-29-1991 COLLEEN REED ABDUCTED IN AUSTIN
- 03-01-1992 MELISSA NORTHRUP ABDUCTED
- 03-06-1992 MCNAMARAS DISCOVER MCDUFF IS WALKING FREE ON PAROLE
- 05-04-1992 MCDUFF ARRESTED IN KANSAS CITY
- 09-29-1998 REGINA MOORE'S BODY DISCOVERED
- 10-03-1998 BRENDA THOMPSON'S BODY DISCOVERED
- 10-06-1998 COLLEEN REED'S BODY DISCOVERED
- 11-17-1998 MCDUFF EXECUTED



LEFT TO RIGHT: REGINA MOORE, MELISSA NORTHRUP, COLLEEN REED



LEFT TO RIGHT: BILL JOHNSTON AND PARNELL MCNAMARA

## MAIN CHARACTERS:

**BILL JOHNSTON** - The former U.S. Attorney in Waco who led the second manhunt for McDuff in 1992, and his eventual prosecution, conviction, and execution. He and a team of U.S. Marshals race all over Texas interviewing ex-cons, prison friends, and anyone who might have ever known McDuff to link him back to the disappearance of Melissa Northrup and Colleen Reed.

**PARNELL MCNAMARA** - The colorful U.S. Marshal who works with Bill Johnston to find, capture and apprehend McDuff in 1992. Parnell was the force of the operation, driving an armored war vehicle nicknamed "Big Foot" and packing shotguns and assault rifles.

**JOHN MORIARTY** - As an Undercover Prison Investigator, John Moriarty works with the Marshals in the 1992 McDuff manhunt and provides them valuable access to the prison archives containing detailed records of McDuff's activities and friends while in prison. This information helps connect the dots to Alva Hank Worley who gives the confession that puts McDuff away forever.

**TIM STEGLICH** - Deputy Sheriff Steglich secures the damning confession from Alva Hank Worley, McDuff's accomplice in the 1991 abduction/murder of Colleen Reed, which breaks the case wide open.

## EPISODE 1: BOTTOM OF THE BARREL

**1992 - WACO, TEXAS:** U.S. Marshals, Parnell McNamara and Mike McNamara, and Federal Prosecutor Bill Johnston, are investigating the disappearance of 22-year old Melissa Northrup, a pregnant mother of two. She vanished during her shift on a lonely stretch of interstate 35. A modern-day Jack the Ripper snatched the young woman out of a Waco convenience store in the middle of the night, never to be seen again. A week into the investigation, McNamara is approached by an FBI agent who asks if he knows the name Kenneth Allen McDuff. The agent had discovered an abandoned two-door, tan 1985 Thunderbird near the scene of the crime. The car is registered to convicted serial killer and former death row inmate, Kenneth Allen McDuff...

## EPISODE 2: MORE BODIES

The McNamara brothers and the Waco federal prosecutor Bill Johnston discover McDuff has been free on parole since October 1989. Even more bizarre, they learn McDuff is attending a local trade school on a state grant. During their investigation they learn a sex worker named Sarafia Parker was found dead near the trade school three days after McDuff's parole. In addition, reports of two more missing sex workers, Regina Moore and Brenda Thompson, surfaced. While searching for McDuff, the Marshals and federal prosecutor learn of another woman that went missing in December of 1991, five months before Melissa Northrup was kidnapped. A young woman by the name of Colleen Reed was snatched up while waiting for her car at a car wash in Austin, TX. The lawmen are able to place McDuff's signature 1985 Thunderbird in Austin around the same time, and now suspect McDuff is responsible for Colleen Reed's abduction and murder.

## EPISODE 3: CENTRAL TEXAS UNDERWORLD

Armed with a warrant the Marshals and local Deputy Sheriff, Tim Steglich, raid McDuff's family home near Temple, TX. They discover a pickup truck that matches the description from the Brenda Thompson and Regina Moore investigation. The Marshals shift their focus to McDuff's old prison buddies, which leads them to "One-Eyed Jackie Pierce." Jackie had recently missed a meeting with his parole officer, which gave the Marshals an arrest warrant. The Marshals, Johnston, and a Dallas SWAT team raid Jackie's location and arrest him. During the drive back to Waco, Jackie breaks down, placing McDuff in Austin in December 1991.

## **EPISODE 4: Bloom's Motel**

Jackie's confession leads the lawmen to Billy Earl, another one of McDuff's prison buddies. Billy gives up Alva Hank Worley, McDuff's accomplice in the Colleen Reed abduction. The Marshals find Worley in a flea bag, rat infested motel, and question him for weeks. Deputy sheriff Steglich gets Worley to let his guard down and deliver a shocking confession about McDuff's kidnap, torture, and murder of Colleen Reed. Worley takes the investigators to the field where Reed was tortured, but he doesn't know where McDuff buried Reed's body. His confession is enough for the lawmen to launch a nationwide dragnet and publicize McDuff on America's Most Wanted TV program. An employee at a waste disposal company in Kansas City immediately recognizes McDuff's mugshot and calls the police.

## **EPISODE 5: TOOTHACHE**

The Marshals discover that McDuff is working as a sanitation worker on a garbage truck in Kansas City and sleeping in a homeless shelter at night. The Kansas City police set up on McDuff's trash route and arrest McDuff as he is making his rounds. The Marshals, federal prosecutor Bill Johnston, and deputy sheriff Steglich fly out to Kansas City to interrogate him in the county jail. McDuff thinks he's being arrested for violating parole; he has no idea how much evidence the Marshals have against him. The Marshals bring McDuff back to Waco to stand trial for capital murder, AGAIN.

McDuff's accomplice in the Colleen Reed murder, Alva Worley, testifies against him, and McDuff is finally scheduled to die by lethal injection on November 17th, 1998. During McDuff's final weeks awaiting his execution, investigators are able to extract the location of Regina Moore's and Brenda Thompson's bodies. But they still have not found Colleen Reed. McDuff keeps the location of Colleen Reed's grave a secret, until he comes down with a terrible toothache. Investigators offer McDuff access to a prison dentist in exchange for the location of Colleen Reed's grave. McDuff agrees and draws a map for investigators which leads them to the exact location of her grave, where investigators recover her body.

**INVESTIGATORS SUSPECT MCDUFF KIDNAPPED AND MURDERED MORE THAN 15 WOMEN WHILE ON PAROLE.  
MORE BODIES HAVE BEEN FOUND BUT THERE'S NOT ENOUGH PHYSICAL EVIDENCE TO LINK IT TO MCDUFF.  
MCDUFF WAS EXECUTED BY LETHAL INJECTION IN 1998 AND BURIED IN AN UNMARKED PRISON GRAVE...**