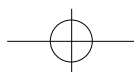
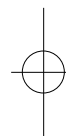
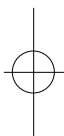
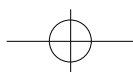
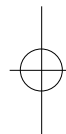
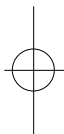




Yesterday in Old Fall River







Yesterday in Old Fall River

A Lizzie Borden Companion

Paul Dennis Hoffman

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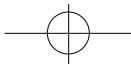
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To My Parents

Edwin Lester Hoffman

May Hoffman

They will live forever through the good they have done.

To My Family

Matthew Woodrow and his lovely wife Jami
their children Annabelle and Jacob

Leigh Ann

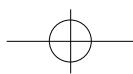
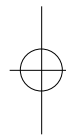
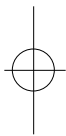
Brooke Elizabeth

Most of All to My Wife Christine

All we've gone through together was worth it.

and

In loving memory of
Frank X. O'Neil (1945-1999)



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Foreword

The Borden legend is famous for its unanswered questions. The big one is, did she or didn't she? Paul Dennis Hoffman's book doesn't answer that one, but it does answer hundreds of other questions as well as provide cross-referenced data that gives anyone studying the case all the "connections" one needs. This text is rich in biographical information and simply puts together the factual history of the Borden story. Major players are given enough space to identify and define them as they relate to the Borden world. They are also given important added definition. For example, here we learn that Dr. David Williams Cheever (1831-1915) testified for the prosecution. He was a medical expert who, along with Dr. Frank Draper, testified as to the nature of the head wounds and the time of Abby and Andrew's deaths. In addition we learn that:

Cheever enjoyed a brilliant career as a doctor and was the youngest senior surgeon at Boston City Hospital. He became a Professor of Surgery at Harvard in 1882, a post he held until made Professor Emeritus in 1893. He also kept a private practice during this time and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Harvard in 1894. Cheever wrote several books and articles and frequently contributed to professional journals.

This is the significant trivia we need to enhance our love and awareness of a legend that has worked its way into American mythology and folklore. Isn't it wonderful to find out that defense attorney Melvin Adams' middle name was Ohio? Just look him up. He's right here, and so are his birthplace, his undergraduate college, his law school, the dates of both graduations, the staff he served on after law school and even the fact that he was "handsome and of medium build with a waxed moustache." Unless you are willing to devote thousands of hours to research and travel, you are not going to get the details and minutiae available in this book.

xii Foreword

Paul Dennis Hoffman put in the thousands of hours, the travel and devotion necessary for filling many gaps within this famous murder case. His book is to the Borden legend what Webster's dictionary is to the English language. It is also the first (could there be a second?) encyclopedia of Lizzie Borden.

Anyone who knows the case knows that Adelaide Churchill was the next door neighbor to whom Lizzie was alleged to have said, "Do come over. Someone has killed Father." We also know that, along with Bridget Sullivan (You have to look her up!), she discovered the body of Abby on the second floor and called down, "There is another one." Did you know that her father was a popular mayor of Fall River in the mid-1800s and that her handyman was named Thomas Boulds?

Learning that John Ratcliffe "was a weaver from New Bedford; he was summoned to jury duty in the Borden trial, but was neither questioned nor selected for the jury" might tempt you to try a little prussic acid. But believe me, everything you want to know is here too. Most of us know that Lizzie burned a Bedford cord dress in her kitchen stove. Mary A. Raymond made that dress. She did other things too. Look her up. In fact, stop reading this introduction and do what this book asks you to do! Start flipping through the pages. If the Borden tale fascinates you as it does thousands of others, it will be a long time before you stop turning these pages.

Jules R. Rychebusch
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April 2000