



Doc: The Rape of the Town of Lovell

By Jack Olsen

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Award Winner!

With a new introduction by bestselling true crime author Ron Franscell.

For twenty-five years, the trusted family doctor in a small Wyoming town had been raping and molesting the women and children who most relied on him. Mostly Mormons, the naive victims sometimes realized on their wedding nights the truth about what had happened in Dr. Story's office.

In riveting detail, veteran crime writer Jack Olsen tells the searing story of a small group of courageous women who decided to bring a doctor to justice — and unearthed a legacy of pain and anger that would divide their families, their neighbors, and an entire town Publishers Weekly: This masterful book by the author of *Son*, as much a searching sociological study as a true-crime narrative, tells what happened in Lovell when these happenings came to light: the community lost its bearings and the doctor was convicted of rape.

Kirkus: From popular true-crime veteran Olsen (*Son*; *Cold Kill*; etc.), the widely publicized case that tore a small Wyoming town apart when the local doctor was accused, then convicted, of raping patients under the guise of giving them pelvic examinations. Lowell, Wyoming, was a town divided largely along religious lines: a Mormon majority and a Baptist minority. When Dr. John Story arrived to start up a practice, he found a warm welcome: a doctor was needed and, though he was a Baptist, his strict habits (which led him to start his own, more fundamentalist church) won the respect of Mormons who flocked to him as patients. But in 1983, after years of suspicions they had tried to dismiss, two sisters came forward with accusations of rape, inspiring dozens of other women (some elderly) to at last speak up. Some victims had been silent because of the Mormon code that seemed to hold women responsible for any extramarital sex; others had taken their case to the police (and not been believed), to Church leaders (who told them to switch doctors), and to the medical association (which did nothing). The 1983 accusers were vilified by the town (even by many Mormons, some grateful for Story's medical care, others sensitive to his claim that the case was a Mormon conspiracy); some lost their jobs and businesses, but

Story was eventually convicted and is now doing 15-20 years. Engrossing true drama--and a more balanced than usual picture of Mormon life and values.

Jack Olsen's books have published in fifteen countries and eleven languages. Olsen's journalism earned the National Headliners Award, Chicago Newspaper Guild's Page One Award, commendations from Columbia and Indiana Universities, the Washington State Governor's Award, the Scripps-Howard Award and other honors. He was listed in Who's Who in America since 1968 and in Who's Who in the World since 1987. The Philadelphia Inquirer described him as "an American treasure."

Olsen was described as "the dean of true crime authors" by the Washington Post and the New York Daily News and "the master of true crime" by the Detroit Free Press and Newsday. Publishers Weekly called him "the best true crime writer around." His studies of crime are required reading in university criminology courses and have been cited in the New York Times Notable Books of the Year. In a page-one review, the Times described his work as "a genuine contribution to criminology and journalism alike."

Olsen is a two-time winner in the Best Fact Crime category of the Mystery Writer's of America, Edgar award.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

This story about the impact of a malevolent family physician on a tiny Wyoming town is my favorite of Jack Olsen's true-crime books so far. In measured prose worthy of a literary novel, Olsen gives life to the docile but ultimately stalwart characters of a mother and two adult daughters who were raised according to Mormon strictures about sex--including "the garment," a cotton sack that they were supposed to wear next to their skin for every single moment of their lives. These three were among hundreds of naive girls and women who trusted their beloved Dr. Storey so much that they submitted to his molesting and raping them under the guise of unnecessary pelvic exams. And they became the reluctant leaders of the fight to bring him to justice--a fight that divided the community between the doctor's (mostly) Baptist supporters and his Mormon detractors. *Doc* won the 1990 Edgar Award for Best Fact Crime.

From Publishers Weekly

Lovell is a small town in Wyoming whose population is about 50% Mormon; Mormon women are traditionally expected to serve men unquestioningly. Thus, for 25 years John Story, who established his medical practice in Lovell in 1958, was able to molest dozens, perhaps even hundreds, of local women, conducting prolonged pelvic examinations for mere sinus infections and headaches. The examinations customarily concluded with sexual intercourse. Many of the women, incredibly naive about such matters, and virtually reverential toward the doctor, did not realize what was happening to them--and did not resist. The doctor, a pillar of the Baptist Church, enjoyed enormous prestige. This masterful book by the author of *Son*, as much a searching sociological study as a true-crime narrative, tells what happened in Lovell when these happenings came to light: the community lost its bearings and the doctor was convicted of rape. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

In 1983, Lovell, a town in Wyoming, was rocked by accusations that Dr. John Story, one of its leading citizens, had been sexually abusing his women patients for over 25 years. During the ensuing medical board hearing, criminal trial, and media publicity--including a segment on 60 Minutes --local support was divided between the victims and Story, who claimed that he was the object of a religious conspiracy (most of the women were Mormons). This is an intense, bizarre tale which could have been luridly told, but Olsen (*Son: A Psychopath and His Victims*, LJ 11/15/83) shows great compassion for the women; he uses their own accounts in court and from interviews to tell what went on during the doctor's examinations. A disturbing, extremely well-written book, this will leave the reader feeling almost as involved in events as the Lovell citizens. Very highly recommended.

- Sally G. Waters, Stetson Law Lib., St. Petersburg, Fla.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Margarita Toman:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to

something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book might be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the reserve untitled Doc: The Rape of the Town of Lovell can be excellent book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Joseph Haner:

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always aim to and must have the time or they will get lots of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not only a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative with spending your spare time, the book you have read is Doc: The Rape of the Town of Lovell.

Sean Owens:

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