Fargo: This Is The True Story Behind the Coen Brothers' Crime Classic

Fargo is a 1996 crime film directed by Joel Coen and Ethan Coen, and starring Frances McDormand, William H. Macy, and Steve Buscemi. The film follows the investigation of a kidnapping gone wrong in Fargo, North Dakota. The film was a critical and commercial success, and won two Academy Awards for Best Original Screenplay and Best Actress for McDormand.



The film is based on a true story that occurred in 1987. In that year, a pregnant woman named Helle Crafts was kidnapped from her home in Brainerd, Minnesota. Her husband, Scott, was forced to withdraw \$150,000 from their bank account and deliver it to the kidnappers. The kidnappers then killed Helle and buried her body in a snowbank.

The Coen Brothers were inspired to make Fargo after reading a newspaper article about the Crafts case. They were particularly struck by the fact that the kidnappers were not professional criminals, but rather two ordinary men who had gotten in over their heads. The Coens also decided to set the film in Fargo, North Dakota, because they felt that the region's isolation and harsh climate would add to the film's atmosphere of suspense.

Fargo was a critical and commercial success. The film was praised for its dark humor, suspenseful plot, and excellent performances. McDormand won an Academy Award for Best Actress for her role as Marge Gunderson, a pregnant police chief who investigates the kidnapping. Macy and Buscemi were also nominated for Academy Awards for their supporting roles.

Fargo has become a classic crime film. It is often cited as one of the Coen Brothers' best films, and it has been praised by critics and audiences alike. The film is a suspenseful, darkly humorous, and ultimately moving story about the human condition.

The True Story Behind Fargo

The true story behind Fargo is even more bizarre than the film itself. In 1987, a pregnant woman named Helle Crafts was kidnapped from her home in Brainerd, Minnesota. Her husband, Scott, was forced to withdraw \$150,000 from their bank account and deliver it to the kidnappers. The kidnappers then killed Helle and buried her body in a snowbank.

The kidnappers were two men named William and Randall Cook. William Cook was a car salesman who had met Helle Crafts at a bar. He had become obsessed with her and had decided to kidnap her and her unborn child. Randall Cook was William's brother, and he had agreed to help him with the kidnapping. The Cooks were not professional criminals, and they made a number of mistakes during the kidnapping. They did not wear masks, and they left behind a number of clues that led police to them. The Cooks were arrested within days of the kidnapping, and they were both convicted of murder and kidnapping.

Helle Crafts' body was never found. Her husband, Scott, never recovered from the loss of his wife and child. He died of a heart attack in 2002.

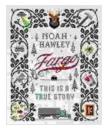
The Fargo case is a reminder that even the most ordinary people can be capable of great evil. The Cooks were not hardened criminals, but they were still able to commit a heinous crime. The case also shows the importance of following the clues and never giving up on a case.

The Coen Brothers' Fargo

The Coen Brothers' Fargo is a masterful crime film. The film is suspenseful, darkly humorous, and ultimately moving. The Coens have created a film that is both entertaining and thought-provoking.

The film is set in Fargo, North Dakota, a small town with a big heart. The film follows the investigation of a kidnapping gone wrong. The police chief, Marge Gunderson, is a pregnant woman who is determined to solve the case.

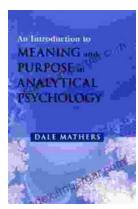
The Coens have created a cast of unforgettable characters. Marge Gunderson is a strong and determined woman who is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in. William and Randall Cook are two ordinary men who have gotten in over their heads. They are not hardened criminals, but they are still capable of great evil. Fargo is a film that will stay with you long after the credits have rolled. It is a suspenseful, darkly humorous, and ultimately moving story about the human condition.



Fargo: This Is a True Story by Noah Hawley

★ ★ ★ ★ ▲ 4.6 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 284933 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 448 pages





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