

FAQ 27

(11/29/06)

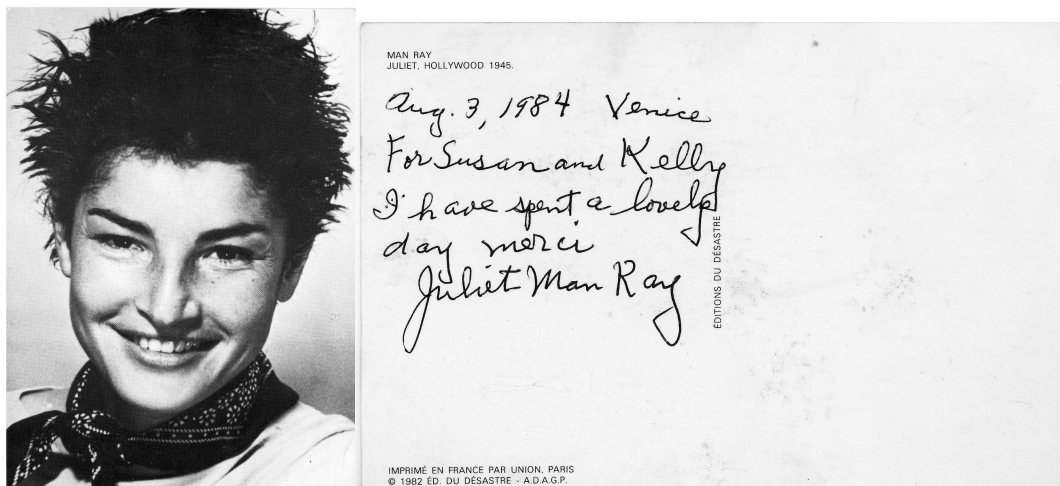
27.1

Q: Do you remember Man Ray? Did you personally have contact with either Man Ray or his wife Juliet after they left Hollywood in 1951?

My memories of Man Ray are vague. Nothing more than recalling seeing his face as one of my father's friends from the Franklin House days. I never saw Man Ray after 1950. I did meet Juliet Man Ray again, on one occasion at my mother's apartment in Santa Monica. Not sure of the year, but after Man Ray's death in 1976. Probably in the late Seventies. (My mother died in 1983)

In talking with my brother, Kelvin, I recently learned that Juliet Man Ray in 1984 paid him a visit at his home in Venice, California. Kelvin indicated that Juliet was curious about Venice as an art center and he gave her a day's tour of the local art galleries and environs.

While visiting my brother, Juliet "authenticated" one of the Man Ray photographs of our mother, and also gave Kelvin a postcard photograph of her, taken by Man Ray in 1946. (This photo is exactly how I remembered her from the Franklin House parties.) (See below)



Aug. 3, 1984 Venice

For Susan and Kelly
I have spent a lovely
day merci
Juliet Man Ray



I certify this photo
is an original Man Ray
Juliet Man Ray

(water damaged)

“I certify this photo is an original Man Ray”

Juliet Man Ray

27.2

Q: I hear that NEW LINE CINEMA is going to make your book into a film. Have they decided on what actors and director? Do you know when the film will be made? One website, in anticipation, is showing a running clock, literally counting the seconds. Their clock shows NEW LINE optioned your book three months ago. (See below)

Time elapsed since New Line Cinema bought the rights to "Black Dahlia Avenger."

Years:	Days:	Hours:	Mins:	Secs:
0	93	17	09	45

Yes, NEW LINE CINEMA is moving forward. Screenwriter, Ralph Pezzullo (a fellow MWA (Mystery Writer's of America) author/playwright/screenwriter (and in my opinion the perfect writer for this project) has begun adaptation of BDA from book-to-film.

See background info on Ralph at his website-- www.ralphpezzullo.com

As far as WHEN BDA will actually go "into production" is difficult to say. (As an extreme example, James Ellroy's fictional novel *Black Dahlia* was optioned in 1987, and production did not begin until 2004. It was 19 years in the making!)

Time elapsed since the Studio bought the rights and produced James Ellroy's "Black Dahlia" was:

Years:	Days:	Hours:	Mins:	Secs:
19	123	15	11	22

BOTH RALPH PEZZULLO AND I HAVE MET SEVERAL TIMES IN PAST WEEKS WITH CREATIVE EXECS AT *NEW LINE CINEMA* AND THEY ARE VERY EXCITED AND OPTIMISTIC. ONCE *NEW LINE CINEMA* RECEIVES RALPH'S ADAPTATION, THEY BELIEVE THAT CASTING WILL MOVE FORWARD QUICKLY AND IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT WE COULD SEE *BLACK DAHLIA AVENGER* ON THE BIG SCREEN SOMETIME IN-- 2008!

27.3

Q: Is it true that bags were found near where Elizabeth's body was found and are believed to be connected to the crime?

Yes. I have enlarged them in the below crime scene photograph. Two large paper cement bags were left at the scene. One a few feet to the northwest of the upper torso and the second, slightly further to the northeast. Police surmised that the suspect used these in transporting the two bisected halves of the body in his vehicle. [Likely placed on top of the bags to keep blood off the car seat, and for easier transport.]

During my families occupancy at the Franklin House [1945-1950] a Mayan temple-like structure, constructed entirely from the making of large cement blocks. Many of these cement bags, similar to the ones seen below at the crime-scene, could be found in our basement. (Workers and day laborers were regularly reinforcing the home's cement foundations.) LAPD in a 1947-1950 Dahlia File "Memo" mention Dr. Hodel as a suspect in the suspicious 1945 overdosing of his secretary, Ruth Spaulding, and make further reference to him as a Black Dahlia suspect and make an unknown reference to ongoing "construction in the basement of his residence."



Cement bags found at crime scene similar to ones known to be left in basement of Dr. George Hodel's Franklin House residence

2009 UPDATE-

This observation written in November 2006 was speculative on my part. Two years later, in October, 2008, that speculation became FACT with the discovery on the Lloyd Wright-Hodel papers at UCLA Special Collections Library. SEE FAQ 75 for that important linkage. Also, see Mark Nelson's detailed summary on the importance of the cement sacks at his website. Here is Mark's link. [George Hodel Cement sacks](#)

27.4

Q: You mention that you have actual photographs of burn marks inflicted during the sadistic assault of Elizabeth Short. Yet, other Dahlia researchers of long standing, like John Gilmore and Larry Harnisch in their interviews and on their websites claim that “the burn marks are a myth and do not exist.” Who is telling the truth?

I have answered this question in the past, but keep getting new ones requesting to see the actual photograph. I published the photograph in my latest reprinting of BDA in the section on forensics. I have been reluctant to show it on line due to the shock value and out of respect to the family.

However, I have now decided that the public's desire and right to know the truth should be my foremost consideration, and since the photograph is published in my book, I will display it here, so there will no longer be any question or doubt.

Larry Harnisch, John Gilmore, and all the rest of the “Dahlia theorists” who so adamantly make claim that “Elizabeth Short's body contained no cigarette burns—and that it is simply part of the Dahlia myth and lore”—ARE MISINFORMED. Their inaccuracies can be excused since they come from a place of ignorance of the true facts. [NB: I suspect that even today's LAPD, including detective Brian Carr, were, also unaware of the burn marks, until the 2006 publication of my photograph. I suspect that they may not be in possession of the photograph and that it, like most of the evidence and critical photographs, have also, “disappeared.” My reason for this suspicion is that Brian Carr, a good friend of Larry Harnisch, had he actually known the truth of the cigarette burn marks, would not have allowed Harnisch to misstate it publicly as “being a myth.”

However, in my post-publication investigation, which ultimately forced open the locked safe at the DA's office, we discover quite a different scenario. In 1949, LAPD and the DA's investigators DID KNOW and perjured themselves before the grand jury. In my copying and reading of the SECRET DA FILES, we discover that both the DA and LAPD deliberately lied to the 1949 Grand Jury—and informed them in writing, in their formal report, that “no burn marks were found on the body of victim Elizabeth Short.” [See BDA pages 549-554 for complete explanation] [NB: For those who might suggest that, “it wasn't perjury, but rather simply LAPD's desire to keep it one of the secret questions,” I would answer- It doesn't work that way. You withhold the information, but you do not present the opposite facts in a sworn document. That is subornation of perjury! A felony!]

NB: At my request, D.P. Lyle, M.D., examined the autopsy photographs and provided the following opinion: “The lesions high on her back appear to be moles and the lesions on her mid-back are most likely traumatic in nature. They appear to be cigarette burns, which are partially healed. They could be only hours old but more likely are 1 to 3 days old, since they seem to display some degree of healing in the central portion of each.”

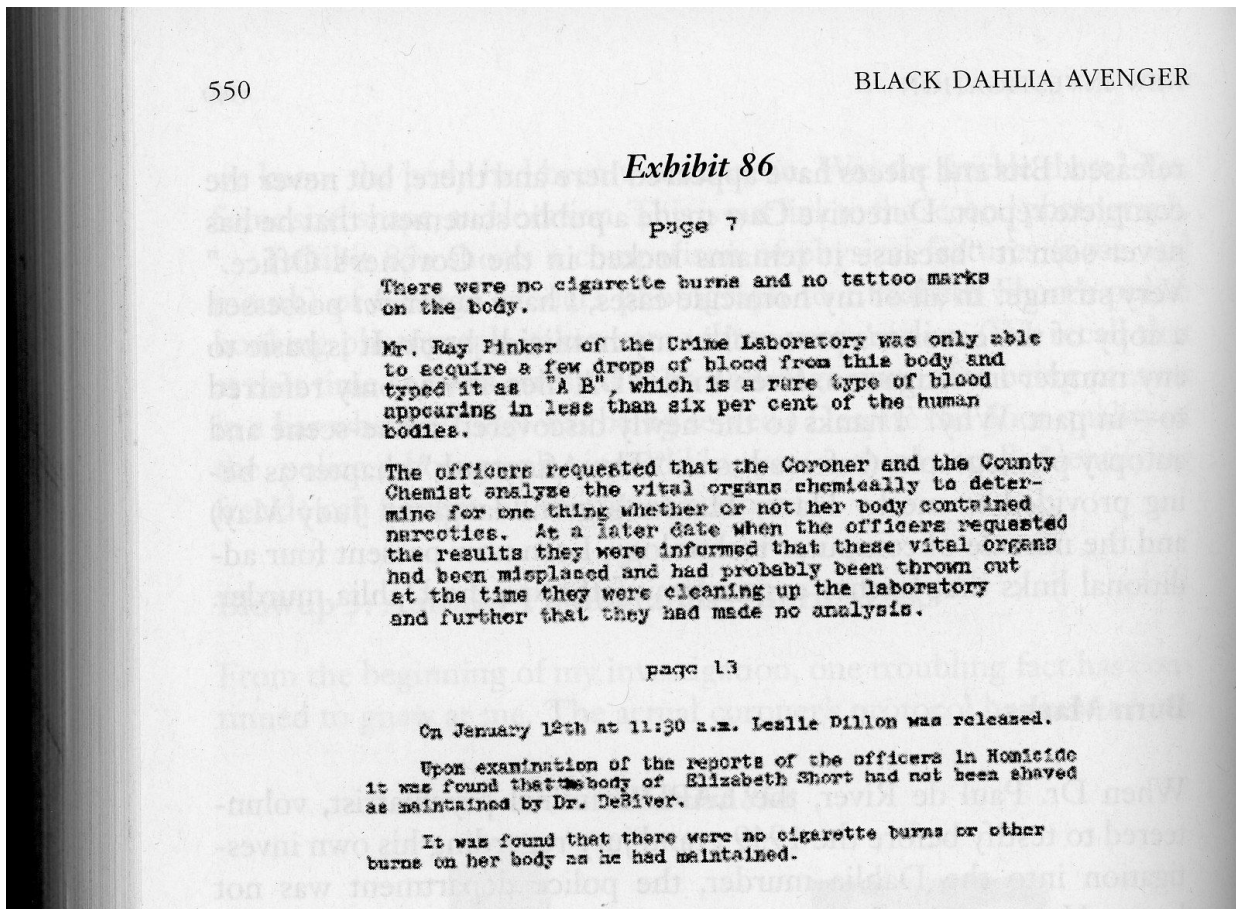
Dr. Lyle is a practicing cardiologist, as well as a nationally respected forensics expert and a mystery writer. A consultant for *CSI*, he has written numerous books on forensics, his latest being *Forensics for Dummies* (2004).



Ligature marks clearly visible on neck. [Victim was strangled, but not "to death". Cause of death was contributed to, "blunt force trauma to head, shock, and blood loss."]

NB: the numbers seen in the upper left photograph relate to identifying mole marks, and are not burns. According to an LAPD document found in the DA FILE the scar seen below the burn marks, "is an operational scar 3 ½" in length...such as made for deflating a lung in T.B." (Elizabeth was known to have had a surgical operation believed related to a lung problem, possibly, emphysema.)

Exhibit 86 from BDA



Above exhibit 86 is an actual scanned copy from the DA FILES and shows two separate extracts from their typed report to the 1949 Grand Jury (pages 7 & 13) where they indicated there were "no burn marks to the body."

Also, note that no tissue analysis for drugging could be made because "tissue samples were accidentally thrown out."

The comment that the "body had not been shaved" is also inaccurate. Some (not all) public hair had been shaved off and inserted in the victim's private parts.