

## TRUE CRIME BOOKS BY STEVE HODEL IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

### Black Dahlia Avenger: A Genius for Murder HB ed. (Arcade 2003)

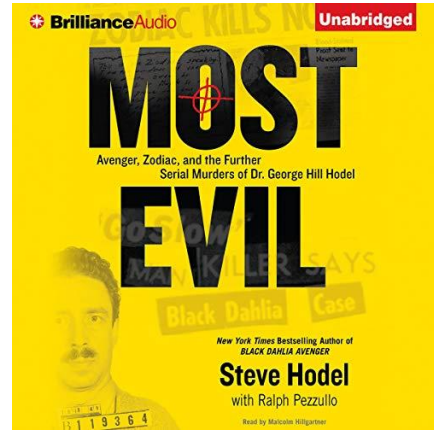
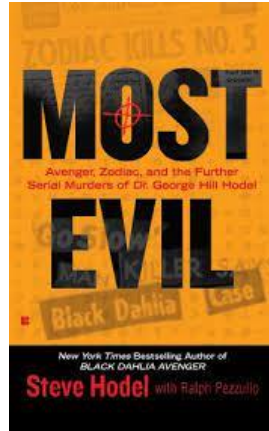
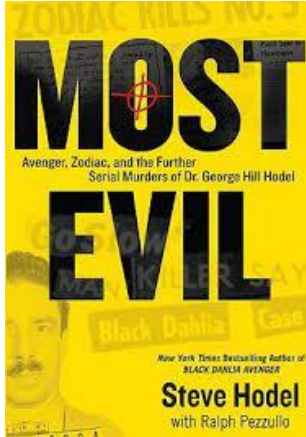
2003-2015



**Original hardback publication by Arcade Publishers 2003**  
**Numerous new chapters/evidence Skyhorse paperback 2015**  
(also available as eBook and Audiobook)

Released in April 2003, it provided extensive biographical background on George Hill Hodel and the author's family relationships along with initial evidence leading to then active Head Deputy District Attorney Stephen Kay's finding of "Case Solved."

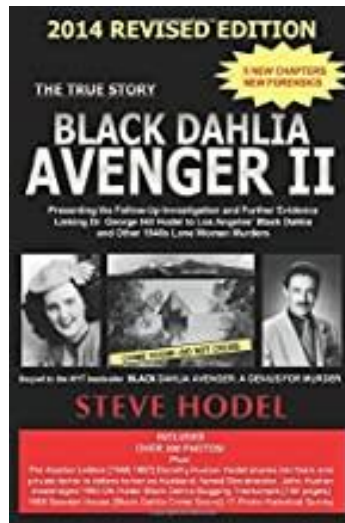
2009



Dutton HB 2009    Paperback & eBook    Audio by Malcolm Hillgartner  
(also available as eBook and Audio)

In *Most Evil*, Steve Hodel compiles never-before-seen visual, circumstantial, and forensic evidence to make the case that his father was a prolific serial killer whose signature is visible not in any single method of murder, type of victim, or specific killing ground, but rather as a series of complex arrangements, installations, and obscure references to art, culture, and film that, taken together, reveal a chilling and never-before-documented variety of serial murder: murder as a fine art.

2014



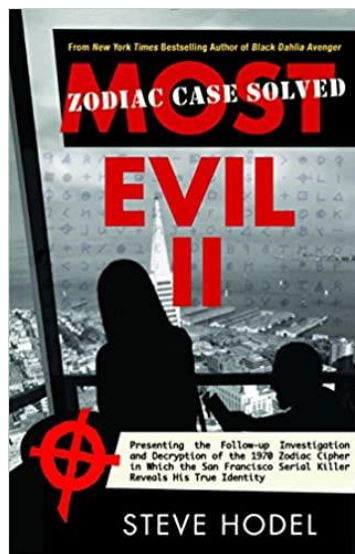
Thoughtprint Press (2014)

***Black Dahlia Avenger II: Presenting the Follow-up Investigation and Further Evidence Linking Dr. George Hill Hodel to Los Angeles Black Dahlia and Other 1940s Lone Woman Murders***

In this supplemental investigation, the author exposes the Black Dahlia Murder's Three Greatest Urban Myths: Myth No. 1— "It was a standalone murder." Myth No. 2— "There was a 'Missing or Lost Week'" Myth No. 3— "The case was never solved." Additional new investigative findings: The obtaining of the killer's full DNA PROFILE which can now be made available for law enforcement testing and comparison to multiple Cold Case unsolved crimes. Discovery of the Hollywood residence where the BLACK DAHLIA MURDER was committed along with physical evidence connecting the killer to the house and to the vacant lot where he later transported and posed the victim's body. Identification of "The Baron," George Hodel's house guest, and an accomplice overheard and tape-recorded by detectives discussing "crimes and payoffs" on the 1950

DA/LAPD bugging tapes. New expert medical testimony and evidence photos proving— "A Doctor Did It." Complete original and unabridged 1950 DA-Hodel Black Dahlia Bugging Transcripts. [146 pages.] THE HUSTON LETTERS- Personal correspondence between famed film director John Huston and his ex-wife, Dorothy Huston Hodel [the author's mother], covering the years 1948-1957. In these private letters, Dorothy shared with John the day-to-day personal fear and terror she was experiencing living with George Hodel, as the doctor threatened her and the children with physical harm in the months just before he fled the country. A World-Class Surrealist Photographer reveals his first-hand knowledge of the murders. Over 300 photographs and crime exhibits, including the 1969 Sowden House 17-Photo Historical Survey.

**2015**



**Rare Bird Books (2015)**

*Most Evil II: Presenting the Follow-Up Investigation and Decryption of the 1970 Zodiac Cipher in which the San Francisco Serial Killer Reveals His True Identity.*

(also available as eBook and Audio)

This Steve Hodel's follow-up investigation (2009-2015) into his father's potential murders introduces new evidence and additional linkage he obtained over the past six years.

Included in that evidence is the solving of the Zodiac's forty-five-year cryptic cipher, which gives us the answer to the question asked in *Most Evil*, "Were Black Dahlia Avenger and Zodiac the same serial killer?"

The solution of that cipher provides us with the name of San Francisco's most infamous serial killer. However, it is not presented as just another "theory" from some armchair detective, or even from the author himself, a highly respected, veteran LAPD homicide detective. *Instead, the solution comes from the killer's own mouth, written in his own hand--it is Zodiac's personally signed confession!*

**2018**



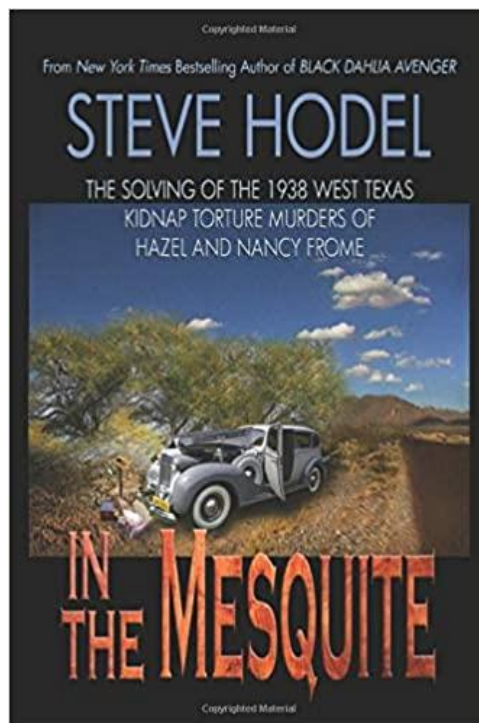
**Rare Bird Books (2018)**

*Black Dahlia Avenger III: Murder as a Fine Art: Presenting the Further Evidence Linking Dr. George Hill Hodel to the Black Dahlia and Other Lone Woman Murders*

In BDA III bestselling, author and veteran LAPD homicide detective Steve Hodel presents his four-year follow-up investigation into Los Angeles's 1947 Black Dahlia murder and other serially connected 1940s Lone Woman Murders.

This edition includes ten new chapters with all new evidence and forensics further linking his father, Dr. George Hill Hodel, to the 1947 Black Dahlia Murder, as well as the 1945 Chicago Lipstick Murders, the Manila "Jigsaw Murder," and the 1969 San Francisco Bay Area "Zodiac" murders. *Black Dahlia Avenger II* (2018) is the sequel to the 2003 *New York Times* Bestseller and Edgar-award winning *Black Dahlia Avenger*, and it raises the investigative bar from rock-solid to beyond a reasonable doubt—the legal requirement for readers to arrive at a finding of GUILTY.

**2019**



Thoughtprint Press (2019)

***In The Mesquite: The Solving of the 1938 West Texas Kidnap Torture Murders of Hazel and Nancy Frome.***

The solving of the 1938 kidnap torture murders of Nancy and Hazel Frome. Known as the "Mesquite Murders," it is considered by Texas Rangers as one of the most famous unsolved in West Texas history. Retired LAPD Homicide Detective III, Steve Hodel, brings over 50 years of law enforcement, homicide, and private investigative experience to bear on what the Texas Rangers said, "Remains the biggest unsolved mystery in the American Southwest."

April 1938—The breaking story started slow, announcing that a mother and daughter, traveling in their touring car, cross country from California to the East Coast, "were missing on a West Texas highway." Within days came a second announcement cautioning that "foul play was suspected." Next, their abandoned car was found, and on the fifth day of the search, the nation's worst fears were realized.

August—2019—Eighty-one years later, in what can be considered one of the nation's coldest cold cases, IN THE MESQUITE carefully reconstructs the chronology of the double-homicide based on original law enforcement documents, newspaper reportage, and eye-witness accounts.

As silent passengers in the back seat of Hazel and Nancy Frames' brand new 1937 Silver Packard, Series-Eight 7-seater touring car, we ride along on their journey from California to visit their daughter and sister and family on the East Coast.

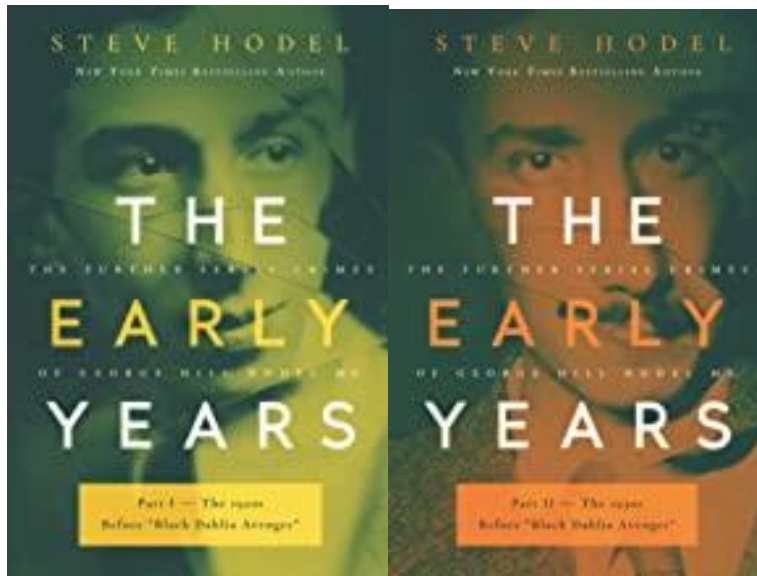
The identification and naming of the mother and daughter's sadistic killer(s) and the evidence presented offering the solution will satisfy both sense and reason— "Beyond a Reasonable Doubt."

The author, a highly-skilled former homicide detective and a New York Times bestselling author provides his readers with the answer to the

three basic requirements needed to solve this crime: —the MOM: the killer's Motive, his Opportunity, and his Means.

**2021**

(Thoughtprint Press 2021)



1920s

1930s

TWENTY YEARS BEFORE SHOCKING THE WORLD IN LOS ANGELES IN 1947 AS "THE BLACK DAHLIA AVENGER," DID GEORGE HODEL TERRORIZE CALIFORNIA BY COMMITTING SOME OF ITS MOST INFAMOUS CRIMES AND SERIAL MURDERS?

From the Introduction:

In writing George Hill Hodel: "The Early Years," my original intent was to present all my father's suspected crimes from the 1920s and 1930s in one edition. I have found this is simply not possible as it would require a book that would dwarf Dostoevsky's nearly seven-hundred-page opus, *Crime and Punishment*. Therefore, I will present "The Early Years" in two parts, two editions. This edition is Part I and presents my investigations of his suspected crimes in the 1920s. Note that I said,

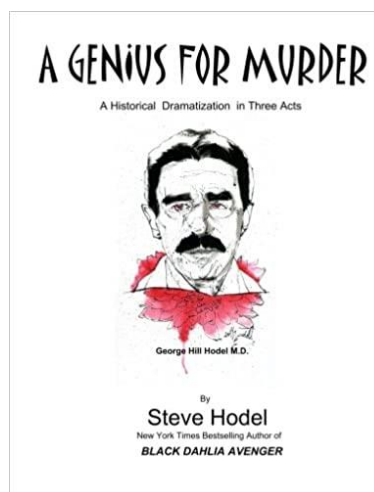


"suspected crimes." I want to be crystal clear on this point. My two-part "Early Years" investigations are just that—a search out of for the truth. In the presentation of these crimes from the long ago (the first one goes back one hundred years), I make no claim to a "solution." I am not saying that my father, George Hill Hodel, committed any of these crimes beyond a "Reasonable Doubt"—which would be the legal requirement to find him guilty. Several of these crimes, without the introduction of hard physical evidence, or DNA, are not solvable. Others have been claimed "solved" by law enforcement and are considered "Case Closed."

To be clear. These crimes from the Twenties and Thirties did not present themselves to me post-Black Dahlia Avenger published in 2003. I was aware of them and his possible involvement in them as early as the year 2000, a full three years before I presented my father to the world as the killer of Elizabeth "Black Dahlia" Short and the other LA Lone Woman Murders.

## Miscellaneous Author Publications

**2013**



Thoughtprint Press (2013)

*Genius for Murder: A Play in Three Acts* is a dramatization of 1940s Hollywood Noir.

The play is a Hollywood Confidential, based on real people and real events taken from the actual newspapers, secret police files, recorded transcripts, and courtroom documents of that day.

It centers on a five-year timeline (1945-1950) in the life of Dr. George Hill Hodel, then Head Venereal Disease Control Officer for the Los Angeles Health Department and a "prime suspect" in a series of LA Lone Woman Murders, the most infamous being the 1947 torture-surgical-murder of twenty-two-year-old, Elizabeth "Black Dahlia" Short.

Did George Hodel commit these sadistic murders?

Or, because of his skill as a surgeon, was he just rounded up as "one of the usual suspects?"

As a member of the seated jury, you will be asked to weigh the evidence and then vote your mind at the close of Act III.

George Hodel, an LA born native, was a sophisticate and bon vivant extraordinaire. Possessed of a high-genius IQ, he was a member of Hollywood's inner circle of the rich and famous. His personal friends were an eclectic group of actors, artists, and writers who make up the play's cast.

We meet and party with George's beautiful wife, Dorero, a screenwriter recently divorced from George's longtime friend, famed film director John Huston. We are introduced to George's inner circle of Avant-Garde intimates such as the surreal photographer, Man Ray, and his wife and muse, Juliet.

We drink and philosophize with writer and fellow Dadaist Henry Miller, along with George's confidant, the mysterious German Baron, Ernst von Harringa.

As a historical drama, the play takes us back to relive and rediscover the noir-underbelly of Los Angeles as a—City of Angles. Then, corrupt police and politics ruled the day. City Hall was surrounded by Machiavellian princes, all with their long knives drawn. Yet, nothing was as it appeared.

The play was written by Steve Hodel, the son of Dr. George Hill Hodel.

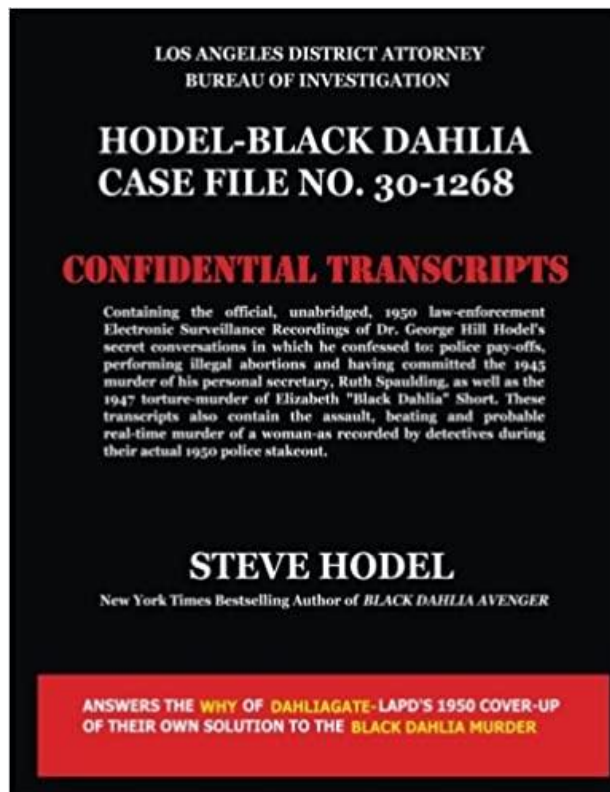
Steve is a retired LAPD homicide detective and the New York Times bestselling author of *Black Dahlia Avenger*. (HarperCollins 2006-Skyhorse e-book 2012)

"George Hodel, I think, is fit company for some of Noir's most civilized villains--like Waldo Lydecker in "Laura," Harry Lime in "The Third Man" or even Noah Cross in "Chinatown," the man who (thanks to the screenwriter, Robert Towne) warned us, "Most people never have to face the fact that at the right time and right place, they're capable of, anything." And what had Cross done? Rape his daughter and his city and lived into old age."

David Thomson *New York Times Book Review*  
excerpt on *Black Dahlia Avenger*

2014

***Hodel-Black Dahlia Case File No. 30-1268: Official 1950 Law Enforcement Transcripts of Stake-Out and Electronic Recordings of Black Dahlia Murder Confession made by Dr. George Hill Hodel***



(Thoughtprint Press 2014)

LADA Bureau of Investigation Hodel-Black Dahlia Case File No. 30-1268 contains the official unabridged transcripts of the 1950 electronic surveillance stakeout by a joint task force from the LADA Bureau of Investigation and LAPD's homicide detectives.

The wire-recordings capture Dr. George Hill Hodel's secret conversations in which he confessed to police payoffs, performing illegal abortions and

admissions to having committed the 1945 murder of his personal secretary, Ruth Spaulding, as well as the 1947 torture-murder of Elizabeth "Black Dahlia" Short.

These transcripts also contain the assault, beating, and probable real-time murder of a woman as recorded by detectives during their actual 1950 police stakeout.

The on-duty detectives listen in as their prime-suspect, Dr. George Hill Hodel, accompanied by a second man, Baron Ernst Harringa, go downstairs to the residence basement. Detectives listen in and hear sounds of a pipe striking an object, "A woman screams" more blows, "a woman screams again," then silence.

Though only minutes away from the residence, the officers TAKE NO ACTION.

This is the "smoking gun" that law enforcement cannot allow to be made public. The police and political powers that be—make their decision.

The transcripts are sealed and locked away for fifty-four years. As a result, they are not discovered until the publication of *Black Dahlia Avenger*, which opens the locked files at the LA District Attorney's Office and ultimately results in these transcripts being made public.

In addition to the original 146-page transcripts of the DA/LAPD forty-day stakeout, the book contains a chapter originally published in *Black Dahlia Avenger II* (the author's follow-up investigation 2006-2012) providing background and biographical information on the two law-enforcement heroes of this real-life investigation—DA Lt. Frank Jemison and his partner, DA investigator Walter Morgan.

Also included is Lt. Frank Jemison's original six-page transcribed interview on March 22, 1950, with Dr. George Hill Hodel's ex-wife, Dorothy Huston Hodel (author's mother and former wife of famed film director, John Huston).

During this interview, conducted at her apartment on the Santa Monica pier, Dorothy stonewalls Lt. Jemison's attempts at getting to the truth and the following day alerts Dr. Hodel to the evidence that the DA's investigators have accumulated.

Dr. George Hill Hodel, after receiving this information and realizing he is about to be arrested—flees the country just four days later.

"We identified the Black Dahlia suspect. He was a doctor."

**William H. Parker, LAPD Chief of Police "**

"The Black Dahlia case was solved. He was a doctor who lived on Franklin Avenue in Hollywood."

**Thad Brown, LAPD Chief of Detectives**

"The Black Dahlia case was solved, but it will never come out. The suspect was a doctor they [LAPD] all knew in Hollywood, involved in abortions."

**James Downey, Undersheriff, LASD**

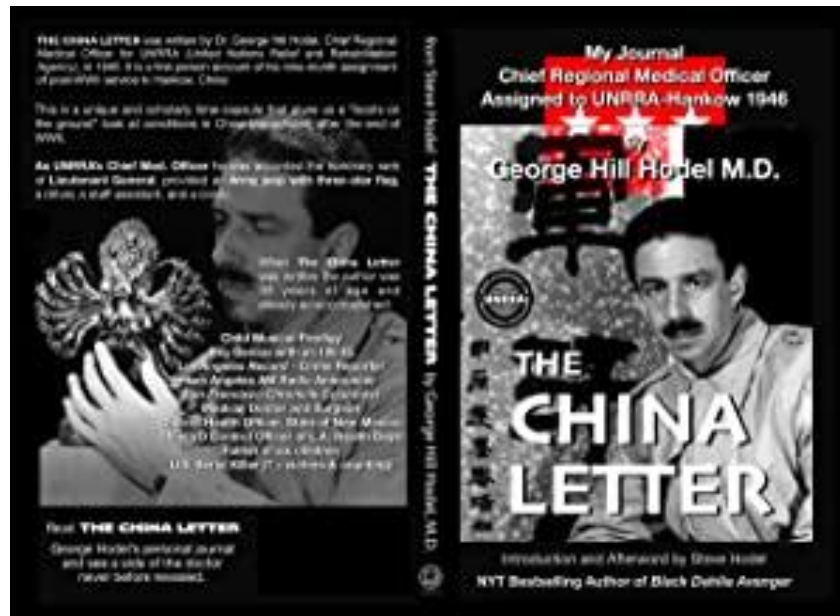
"We know who the Black Dahlia killer was. He was a doctor [George Hodel], but we didn't have enough to put him away."

**Lt. Frank Jemison, LADA Bureau of Investigation**

2020

**THE CHINA LETTER**

***By Dr. George Hill Hodel/Edited by Steve Hodel***



Thoughtprint Press (2020)

THE CHINA LETTER was written by Dr. George Hill Hodel, Chief Regional Medical Officer for UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency), in 1946. It is a first-person account of his nine-month assignment of post-WWII service to Hankow, China. This is a unique and scholarly time-capsule that gives us a "boots on the ground" look at conditions in China immediately after the end of WWII. As UNRRA's Chief Medical Officer, he was accorded the honorary rank of Lieutenant General, provided an Army jeep with a three-star flag, a driver, a staff assistant, and a cook.