

**Chapter 1 : The Deadly Tower (TV Movie ) - IMDb**

*Charles Joseph Whitman (June 24, - August 1, ) was an American mass murderer who became infamous as the "Texas Tower Sniper." On August 1, , he used knives in the slayings of his mother and his wife in their respective homes and then went to the University of Texas in Austin with multiple firearms and began shooting people.*

Hodges and Charles Adolphus "C. In , he married Margaret, then 17 years old. He was known to physically and emotionally abuse his wife and children. The Whitman brothers regularly attended Mass with their mother, and all three brothers served as altar boys at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. He regularly took them on hunting trips, and Charles became an avid hunter and accomplished marksman. His father said of him: Whitman told a family friend that the catalyst was an incident a month earlier, in which his father had beaten him and thrown him into the family swimming pool because Whitman had come home drunk. His father still did not know he had enlisted. He achieved of possible points on marksmanship tests, doing well when shooting rapidly over long distances as well as at moving targets. After completing his assignment, Whitman applied to a U. Navy and Marine Corps scholarship program, intending to complete college and become a commissioned officer. He was initially a poor student. His hobbies included karate, scuba diving , gambling, and hunting. On one occasion in , as Whitman and a fellow student named Francis Schuck Jr. They courted for five months before announcing their engagement on July Leduc, a Whitman family friend, presided over the ceremony. He was ordered to active duty in February [25] and went to Camp Lejeune , North Carolina , for the remainder of his five-year enlistment. At Camp Lejeune, he was hospitalized for four days [27] after single-handedly freeing another marine by lifting a Jeep which had rolled over an embankment. Sentenced to 30 days of confinement and 90 days of hard labor, he was demoted from lance corporal E-3 to private E He also wrote about his upcoming court martial and contempt for the Marine Corps, criticizing them for inefficiencies. In his writings about his wife, Whitman often praised her and expressed his longing to be with her. He also wrote about his efforts and plans to free himself from financial dependence on his father. He returned to the University of Texas at Austin, enrolling in the architectural engineering program. To support Kathy and himself, he worked as a bill collector for the Standard Finance Company. Later, he worked as a bank teller at the Austin National Bank. Whitman was reportedly so afraid that his father would resort to violence against his mother as she prepared to leave, he summoned a local policeman to remain outside the house while his mother packed her belongings. Whitman went up to the observation deck and fired upon people at ground level. The day before the shootings, Whitman bought a pair of binoculars and a knife from a hardware store, and some Spam from a 7-Eleven convenience store. He picked up his wife from her summer job as a telephone operator before he met his mother for lunch at the Wyatt Cafeteria, which was close to the university. I do not quite understand what it is that compels me to type this letter. Perhaps it is to leave some vague reason for the actions I have recently performed. I do not really understand myself these days. I am supposed to be an average reasonable and intelligent young man. However, lately I cannot recall when it started I have been a victim of many unusual and irrational thoughts. These thoughts constantly recur, and it requires a tremendous mental effort to concentrate on useful and progressive tasks. He also wrote that he had decided to kill both his mother and wife. Expressing uncertainty about his reasons, he nonetheless stated he did not believe his mother had "ever enjoyed life as she is entitled to," [39] and that his wife had "been as fine a wife to me as any man could ever hope to have. He did not mention planning the attack at the university. After killing his mother, he placed her body on her bed and covered it with sheets. To Whom It May Concern: I am very upset over having done it. However, I feel that if there is a heaven she is definitely there now [ He covered her body with sheets, then resumed the typewritten note he had begun the previous evening. I imagine it appears that I brutally killed both of my loved ones. I was only trying to do a quick thorough job [ Maybe research can prevent further tragedies of this type [ Tell them Kathy loved "Schocie" very much [ He added on the outside of the envelope: I never could quite make it. These thoughts are too much for me. University of Texas tower shooting The tower observation deck At approximately He falsely identified himself as a research assistant and told a security guard he was there to deliver equipment. Investigating officers found that

Whitman had visited several University doctors in the year before the shootings; they prescribed various medications for him. Whitman had seen a minimum of five doctors between the fall and winter of , before he visited a psychiatrist from whom he received no prescription. At some other time he was prescribed Valium by Dr. Jan Cochrum, who recommended he visit the campus psychiatrist. After one visit, I never saw the Doctor again, and since then have been fighting my mental turmoil alone, and seemingly to no avail. However, an autopsy had been requested in the suicide notes left by Whitman and was then approved by his father. Chenar a neuropathologist at Austin State Hospital at the funeral home. Urine and blood were removed to test for traces of amphetamines or other substances. These findings were later revised by the Connally Commission: The commission was composed of neurosurgeons , psychiatrists , pathologists , psychologists , and the University of Texas Health Center Directors, John White and Maurice Heatly. Since he was a military veteran, Whitman was buried with military honors; his casket was draped with the American flag.

Chapter 2 : Steam Workshop :: Sniper in The Tower

*A Sniper in the Tower: The Charles Whitman Murders [Gary M. Lavergne] on blog.quintoapp.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. On August 1, , Charles Whitman ascended the University of Texas Tower and committed what was then the largest simultaneous mass murder in American history.*

For the next ninety-six minutes he methodically gunned down forty-five strangers, killing fourteen. But as shocking as the rampage that made world headlines -- and the murders of his wife and mother the night before -- was the smiling photograph on the front page: A bewildered nation asked: How could this golden boy be a mass murderer? At last we have an answer. An emotional and exclusive interview with Claire Wilson James and Gary Lavergne about finding the youngest of the Sniper victims: [Click here](#) or on the image to watch this heartwarming interview. [Click here](#) to watch a CBS Austin exclusive. *Sniper in the Tower: The Charles Whitman Murders*, published by the University of North Texas Press in , has since appeared in paperback, mass market paperback and Kindle editions. We sat down with the unassuming Lavergne--by day, the UT head of admissions research, and the author of three other successful books--in his office on the ground floor of the Tower. [Click here](#) or on the image to read this powerful interview. [Click here](#) or on the image to read this great article. Monday marks 50 years since the first US mass shooting of the modern era. It also brings a controversial gun law to campuses across the Lone Star State. [Click here](#) or on the image to read this unique British perspective. [Click here](#) or on the image to listen to this fascinating interview. Gary Lavergne was a year-old kid in August of Laverignes father was a police officer and he remembers his dads reaction to the Tower shooting. [Click here](#) or on the image to listen to this extended minute interview. The limited hardcover edition sold out in ten days. The only edition currently available is the UNT Press trade paperback edition. Copies can be purchased through Amazon. Any bookstore can order the trade paperback edition. Just ask for ISBN It may still be available online or some bookstores, but the edition is sold out and out of print. Top Ten Small Presses Book for Top Ten Books of !

**Chapter 3 : University Of Texas Tower Sniper Recalled - CBS News**

*A Sniper in the Tower: The Charles Whitman Murders by Gary M. Lavergne On August 1, , Charles Whitman ascended the University of Texas Tower and committed what was then the largest simultaneous mass murder in American history.*

See Article History Alternative Title: University of Texas clock tower shooting Texas Tower shooting of , also called University of Texas clock tower shooting, mass shooting in Austin , Texas , on August 1, , in which Charles Whitman , a student and ex- Marine , fired down from the clock tower on the campus of the University of Texas , killing 14 people and wounding 31 others one of whom died years later from complications related to his wounds. Earlier in the day, Whitman had killed his wife and mother. Mass murder defined Although there is no universally agreed upon definition of mass murder, it is distinguished from serial murder by its several victims being killed at the same time and place, whereas serial murder involves the unlawful homicide of at least two victims carried out in a series over a period of time. Just weeks before the event in Austin, Richard Speck killed eight female nursing students in a Chicago town house. What set the Texas Tower shooting apart was the instantaneousness of its coverage on radio and television by reporters on the scene who described the events as they happened. The shooter Charles Joseph Whitman the inclusion of his middle name in much of the reporting from the period echoed earlier references to John F. The older Whitman, a fervid gun lover, did, however, take great pride in the precocious expert marksmanship of his eldest son, who was taught from a very early age how to shoot. AP Images Whitman, like his mother who was physically abused by her husband , suffered greatly under his domineering, explosive father. Anxious to get away from him, Whitmanâ€”who had a high IQ but a checkered academic record in high schoolâ€”chose as his escape route not college but the Marines , in which he enlisted in July There he distinguished himself enough to earn a military scholarship to study mechanical engineering at the University of Texas while still on active duty, matriculating in September In Austin he met and married August another student, Kathleen Leissner. Discharged from the Marines in December , he returned to the University of Texas in , this time to study architectural engineering. Meanwhile, Whitman was suffering from feelings of rage, confusion, and violent impulses, which he documented exhaustively in writing. Having visited several university doctors in and been prescribed a variety of medications, in March Whitman expressed his concern during a visit to a psychiatrist at the university health center. He also complained of headaches an autopsy would reveal that he had a brain tumour about the size of pecan. The psychiatrist advised Whitman to return for further counseling. The shooting At 6: Among other things he wrote: I do not really understand myself these days. I am supposed to be an average reasonable and intelligent young man. However, lately I cannot recall when it started I have been a victim of many unusual and irrational thoughtsâ€”. After one session I never saw the Doctor again, and since then I have been fighting my mental turmoil alone, and seemingly to no avail. After my death I wish that an autopsy would be performed on me to see if there is any visible physical disorder. After noting that he planned to kill his wife, he wrote: Returning home, he killed his wife at about 3: Again he paused to document his actions, though he wrote nothing about the events to come. Later that morning, after expanding the small arsenal he had assembled by purchasing more guns and ammunition, Whitman loaded his weapons including an M-1 carbine, a hunting rifle, a sawed-off shotgun, several pistols, a machete, and knives , along with a bevy of other supplies food, bottled water, Dexedrine, Excedrin, deodorant, and a transistor radio among them , into a footlocker. Having dressed in coveralls to look like a workman, he took the footlocker to the landmark foot-meter- tall University of Texas clock tower building completed in , arriving at about Within some 15 minutes, Whitman had made his way to the reception room of the observation deck effectively the 28th floor , fatally bludgeoned the receptionist, and shot and killed two people and wounded two others who were climbing the steps from the 27th floor the last floor reachable by elevator. Having barricaded the door to the reception area, Whitman went out on the observation deck some feet 70 meters above the ground. After spreading guns throughout the deck, about 10 minutes before noon, he fired his first shot at the mall below, piercing the abdomen of a pregnant student and instantly killing her unborn baby. The next shot killed her boyfriend, as Whitman began raining bullets on an area the size of five city blocks. After killing or wounding a number of

others on the mall, Whitman trained his fire toward the businesses of distant Guadalupe Street, wounding or killing others as they innocently passed by or sought cover in fear. Alerted by a phone call only minutes after Whitman began shooting at the mall, police arrived quickly on the scene, and one of them became another victim, shot dead through a columned stone wall. As police began arriving in greater numbers, they were joined by private citizens many alerted by the on-the-scene radio report of the incident as it occurred who came armed with hunting rifles. Texas Tower shooting of The site of the Texas Tower shooting of , showing the locations of the victims when they were shot. It is important to remember that the law enforcement response to the shooting occurred in an era before the advent of rapid-response teams. Coordination between law enforcement branches was limited, as was the technology linking officers. Using stairs and the elevator, three police officers and an armed citizen the university bookstore manager , acting largely independently, found themselves together on the 27th floor. Without a plan or any real coordination, all four men took to the observation deck in a successful attempt to surround Whitman, enabling policemen Ramiro Martinez and Houston McCoy to shoot and kill Whitman. Excluding his wife and mother, he had killed 14 people including the unborn child and wounded another 31 one of whom would die some 30 years later after deciding to end the daily dialysis treatments necessitated by his wounds. The aftermath and legacy Texas Gov. The shooting had significant impact on police procedures nationally. Before the shooting, the Austin Police Department, like other departments throughout the United States, had no contingency plan for dealing with such an incident. In the wake of the Texas Tower shooting, Special Weapons and Tactics SWAT teams began to be created across the country, and they would come into play with the rise of mass shootings over the subsequent decades. Spelce, Neal; Texas Tower shooting of Neal Spelce, who reported live on the Texas Tower shooting of , describing the response to the event. On-the-scene media coverage of these events would also become standard and, according to some observers, would contribute, along with availability of guns, to the proliferation of mass killings in subsequent decades as, according to this argument, copycats sought the limelight. Tellingly, it is believed that Whitman listened to the account of the shooting as it unfolded on the transistor radio he had with him in the tower. Neal Spelce , the news director and anchor for KTBC, a combined radio and television station in Austin, was on the scene early the station was only blocks from the tower. Spelce, Neal; Texas Tower shooting of Neal Spelce, who reported live on the Texas Tower shooting of , describing how the event was presented on radio and television. It was closed again in following several suicides and did not reopen again until , when it could be visited only through guided tours. A bronze plaque embedded in a rock was added in

*A Sniper in the Tower has ratings and 49 reviews. Toni said: It has taken me years to read this book. I've had it for at least 10 years, and it's onl.*

Lavergne seems to struggle some, as most do, with what made Whitman act. Was he a sociopath suffering from major depression but saw treatment as a sign of weakness? Was he the vict This is an exhaustive study not only of the murders, but also of the personalities involved and how they were affected by theses tragic events. Was he the victim of abuse and emotional neglect as a youth? Was he affected by the brain tumor discovered during his autopsy? Did he just want to do it? Meanwhile, so many innocent victims, including the police officers who brought an end to the tragedy, were forever impacted. Ramiro Martinez and Houston McCoy bravely went to the tower and fired the shots that killed Whitman, only to endure a lifetime of controversy. Young couples were killed before their lives really began; several braved the shots to assist the wounded. Others were wounded or hid and survived in the searing heat of the Austin summer by remaining still until the events ended. Truly a great read on so many fronts and highly recommended for anyone interested in American history, Texas history, true crime or the growth and development of law enforcement. The timeline was interesting to me and must have taken many bits and pieces to weave together. I, too was there that day, an 18 year old incoming freshman on campus for orientation. One of the policemen he mentions said he was in the doorway of Batts auditorium and 2 bullets narrowly missed him. I had been about to leave the west facing door of Batts Hall This was a thoughtful, well researched account of the background leading up to the sniper shootings, as well as the actual day of the murders. I had been about to leave the west facing door of Batts Hall when a man in a dark blue uniform a policeman? It was a horrific and confusing time for everyone associated with the University and indeed the people of Texas. Also, I believe the University felt it was helpful to just get on with normal activity and not dwell on the terrible wounds that had been inflicted. I have recently read "Monday, Monday" by Elizabeth Crook, which is a fictionalized account involving the shootings. She also used the Texas Monthly publication on the 40th anniversary of the shootings. All three of these publications are well worth reading if you have an interest in the events of that day. I appreciate his efforts to get to the "facts" and acknowledge interviews and oral accounts when he used them. He presents an honest and unbiased overview without emotion. Many of the things he details were unknown to me or forgotten.

**Chapter 5 : University of Texas tower shooting - Wikipedia**

*"The Sniper in the tower shoots at enemy attackers. He's armed with a long-range rifle that deals good damage."*  
*Summary The Sniper Tower is the first defense to unlock in the game., The Sniper Tower is a long-range, single-target defense that deals medium damage.*

Confusion, terror as concertgoers flee The Las Vegas shooting rampage resembles the University of Texas tower tragedy Both shooters shot from elevated positions to inflict massive harm and remind Americans just how vulnerable we are to violence, writes Lavergne Gary M. Lavergne is the author of four books, including "A Sniper in the Tower: The Charles Whitman Murders," which tells the story of the University of Texas tower tragedy of The views expressed in this commentary are his own. CNN On August 1, , Charles Whitman ascended the iconic University of Texas tower and in 96 minutes fired rounds from a number of weapons upon an unsuspecting public. Whitman was eventually ambushed and killed by police officers. As a country, America had never seen such a public display of killing. There are a lot of troubled people out there, and they know exactly how to prey on our worst fears and make them a reality. Lavergne It is easy to draw parallels between the incidents in Austin in and Las Vegas in Both shooters shot from elevated positions to inflict maximum casualties. They did not appear to know any of the individuals they were killing below, and their only real concern was the murder of as many people as possible. In the end, the shooting only stopped when the shooters were killed, or in the case of Las Vegas, when the shooter killed himself. Read More Unlike the Las Vegas shooter, the tower sniper selected his victims -- one at a time. For most, he looked at them before he gunned them down. He was aware of how he would go down in history as quite a marksman, and he seemed determined to demonstrate that. The Las Vegas shooter, from an even higher vantage point, sprayed rounds from an automatic weapon into a crowd of thousands of concertgoers and could hardly have missed hitting many. In both cases, we want to believe there is an explanation for this kind of cruelty. But we should acknowledge the capacity that some people have to do evil things. A Whitman victim is carried across the campus to a waiting ambulance in Austin. And Whitman certainly had that capacity. While the opinion of those who knew Whitman varied greatly -- some referred to him as an "All-American boy," others considered him an abusive bully -- he was raised in a culture of abuse. His father saw nothing odd about mixing love and violence: Whitman became a frustrated young man, failing at nearly everything he tried, including being a student, a Marine and a faithful and dutiful husband. He decided he wanted to die, but die doing the only thing he could do better than almost everyone else -- shoot a gun. As decent people, we would rather not believe that creatures such as Whitman exist, but they do. And so, as decent people, we search for whatever it is that turns seemingly normal people into these murderous monsters. On that tragic day in , we were confronted with the reality that it was easily possible for a civilian to enter a public place and be better armed than the police department of a mid-sized city. Back then, many police officers wore finely-polished dress shoes with soft, slippery leather soles. Today, it is hard to imagine police officers with no communications gear, bulletproof vests, body cams or training in the tactical response to an active shooter. Often, we are surprised when their identities are revealed. That was true of the tower sniper and first reports are that it is likely true of the Las Vegas shooter. In the coming weeks, we are likely to engage in another round of attaching causes we care deeply about, like gun control, mental health access, injustices of all kinds and poor parenting, to this tragic event. Liberals will blame conservatives, and conservatives will blame liberals. But, in the end, we will still not know why these people do these evil things -- only that we remain vulnerable to these kinds of attacks.

### Chapter 6 : Memories of War: Sniper Tower in Mostar | Adrift Anywhere

*A Sniper in the Tower was first published in hardcover and trade paperback in April of by the University of North Texas Press. The limited hardcover edition sold out in ten days. The limited hardcover edition sold out in ten days.*

Police actions[ edit ] Some mistook the sound of shots for the noise from a nearby construction site, [9] or thought that persons falling to the ground were part of a theater group [23] or an anti-war protest. One victim recalled that as she lay bleeding a passerby reprimanded her and told her to "Get up. An armored car and ambulances from local funeral homes were used to reach the wounded. Whitman shot through the six-inch space between the columns of the wall and killed Speed. Officer Houston McCoy, 26, heard of the shooting on his radio. As he looked for a way into the tower, a student offered to help, saying he had a rifle at home. McCoy drove the student to his home to retrieve the rifle. Across the street he saw a year-old newspaper boy being dragged and went to break up what he thought was a fight. Having called the police station, he was instructed to go to the campus and direct traffic. Gabour; Day removed him. Martinez started up the stairs to the observation deck, and Crum insisted on covering him, asking Martinez to deputize him first. Mike Gabour gestured to the observation deck, saying: He told Crum to remain at the door. McCoy and Day reached the observation deck a few minutes later. Day, after helping M. Gabour, had returned to the 27th floor. He realized Martinez had gone up to the observation deck and told McCoy. At some point Crum accidentally fired his rifle. Martinez fired on Whitman with his revolver, missing, and McCoy hit Whitman twice with his shotgun. In the immediate aftermath, Martinez was nearly shot himself by those on the ground, who did not yet realize that Whitman was dead. The various bullet holes were repaired and the tower was reopened in It was closed again in following four suicides.

### Chapter 7 : A Sniper in the Tower: The Charles Whitman Murders - Gary M. Lavergne - Google Books

*A true crime classic, Gary M. Lavergne's book gives the most complete analysis of the man who climbed the tower at the University of Texas in and shot 45 people, besides killing his wife and mother the night before.*

### Chapter 8 : Texas Tower shooting of | Background, Chronology, Map, & Interview | blog.quintoapp.com

*Description. The Sniper wears a green cap with a commonly used sniper gun in other ROBLOX games. Its legs, torso, and cap are green. The Sniper can be useful to place early game, though it is effective up until mid game.*

### Chapter 9 : Sniper In the Tower by Gary M. Lavergne

*The first shots from the tower's outer deck came at approximately a.m. A history professor was the first to phone the Austin Police Department, after seeing several students shot in the South Mall gathering center; many others had dismissed the rifle reports, not realizing there was gunfire.*