



“With Titus and Ryan now awaiting trial on a murder charge, *Fire in the Desert* is the ultimate evidence guide to the most sensational Nevada court case in recent memory.”

**True Crime**

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# FIRE IN THE DESERT

## THE TRUE STORY OF THE CRAIG TITUS-KELLY RYAN MURDER MYSTERY

A luxury car is left burning in the desert outside of Las Vegas. What looks like just another insurance scam turns grim when firefighters make a grisly discovery: In the trunk of the burned Jaguar there's a body. A young woman . . . duct-taped over what's left of her face . . .

*Fire in the Desert* follows the real Las Vegas CSI as they unravel the mystery surrounding the dead woman, Melissa James . . . a murder investigation that leads straight to the door of Craig Titus and Kelly Ryan, the golden couple of the fitness world. James is their “personal assistant.” From the outside, Titus and Ryan seem to have it all. Titus is a nation-

ally known bodybuilder and Mr. Olympia competitor, and Ryan is a legend in the world of women's fitness and a guru to young champions. But what detectives find behind the image are three lives careening quickly out of control in a sordid reality of violence, videotaped sex, and hardcore drug addiction.

In *Fire in the Desert*, *Las Vegas Review-Journal* reporter Glenn Puit has gained access to never-before-seen witness statements and police records that will give true-crime readers the inside story behind the one of the most high-profile murder investigations in the files of the Las Vegas CSI.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Glenn Puit, 36, is an award-winning senior journalist with the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* newspaper. Puit was the first reporter in the nation to document the identity of John Doe #2 in the Oklahoma City bombing while working as a reporter in Florence, South Carolina.

Puit is the author of the December 2005 national true crime release, *Witch: The True Story of Las Vegas' Most Notorious Female Killer* (Berkley), which was received national acclaim and was recently featured in a literary section front in the *San Jose Mercury News*.

Puit currently lives in North Las Vegas with his wife, Tina, and two children, Garrison and Glenn Jr.



**GLENN PUIT**  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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[stephenspress.com](http://stephenspress.com)  
info@stephenspress.com