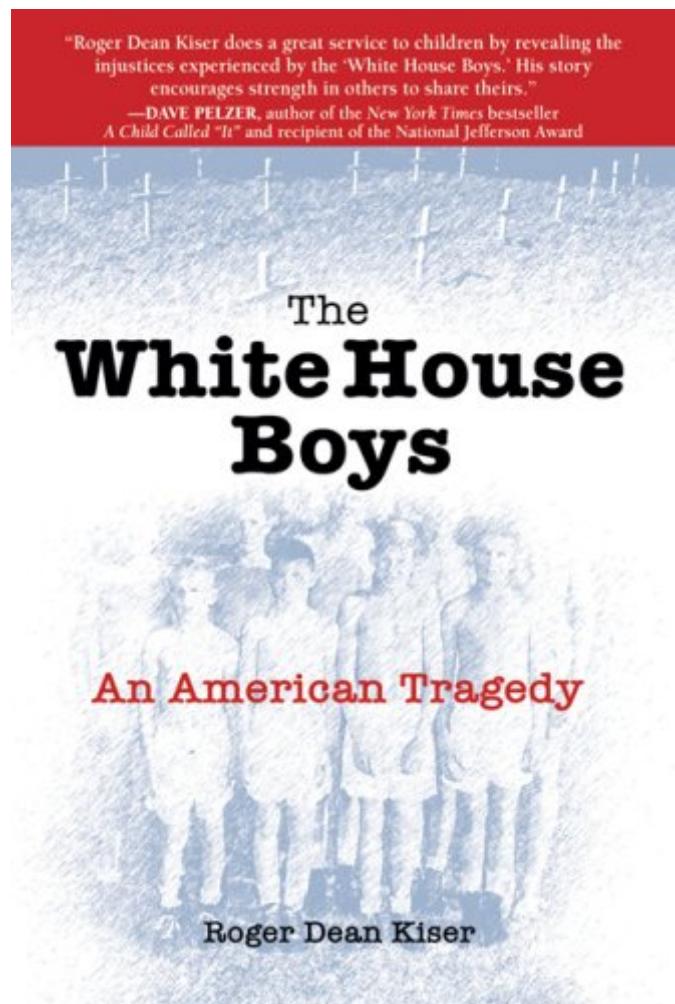


The book was found

The White House Boys: An American Tragedy



Synopsis

Hidden far from sight, deep in the thick underbrush of the North Florida woods are the ghostly graves of more than thirty unidentified bodies, some of which are thought to be children who were beaten to death at the old Florida Industrial School for Boys at Marianna. It is suspected that many more bodies will be found in the fields and swamplands surrounding the institution. Investigations into the unmarked graves have compelled many grown men to come forward and share their stories of the abuses they endured and the atrocities they witnessed in the 1950s and 1960s at the institution. The White House Boys: An American Tragedy is the true story of the horrors recalled by Roger Dean Kiser, one of the boys incarcerated at the facility in the late fifties for the crime of being a confused, unwanted, and wayward child. In a style reminiscent of the works of Mark Twain, Kiser recollects the horrifying verbal, sexual, and physical abuse he and other innocent young boys endured at the hands of their "caretakers." Questions remain unanswered and theories abound, but Roger and the other 'White House Boys' are determined to learn the truth and see justice served.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a must read. Like many folks I heard the news stories unfold since last fall with a mounting sense of horror and disbelief. The beatings, abuse, then the grizzly discovery of human remains and unmarked graves (unaccounted for and vastly greater in number than initial estimates). I listened with a stunned sense of incredulity that Gov. Scott and state officials were unwilling to exhume remains and seemingly unwilling to take any responsibility for the systematic and state sanctioned abuse and murder of children placed in the care of the state of Florida. This from NPR: "A few years ago, the state investigated and said it found no evidence that staff at the school had been responsible for any student deaths." [quoted from NPR org website, actual reference deleted in publication of review]. Like many people I felt outraged and helpless. There is no shortage of disturbing and horrifying news stories out there but this one struck me and would not leave my mind. This was not a story about foreign country thousands of miles away engaged in genocide, this is our country, and it did not happen that long ago. (Note: Due to mounting pressure from all sides on Aug 6, 2013 Gov. R Scott finally agreed to exhumation.) [see story from NPR org website, actual reference deleted in publication of review]. Furthermore, stories that started with statements like: "something went horribly awry at the FSB...now coming to light..." made me even angrier.

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