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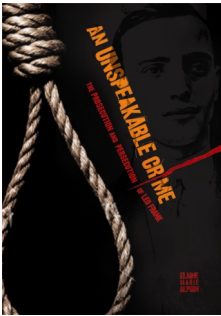
## ***An Unspeakable Crime* Puts the Fundamentals of Justice on Trial**

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***An Unspeakable Crime: The Prosecution and Persecution of Leo Frank***

Written by  
Elaine Marie Alphin  
\$22.95 Hardcover,  
Jacketed  
Ages 14–18  
978-0-8225-8944-0  
160 Pages  
7" x 10"

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Nearly 50 years after the Civil War ended, the murder of Mary Phagan highlights the continuing discord between North and South. The ensuing investigation and eventual arrest, trial, and lynching of Leo Frank have continued as a major landmark in 20<sup>th</sup> Century law. Written by Elaine Marie Alphin and published by Carolrhoda Books, a division of Learning Publishing Group, *An Unspeakable Crime: The Prosecution and Persecution of Leo Frank* recounts the compelling case of Mary Phagan’s murder and Leo Frank’s controversial trial, which led to the founding of the Anti-Defamation League and the unfortunate rebirth of the modern Ku Klux Klan.

Thirteen year-old Mary Phagan left her house on Saturday, planning to attend the Confederate Memorial Day parade. But first Mary wanted to stop by the National Pencil Company to pick up her pay. Around noon, she crossed beneath the granite façade of the building to enter the factory. Mary Phagan never left the building alive, and the superintendent of the company, Leo Frank, was blamed for her murder.

Spurred on by the media frenzy and prejudices of the time, the detectives made Frank, who was both a northerner and a Jew, their prime suspect. The prosecution of Leo Frank was front-page news for two years, and Frank’s lynching is still one of the most controversial incidents of the 20th century. It marks a turning point in the history of racial and religious hatred in America.

Through bibliographical references and primary source quotations and photographs, Elaine Marie Alphin captures the intense emotions of the case—indestructible love, savage retribution, and unwavering courage. In a book where teenagers play a significant role, *An Unspeakable Crime* asks readers to explore the fine line between right and wrong.

Visit [www.lernerbooks.com/anunspeakablecrime](http://www.lernerbooks.com/anunspeakablecrime) for a free discussion guide, downloads, and to watch a video from author Elaine Marie Alphin.

**About the Author**

Elaine Marie Alphin is the award-winning author of over a dozen books for young people, including her most recent novel, *The Perfect Shot*, which earned a starred review from *School Library Journal* and was a *ForeWord Magazine* Book of the Year Finalist. Elaine lives in Bozeman, Montana.

**About the Publisher**

Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, creates high-quality fiction and nonfiction titles for children and young adults. Founded in 1959, Lerner Publishing Group is one of the nation’s largest independent children’s book publishers and currently has nine imprints and divisions: Lerner Publications, Carolrhoda Books, Millbrook Press, Twenty-First Century Books, Graphic Universe, ediciones Lerner, First Avenue Editions, LernerClassroom, and Kar-Ben Publishing. For further information, visit Lerner Publishing Group’s website at [www.lernerbooks.com](http://www.lernerbooks.com).



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