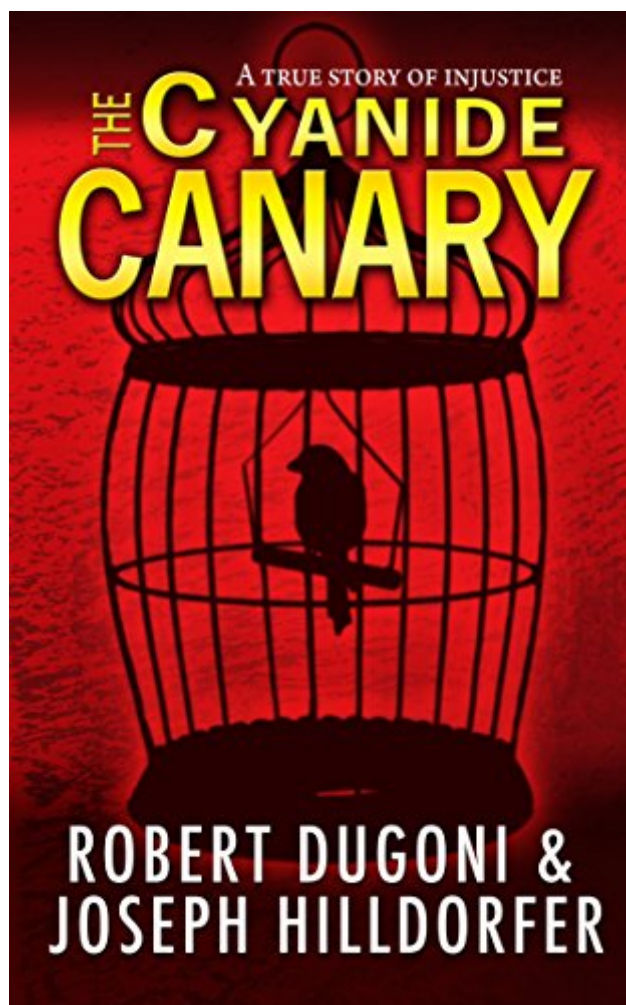


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# The Cyanide Canary: A True Story Of Injustice



## Synopsis

From Robert Dugoni, the #1 Kindle -bestselling author of MY SISTER'S GRAVE, and Environmental Protection Agency Special Agent Joseph Hildorfer comes a true story of good and evil, greed and its consequences, and an elusive quest for justice. Early in the morning on August 27, 1996, twenty year old Scott Dominguez showed up for an ordinary day at the fertilizing plant where he worked. By 11:00am, he was clinging to life, unconscious and suffocating from toxic exposure to cyanide in a tank that was supposed to contain only mud and water. EPA Special Agent Joseph Hildorfer was tasked with finding out what really happened on that horrific day in Soda Springs, Idaho, but the answers would not be easily uncovered. For more than four years Hildorfer, his partner Bob Wojnicz, and a force of top-ranking U.S. attorneys struggled to expose the disturbing truths behind the tragedy, but would their efforts be enough to put the man responsible, Allan Elias, behind bars? Dugoni, a New York Times bestselling author known for his heart-pounding legal thrillers, and Hildorfer, the agent who lived and breathed the Dominguez case, pen a compulsively readable work that is every bit as enthralling as fiction, yet is alarmingly true. \*\*\*A Washington Post Best Book of the Year selection\*\*\* "The Cyanide Canary is a marvelously suspenseful tale...a bona fide thriller pitting joyous, decent good guys against a villain without a scintilla of redeeming social value. Who wins in this robust scenario? Read the book and find out." •The Washington Post "As compelling as any brilliantly written murder mystery... A roller-coaster ride of a book." •New York Times bestselling author, Ann Rule "An important book for anyone concerned about the world around them." •Former EPA Administrator, Christie Todd Whitman Kirkus STARRED Review: "An electrically charged narrative... A top-notch nonfiction legal thriller." •Booklist STARRED Review: "An enthralling legal drama. This account engages the reader, evoking both outrage over worker safety and suspense over the outcome of the trial. The authors...tell a fully rounded, gripping story of how environmental crime is prosecuted in the real world."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

We lived and worked in eastern Washington State during the mid-1990s for environmental companies and both had to take safety classes where they explained the dangers of confined space entries and the precautions you have to take for working in those environments, not to mention all the other regulatory and safety requirements needed for working with hazardous chemicals. We were lucky: we were educated, well-paid, working for environmental clean-up companies with lucrative government contracts where safety was good business practice. The circumstances detailed in *The Cyanide Canary* are 180 degrees different. Allen Elias, the owner of the Evergreen facility, was not engaged in environmental cleanup, but working on the cheap trying to develop a commercial means of reprocessing waste. His employees were high-school graduates desperate for a job, with no safety training or understanding of the requirements for confined space work, nor any clue, really, about the hazards of certain chemicals--things Elias did know. Which is why Elias was charged with criminal conduct after one of his workers was injured during a tank cleanout. The story of the accident, along with the resulting investigation, and trial, makes up this book, which reads like a long Law & Order episode, almost complete with the "Ka-Chung" sound at the end of each chapter. As such, it should appeal to L&O fans, or anyone with an interest in how environmental law is being developed. The weakest part of the book is the beginning chapter, where the authors attempt to portray the events of the accident in an almost novelistic method, including trying for some suspense about whether the victim, Scott Dominguez, would survive or not.

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