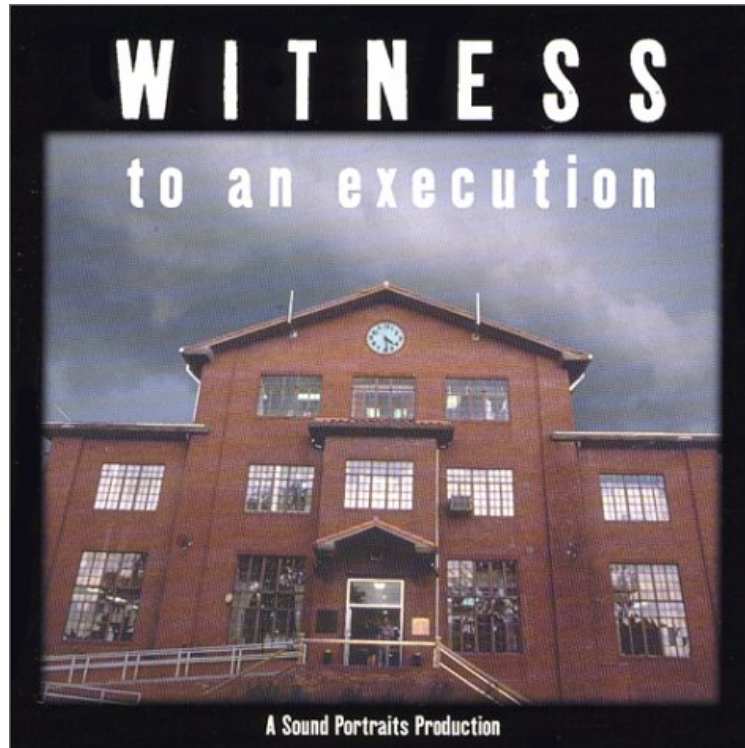


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Witness to an Execution

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David Isay, Stacy Abramson : Witness to an Execution before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Witness to an Execution:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Witness to an Execution By A Customer Witness to an Execution is a very powerful documentary that offers an unusual perspective on the controversial nature of capital punishment. Most people would not contemplate the impact of the death penalty on prison guards who execute the prisoners, reporters who cover the executions or spiritual guides who offer support to the prisoners in their final moments-- however, the moving testimonies provided by these witnesses forces us to re-consider the lasting (and in some cases detrimental) affects of the death penalty not only on the prisoners and their families but on all those involved in an execution.

Originally broadcast on National Public Radio, Witness to an Execution offers a rare glimpse into the death house in Huntsville, Texas, as told by the men and women who participate in, carry out, and witness multiple executions. Narrated by the warden himself and filled with the voices of guards, chaplains, reporters, and members of the tie-down squad, Witness to an Execution gives listeners a series of first-hand accounts of the haunting sequence of events leading up to an execution. Huntsville is the epicenter the U.S. death penalty debate; more than one third of all U.S. executions have been carried out there since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976.

"By the end of this emotionally charged piece you may feel that you have glimpsed into the souls of strangers..." --

The New York Times About the Author Radio producer Stacy Abramson has worked at Sound Portraits Productions since 1996. Her early production credits include the radio documentaries *The Sunshine Hotel*, *A Letter to Butchie*, and *Charlie's Story*. She has also produced *The Jewish Giant*, an audio portrait of Eddie Carmel, and *Witness to an Execution*, based on interviews with men and women who have witnessed or participated in numerous executions in Huntsville, Texas. She recently co-authored *Flophouse* (Random House, 2000) with Dave Isay. Dave Isay is the founder of Sound Portraits Productions. Over the past twelve years his radio documentary and feature work has won almost every award in broadcasting including two Peabody Awards, two Robert F. Kennedy Awards, and two Livingston Awards for young journalists. David has also received the Prix Italia (Europe's oldest and most distinguished broadcasting honor), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1994) and most recently a MacArthur Fellowship (2000). He is the author (or co-author) of three books based on Sound Portraits radio stories: *Holding On* (W.W. Norton Co., 1995); *Our America: Life and Death on the South Side of Chicago* (Scribner, 1997); and *Flophouse* (Random House, 2000). He is also an occasional contributor to the New York Times Magazine and a contributing editor to Contentville.com. From The Washington Post "Remarkable."