

# Unveiling the True Story Behind the Hit TV Drama: The Murder of Millie Dowler



**Manhunt: The true story behind the hit TV drama about Levi Bellfield and the murder of Milly Dowler** by Colin Sutton

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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The abduction and murder of 13-year-old Millie Dowler in 2002 sent shockwaves through the United Kingdom. The brutal crime sparked a massive investigation and a relentless pursuit of justice that captivated the nation.

Now, the gripping true story behind this harrowing case is brought to life in the acclaimed TV drama "Levi Bellfield: The Untold Story." The series

follows the investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of Levi Bellfield, a serial killer who was responsible for the murders of Millie Dowler and several other young women.

In this article, we delve into the chilling details of the case, the untold secrets, and the relentless pursuit of justice. We'll explore the evidence that convicted Bellfield, the impact of the crime on the victims' families, and the legacy of this tragedy.

## **The Disappearance of Millie Dowler**

On March 21, 2002, Millie Dowler left school as usual and headed home. She never made it. Hours later, her parents reported her missing, and a massive search operation was launched.

Days turned into weeks, and still there was no sign of Millie. The investigation took a sinister turn when her mobile phone records revealed that she had made a series of chilling calls after her disappearance. The calls were traced to a phone box near the home of Levi Bellfield.

## **Levi Bellfield: A History of Violence**

Levi Bellfield was no stranger to violence. He had a long criminal record, including convictions for assault, burglary, and car theft. In 2003, just months after Millie Dowler's disappearance, he was arrested for the abduction of another young woman, Amanda Dowler, who managed to escape.

Bellfield's violent past made him a prime suspect in Millie Dowler's case. Investigators meticulously gathered evidence, including DNA samples and phone records, that linked him to the crime.

## **The Trial and Conviction**

In 2008, Levi Bellfield was charged with Millie Dowler's murder. The trial was a highly publicized event that gripped the nation. Prosecutors presented a mountain of evidence against Bellfield, including the damning phone call records and DNA evidence.

After a six-week trial, Bellfield was found guilty of Millie Dowler's murder and sentenced to life in prison. He was also convicted of the murders of two other young women, Marsha McDonnell and Amelie Delagrangé.

## **The Impact of the Crime**

The murder of Millie Dowler had a profound impact on her family, friends, and the entire community. Her parents, Bob and Sally Dowler, became tireless campaigners for justice and for changes to the way that missing persons cases are handled.

Millie's death also led to a public outcry over the dangers faced by young women. It sparked debates about personal safety, stranger danger, and the need for better protection for vulnerable individuals.

## **The Legacy of Millie Dowler**

Millie Dowler's tragic death serves as a reminder of the fragility of life and the importance of cherishing our loved ones. Her case has also had a lasting impact on the criminal justice system and on society's understanding of violence against women.

To honor Millie's memory, her family established the Millie Dowler Foundation, a charity that provides support to victims of crime and their

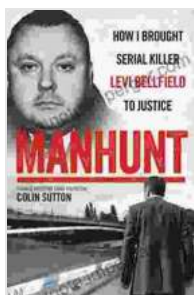
families. The foundation also works to raise awareness about the dangers of stranger danger and to promote personal safety.

The true story behind the TV drama is a harrowing tale of loss, injustice, and the relentless pursuit of justice. It is a story that will stay with you long after you finish reading it.

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