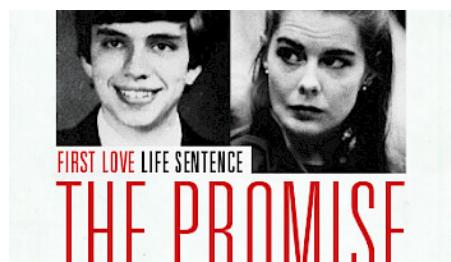




THE PROMISE

by Marcus Vetter, Karin Steinberger



SYNOPSIS

The gruesome murders of Nancy and Derek Haysom in 1985 were an international media sensation. The Haysoms were wealthy, respected members of Virginia society, and the murder conviction of their daughter Elizabeth and her German boyfriend Jens Soering sent shock-waves through the rural community of Bedford County. Elizabeth and Jens had met in a university program for high achieving students. She was a product of European boarding schools, he was the son of a diplomat. After being arrested in London, England, for passing bad checks in 1986, they were both extradited to the United States and have now spent over 30 years behind bars. This beautifully crafted film reveals a mismanaged, or perhaps completely corrupted, judicial process. This was the first criminal trial held in front of TV cameras – was the first high profile, international case tried in a small town.

FESTIVALS

a.o. FF Munich, Doc NYC, Denver, Virginia, DocsDFCiudad de México, RIFF Island, DMZ docs South Korea, IDFA

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Marcus Vetter, Karin Steinberger

2016

118 min

ORIGINAL TITLE

DAS VERSPRECHEN

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Biographie/Portrait, Current Affairs

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

English

PREMIERE

Germany (2016)

PRODUCTION COMPANY

[Filmperspektive GmbH](#)

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