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Arizona Historical Society Releases New Book by Paul Cool

The Girl in the Iron Box: How an Arizona Kidnapping Stumped Hoover's FBI

TUCSON, AZ (April 25, 2019) — The Arizona Historical Society is proud to announce the release of a new book about the 1934 abduction of June Robles in Tucson, AZ. *The Girl in the Iron Box: How an Arizona Kidnapping Stumped Hoover's FBI* is a historical true-crime drama by author Paul Cool that weaves the story of the nineteen-day search for her that ended with June being found alive in the Tucson desert.

David Turpie, Vice President of Exhibitions and Publications shared, "The Arizona Historical Society is proud to have published this excellent new book by historian Paul Cool. After years of in-depth research, Cool knew the story of the June Robles abduction and the FBI's search for the perpetrators better than anyone. His lively writing style makes the ins and outs of the case accessible to modern-day readers. This book will interest not just Arizona history buffs but anyone interested in a gripping true-crime story from the 1930s."

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon of April 25, 1934, six-year-old June Robles stepped inside a Ford sedan on her way home from school and disappeared from the streets of Tucson, Arizona. With the Lindbergh kidnapping fresh in the minds of Depression-era Americans, the kidnapping sent shock waves across the country and through the sleepy desert community. After nineteen frantic days and nights, June Robles was discovered alive, buried in an iron box beneath the hot desert sand. Second only to the Lindbergh case, June Robles's disappearance was the most notorious child abduction of the 1930s, setting in motion a massive manhunt in Tucson and around the country. It was the first major case that ambitious FBI director J. Edgar Hoover's agents could not solve. Based on extensive research in newspapers, interviews, and FBI files, Paul Cool recreates in absorbing detail the search for the missing girl, the massive local and national manhunt for her kidnapers, and Hoover's obsessive involvement in the case.

An independent historian, the late Paul Cool was the author of *Salt Warriors: Insurgency on the Rio Grande* (Texas A&M University Press, 2008) and numerous articles on crime and justice in the U.S.–Mexico borderlands.

To purchase a copy, visit the Arizona Historical Society website, <https://arizonahistoricalsociety.org/publications/> or contact the AHS Publications office by calling 520-617-1163 or emailing publications@azhs.gov .

325 pages

\$29.95

ISBN 9780910037631

Since 1975, the Arizona Historical Society has published more than twenty-five books about the culture and history of Arizona and the surrounding region. Through its publications, the Arizona Historical Society promotes new research and scholarship about the history of Arizona and the surrounding region.

For more information, call the Arizona Historical Society's Publications office at 520-617-1163 or email publications@azhs.gov.

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About Arizona Historical Society

Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.

Founded in 1864, the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) is the state's oldest and most prestigious historical organization, dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing Arizona's rich history. The stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Arizona – are told through museum exhibits, programs, events and outreach. The Arizona Historical Society is proud to serve as the steward of Arizona's history. Our collections, housed in AHS museum facilities throughout the state, number in excess of three million objects. Our artifact and manuscript holdings offer opportunities for public programming, educational outreach, and exhibitions, as well as academic and community-based research. AHS is a proud sponsor of National History Day in Arizona, a year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for middle school and high school students.

For additional information, visit www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org