

Peaches and Plums

To eat in solemn silence with a ripe, juicy, plum
with a pestilential hunger with a life long craving.
Awaiting the sensation of a short sharp taste, from
A fancy and

The St. Valentine's Day Massacre

Brehanu Bugg - C4 History

From 1924 to 1940, there was a high level of crime and violence in Chicago. During this time, the infamous crime lord, Al "Scarface" Capone, rose to power after his boss, Johnny Torrio, withdrew. Capone wanted to be the only crime lord in Chicago, but first, he had to beat his foe, George "Bugs" Moran. For that to happen, Moran and his men had to be eliminated, leading to the St. Valentine's day massacre on February 14, 1929, when Al Capone's men dressed as policemen and executed their foes. Chicago was known for its high levels of crime and violence, and had a lot of people on the most wanted list. At the top of that list was Al Capone. To be in the crime business, you had to specialize in bootlegging, gambling, and prostitution. Capone was very involved in these businesses and so his net worth was \$100 million annually. He was very popular in Chicago, but so was another crime lord, George Moran. George Moran had his headquarters located in a garage on the north side of Chicago. George Moran's net worth was around \$62 thousand annually. Al Capone saw Moran as an enemy, who needed to be eliminated.

Some of Al Capone's men took action and dressed as policemen and went to George Moran's headquarters. Their disguises worked and tricked Moran's men. The "policemen" pointed guns at them and asked them to put their hands in the air and stand in a line facing the garage wall. Moran's men obliged and stood in a line. Soon after two other men from Capone's gang came and shot all of them. The real police were there in a matter of minutes. They went to every person to see if there were any survivors. Frank Gusenberg was the only survivor from the massacre. When the police found him, he was hardly alive. Unfortunately, Frank wouldn't tell the police what happened during the massacre. The person responsible for the murder is still a mystery.

Everybody assumed that the massacre was Al Capone's fault, but he said that he was in his Floridian home at the time. The massacre began Al Capone's downfall, he just didn't realize it. The police saw him as public enemy number one and he was called to

court in March by the federal grand jury. However, Capone failed to appear and police started investigating his disappearance. For the following few months, Capone was captured, arrested, and escaped from jail numerous times. In February 1931, he was sentenced to prison for six months, and in June, the court caught him evading to pay taxes. For that, he was sent to the Atlanta jail, and then Alcatraz for eleven years.

Since that time, Chicago and Al Capone have changed. Since Al Capone was in prison, he developed syphilis, which was a brain disease from having sexual intercourse. It can cause someone to go insane or mad. Because of his disease, he could not return to the crime business and therefore went to his home in Florida until his death in 1947. George Moran was arrested and died in his prison cell in 1957. Chicago has also changed as well since the shooting. If they hadn't looked deeper into Capone, they would've never arrested him for dodging taxes. Then who knows what might've happened? The St. Valentine's Day Massacre was a rivalry between two people that went too far, and neither got what they wanted.