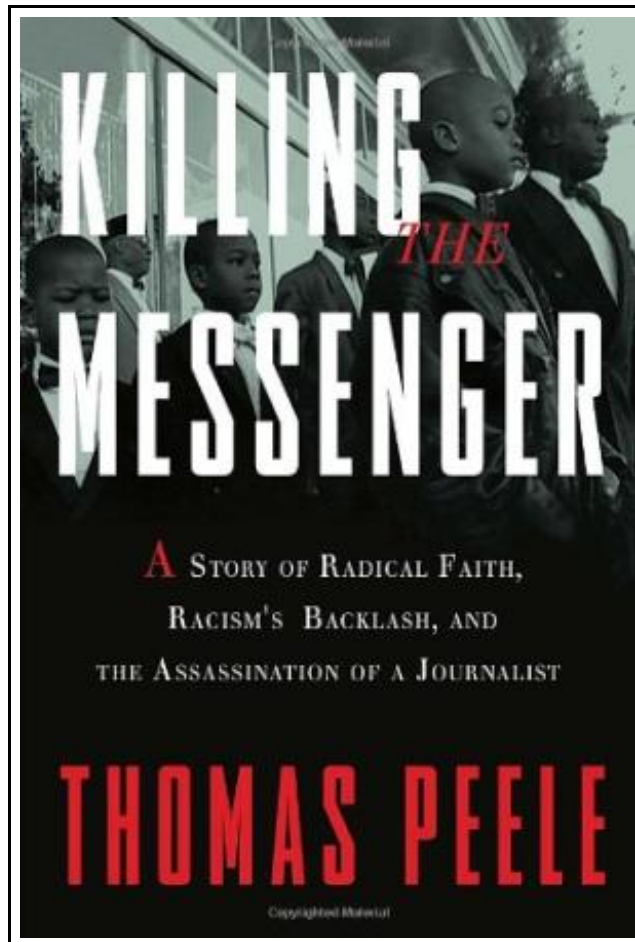


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KILLING THE MESSENGER: A STORY OF RADICAL FAITH, RACISM'S BACKLASH, AND THE ASSASSINATION OF A JOURNALIST

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Crown, 2012. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. A searing work of narrative nonfiction, *Killing the Messenger* explores one of the most blatant attacks on the First Amendment and free speech in American history and the small Black Muslim cult that carried it out. When a nineteen-year-old member of a Black Muslim cult assassinated Oakland newspaper editor Chauncey Bailey in 2007 — the most shocking killing of a journalist in the United States in thirty years — the question was, Why? Award-winning investigative reporter Thomas Peele examines the Black Muslim movement from its founding in the early twentieth century by a con man who claimed to be God, to the height of power of the movement's leading figure, Elijah Muhammad, to how the great-grandson of Texas slaves reinvented himself as a Muslim leader in Oakland and built the violent cult that the young gunman eventually joined. Peel delves into how charlatans exploited poor African Americans with tales from a religion they falsely claimed was Islam and the years of bloodshed that followed, from a human sacrifice in Detroit to police shootings of unarmed Muslims to the horrible backlash of racism known as the zebra murders, and finally to the brazen killing of Chauncey Bailey to stop him from publishing a newspaper story. Notes, Selected Bibliography, Index. 442p.



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