

JUST MERCY

Chapters 1-4

Studied philosophy but realized that no one will pay [him] to philosophize when the 3 graduates.

Goes to Harvard to study law

Takes the case of Walter McMillain

who is on death row by false allegations

Case

body of Ronda Morrison is found on the floor of Monroe Cleaners
After Ralph Myers was investigated, he points a finger to Walter as he had an affair with Karen (whom started using drugs)
Due to the racial divide in Monroeville which allowed Walter to get arrested without much proof

Racial Profiling

Stevenson was unlawfully searched by police.
Upset he preaches to churches, organizations, and youth centers about racial profiling

Mom in the wheelchair - Encourages Stevenson as he fought in the Civil Rights movement in the 60s. Has scars that he considers as medals of honor.

Walter's time in court

Getting a lawyer was difficult
getting one out of state made them think he had drug money.

Myers often changed his stories (which should have been evidence that he was lying)

Walter was put in jail out of pure suspicion and not evidence.

Was also due to his skin color which immediately caused suspicion of drug abuse

affair with Karen also took part in this case as it was a multi-racial affair.

she also had drugs on her, which was thought to be by Walter

Atkins v. Virginia -> banned the practice of executions of the intellectually disabled

Herbert Richardson

History of abuse and veteran of the Vietnam War

has a history of mental health problems

Accidentally kills a young girl through a bomb -> labelled a "black Muslim" and 11 years later was executed.

Life was getting better through his final week

Stevenson feels hopeless as he is not prepared for his execution -> It actually gave him renewed energy to help others on death row

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