

Virginia Jaspers



Information researched and summarized by
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Date	Age	Life Event
1924	0	Born in 1924 in New Haven, Connecticut
		In middle school she choked and violently shook a small boy who was making fun of her.
		High school – no problems. She was known to have severely beaten a boy in middle school because he was teasing her. People stayed away from her.
Sept. 1942		Began St. Agnes program
		Graduate from nursing program
		First job
June 1948	24	Cynthia Hubbard. Autopsy showed internal bleeding, swollen brain, bleeding eyes. Cause of death determined to be "Weak brain," or "Congenital weakness." Subject was re-hired to assist with this family's second child, whom she did not harm.
December 1951	27	Jennifer Malkan. Cause of death - "Aspiration." It was believed the infant choked on cereal at one month old. No autopsy, victim was cremated. Ms. Jaspers claimed she shook the child to "get a bubble up."
1951	27	Ms. Jaspers' employers had noticed mood swings with melancholy and crying. They also observed it appeared she had no life of her own.
1953	29	Second victim's mother noticed Ms. Jaspers sitting across the street watching their home. They moved to Hampton CT, and their next-door-neighbor later hired Ms. Jaspers as her nanny. The neighbors were warned and they cancelled a trip they

		had been planning and did not leave their baby home alone with Ms. Jaspers.
Jan. 1955	31	Woodbridge, Connecticut. Babysitting Bruce Schaefer. Jaspers flicks babies nose because he was screaming. Threw baby into crib, and his left leg snapped as it hit the hard wooden edge. Family comes home and is outraged, kicks Jaspers out of the house.
8-24-1956	33	New Haven Connecticut. 11 day old Abbe Kapsinov. Victim's mother went out, subject sent the father to a bar. Shook the baby because she would not drink her bottle. Victim was unconscious after 5 seconds. After the shaking, subject threw victim onto the couch. Parents blamed subject, demanded autopsy.
August 1956	33	Arrested for Abbe Kapsinov's murder. Confessed to crimes. Ms. Jaspers stated she was uncontrollable and the children got on her nerves. She said she gets urges she cannot control that take over. "I'm evil," she stated. She also confessed to breaking Bruce Shafer's leg and shaking Robert Saidel. Her father tried to sit in on the interrogation, but he was disruptive and was ejected. He hired a judge and family friend Edward L. Reynolds to serve as her attorney.
8-27-56	33	Jaspers' murders hit the newspapers. Her attorney, Mr. Reynolds said there was no confession and she was under duress. He intended to hire a psychiatrist and use an insanity defense.
8-28-1956	33	Miss Jaspers is being held under \$50,000 bond.
August 1956	33	William Jaspers hires someone to make the media coverage "go away." A kidnapping occurred and records "disappeared."
		The defense
		Repeatedly asked Judge William J. Shea to reduce the bail, but their requests were denied.
		She pleads guilty Miss Jaspers debated while in jail if she was going to keep her plea of innocence. "no use hiding behind the fact that nothing at all happened. You got angry and lashed out at those defenseless young creatures! You are wicked. Just wicked!"- These voices scolded her.
11/15/1956	33	The sentence: 10 to 20 years at the State Prison for Women at Niantic. 7 years must be served before she is eligible for parole.
		Life in prison: Virginia was a model prisoner. She carried out her prison functions without complaint and interacted with the other inmates on a friendly basis.
		Release date: There are no records at the women's prison that Virginia Jaspers was ever there.
April 2004	80	Virginia Jaspers died in April of 2004 at the age of 80.

General Information

Sex	Female
Race	White
Number of victims	At least 15 are known, including: *Robert Saidel 1955. Survived, but had brain damage. Was 2 years old when subject was arrested. Was mentally retarded. *January 17, 1955, 3 week old Bruce Shafer. Parents left him alone for the first time with the subject. When he would not go

	to sleep, she screamed at him, flicked his nose, spanked him, threw him into the crib, breaking his femur. Mr. Shafer made subject leave their home. Police were called, but blamed parents, gave them the run around. 3 Murders.
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Connecticut
Cities where killing occurred	New Haven,
Type of killer	Angel of Death
Height	6 feet tall, over 200 pounds, "mannish" 52-inch waist.
Childhood Information	
Date of birth	-----1924
Location	New Haven
Birth order	1 st
Number of siblings	Younger sister- Betty Jaspers. Was prettier, smarter, thinner, more popular and outgoing than Virginia. Also destined for college, marriage and family life.
XXX?	No
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Oldest
Parent's marital status	Married
Family event	No significant family events.
Age of family event	N/A
Problems in school?	Not popular, picked on, academic performance was not stellar.
Teased while in school?	Yes. Peers called her "Horse" and "Elephant." Her father used his political clout to stop the teasing in Elementary school. The teasing began again in middle school. On one occasion a boy pushed her and made fun of her big legs. She choked him, sat on top of him and hit his head into the asphalt. The boy had a slight concussion. Her father called the principal and told him the boy deserved what happened and if the principal disciplined her, he would be looking for a job.
Physically attractive?	No. Looked "male." Tall, unattractive, clumsy, heavy.
Physical defect?	No.
Speech defect?	No. Loud and socially awkward at times, but no impediment.
Head injury?	None known.
Physically abused?	Not known.
Psychologically abused?	Teased by peers at school.
Sexually abused?	Not known.
Father's occupation	Connecticut State Senator, later a railroad executive, civic leader.
Age of first sexual experience	Unknown
Age when first had intercourse	Unknown. Homosexuality alluded to, but not certain.
Mother's occupation	Housewife.
Father abused drugs/alcohol	Not known
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	Not known
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	12 th
Highest degree	High School Diploma. Also received a certificate in "Nursing" (childcare) from an 18-month program at St. Agnes Home for Unwed Mothers. Was the worst student in the history of the program. Remembered to have questioned everything, was

	loud, cried easily. She was taught the basics and moved on through the program. The program was not licensed, and came under increased scrutiny in 1956. The program came under tighter controls and state regulation.
Grades in school	Unknown. Subject liked reading but had difficulty with Math.
IQ	Unknown
Source of IQ information	N/A
Work History	
Served in the military?	No
Branch	N/A
Type of discharge	N/A
Saw combat duty	N/A
Killed enemy during service?	N/A
Applied for job as a cop?	N/A
Worked in law enforcement?	No.
Fired from jobs?	Yes, after she injured a child, the father made her leave the home.
Types of jobs worked	Baby Nurse (Today would be called a Nanny.)
Employment status during series	Employed as a Baby Nurse
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Homosexuality alluded to, but preference is not known for sure.
Marital status	Single. Never married.
Number of children	0
Lives with his children	N/A
Living with	As an adult, she lived with the families she worked for. After the murders, spent time living with her parents, her sister, then later lived alone.
Triad	
Animal torture	unknown
Fire setting	unknown
Bed wetting	unknown
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	unknown
Abused alcohol?	unknown
Been to a psychologist?	Her attorney intended an insanity defense, but subject plead guilty.
Time in forensic hospital?	unknown
Diagnosis	unknown
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Unknown
Spend time in jail?	After being charged and awaiting trial.
Spend time in prison?	Not until serial killing conviction
Killed prior to series? Age?	Unknown
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	3 known mortalities
Victim type	Babies
Killer age at start of series	24
Date of first kill in series	June 24, 1948

Date of final kill in series	8-24-56
Gender of victims	3 females murdered, at least 2 male victims injured.
Race of victims	Caucasian
Age of victims	Infants
Type of victim	Babies left in her care
Method of killing	Shaking the babies, causing brain damage/death
Weapon	No weapon
Was gun used?	No
Type	N/A
Did killer have a partner?	No
Name of partner	N/A
Sex of partner	N/A
Type of serial killer	Angel of Death
How close did killer live?	Lived with the victims and the victims' parents.
Location of first contact	Victim home.
Location of killing	Victim's home.
Killing occurred in home of victim?	Yes
Killing occurred in home of killer?	No
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	No.
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	No
Tortured victims?	No
Stalked victims?	No
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	No- Victims did not always die instantly.
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	No
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	No
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	No
Took totem – body part	No
Took totem – personal item	No
Robbed victim or location	No
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Left at scene - did not attempt to hide the bodies.
Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, buried	No
Cut-op and disposed of	No
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	August 27, 1956
Date convicted	August 1956
Sentence	November 1956 10-20 years, 7 years must be served before she is eligible for parole.
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	This was considered, but she pled guilty.
Was the NGRI plea successful?	N/A

Name and state of prison	State Prison for Women, Niantic CT
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	April 2004 of natural causes

References

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