

**Johann “Jack”  
Unterweger**  
*“Poet of Death”*



Information researched and summarized by  
Chelsea Newton & Tiffany Waller  
Department of Psychology  
Radford University  
Radford, VA 24142-6946

| Date        | Age | Life Event   |
|-------------|-----|--|
| 08/16/1951  | 0   | Born in 1951. Abandoned by mother, lived with grandfather.   |
| 1967        | 16  | Arrested for violently assaulting a prostitute.  |
| 1974        | 23  | Margaret Schaefer, a friend of his girlfriend (Barbara Scholz), was strangled with her own bra after refusing Jack's sexual acts, and stealing from her parents' home under Jack's orders. |
| 1974        |     | Death of Marcia Horveth, strangled with stockings and a necktie. Never accused of killing due to already having a life sentence.   |
| 1976        | 25  | Was convicted of the murder of 18-year-old Margaret Schaefer and sentenced to life in prison.  |
| 1984        | 33  | Prison autobiography <i>Fegefeyr</i> (Purgatory) became a best seller and "Endstation Zuchthaus" (Terminus Prison), won a prestigious literary prize.                                      |
| 05/23/1990  |     | Unterweger's first release from prison.  |
| 1990        |     | Brunhilde Masser found murdered.   |
| 1990        |     | Jack was featured on talk shows and <i>Fegefeyr</i> became a movie   |
| 2/1990      |     | Jacks play <i>Scream of Fear</i> goes on tour.   |
| 09/15/1990  | 39  | Blanka Bockova's body found in Prague.   |
| 06/11/1991  |     | Jack arrives in Los Angeles  |
| 06/24/1991  |     | Jack visited the LAPD Parker Center to obtain permission for ride along.   |
| 07/03/1991  |     | Movie deal turned down by Dornhelm, a fellow Austrian who had successfully established himself in the Hollywood scene.   |
| 10/22/ 1991 |     | Officers of the Criminal Investigation Bureau in Vienna questioned Unterweger about the Austrian murders.  |
| 1991        | 40  | Shannon Exley, Irene Rodriguez, and Peggy Booth from Los Angeles found   |

|            |    |  |
|------------|----|--|
|            |    | strangled with bras, beaten and violated with tree limbs.        |
| 2/27/1992  |    | FBI arrest Unterweger in Florida.                                |
| 5/28/1992  | 41 | Unterweger deported to Austria.                                  |
| June 1994  |    | Trial begins in Graz, Austria.                                   |
| 06/28/1994 |    | Found guilty 9 counts of murder and sentenced to life in prison. |
| 06/29/1994 | 43 | Unterweger commits suicide in a prison in Austria.               |

### General Information

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sex                            | Male                           |
| Race                           | White                          |
| Number of victims              | 11                             |
| Country where killing occurred | Austria, USA, Czech republic   |
| States where killing occurred  | California                     |
| Cities where killing occurred  | Prague, Los Angeles            |
| Type of killer                 | Organized, with random victims |
| Height                         | 5'6"                           |

### Childhood Information

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Date of birth                      | August 16, 1951  |
| Location                           | Austria  |
| Birth order                        | Only child   |
| Number of siblings                 | 0  |
| XYY?                               | unknown  |
| Raised by                          | Abandoned by fraternal mother lived with a supposedly abusive, alcoholic grandfather for seven years.                  |
| Birth category                     | Only child   |
| Parent's marital status            | Father unknown 'American soldier'  |
| Family event                       | Mother deserted him, never knew father   |
| Age of family event                | Not stated, but when he was young  |
| Problems in school?                |  |
| Teased while in school?            |  |
| Physically attractive?             | Not disadvantaged, but not handsome. Has 'boyish' looks  |
| Physical defect?                   | None known   |
| Speech defect?                     | No   |
| Head injury?                       | None described   |
| Physically abused?                 | <i>Possibly</i> by 'alcoholic' grandfather.  |
| Psychologically abused?            | <i>Possibly</i> by 'alcoholic' grandfather.  |
| Sexually abused?                   | no   |
| Father's occupation                | American soldier   |
| Age of first sexual experience     | Not known  |
| Age when first had intercourse     | Not known  |
| Mother's occupation                | Prostitute?  |
| (Grand-father abused drugs/alcohol | Stated by Jack as having endured his grandfather's alcoholic tendencies and being present during his sexual relations. |
| Mother abused drugs/alcohol        | Stated by Jack that she did, but disputed by family.   |

### Cognitive Ability

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Highest grade in school                 |  |
| Highest degree                          | None   |
| Grades in school                        |  |
| IQ                                      | Unknown  |
| Source of IQ information                |  |
| <b>Work History</b>                     |  |
| Served in the military?                 | No   |
| Branch                                  |  |
| Type of discharge                       |  |
| Saw combat duty                         |  |
| Killed enemy during service?            |  |
| Applied for job as a cop?               |  |
| Worked in law enforcement?              | Police, prison guard, security guard, dispatcher   |
| Fired from jobs?                        | Reporter before being incarcerated   |
| Types of jobs worked                    | Reporter, pimp, playwright, author   |
| Employment status during series         | Employed as a reporter/ writer regarding murder cases fro an Austrian magazine.  |
| <b>Relationships</b>                    |  |
| Sexual preference                       | Heterosexual   |
| Marital status                          | Single   |
| Number of children                      |  |
| Lives with his children                 |  |
| Living with                             | Self   |
| <b>Triad</b>                            |  |
| Animal torture                          | None known   |
| Fire setting                            | None known   |
| Bed wetting                             | None known   |
| <b>Killer Psychological Information</b> |  |
| Abused drugs?                           | Unknown  |
| Abused alcohol?                         | Unknown  |
| Been to a psychologist?                 | Yes  |
| Time in forensic hospital?              | No   |
| Diagnosis                               | Declared a 'sexually sadistic psychopath with narcissistic and histrionic tendencies, tends to fits of rage and anger...' - Dr. Klaus Jarosch. |
| <b>Killer Criminal History</b>          |  |
| Committed previous crimes?              | First arrested at 16 for assaulting a prostitute.  |
| Spend time in jail?                     | Yes, petty crimes in youth   |
| Spend time in prison?                   | Yes  |
| Killed prior to series? Age?            | Yes , 24   |
| <b>Serial Killing</b>                   |  |
| Number of victims                       | 9-11   |
| Victim type                             | Prostitutes, young women known as 'partiers'   |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Killer age at start of series         | 38  |
| Date of first kill in series          | Sep 1990  |
| Date of final kill in series          | July 1991   |
| Gender of victims                     | Female  |
| Race of victims                       | Czech, American, Viennese                                   |
| Age of victims                        | young   |
| Type of victim                        | Prostitutes, 'party-going' girls                            |
| Method of killing                     | Strangled with nylons                                       |
| Weapon                                | Found on victim   |
| Was gun used?                         | No  |
| Type                                  |   |
| Did killer have a partner?            | One known case/ first kill                                  |
| Name of partner                       | Barbara Scholz  |
| Sex of partner                        | Female  |
| Type of serial killer                 | Disorganized thrill   |
| How close did killer live?            | Walking distance, drove to crime                            |
| Location of first contact             | Victim home, killer home, street, hospital, etc.            |
| Location of killing                   | Victim's home, killer's home, street, hospital, etc.        |
| Killing occurred in home of victim?   | never   |
| Killing occurred in home of killer?   | never   |
| Victim abducted or killed at contact? | Abducted and taken to secluded area where abused and killed |
| <b>Behavior During Crimes</b>         |   |
| Rape?                                 | No, paid for sex, then murdered                             |
| Tortured victims?                     | One known case/ victim bludgeoned                           |
| Stalked victims?                      | No  |
| Overkill?                             | No  |
| Quick & efficient?                    | Strangled with own article of clothing                      |
| Used blindfold?                       | No  |
| Bound the victims?                    | Bruises and ligament marks on wrists                        |
| <b>After Death Behavior</b>           |   |
| Sex with the body?                    | Yes - with sticks, tree limbs                               |
| Mutilated body?                       | No  |
| Ate part of the body?                 | No  |
| Drank victim's blood?                 | No  |
| Posed the body?                       | Redressed certain victims                                   |
| Took totem – body part                | No  |
| Took totem – personal item            | No  |
| Robbed victim or location             | No  |
| <b>Disposal of Body</b>               |   |
| Left at scene, no attempt to hide     | Yes- out in open  |
| Left at scene, hidden                 | Yes- with few leaves  |
| Left at scene, buried                 | No  |
| Moved, no attempt to hide             | Yes- out in open  |
| Moved, buried                         | No  |

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Cut-up and disposed of        | No   |
| Moved, too home               | No   |
| <b>Sentencing</b>             |  |
| Date killer arrested          | 02/27/1992 arrested in CA                                      |
| Date convicted                | 06/28/1994   |
| Sentence                      | Life in prison ( for first murder, then 2 <sup>nd</sup> group) |
| Killer executed?              | No   |
| Did killer plead NGRI?        | No   |
| Was the NGRI plea successful? |  |
| Name and state of prison      | Austrian prison  |
| Killer committed suicide?     | No, yes, attempted   |
| Killer killed in prison?      | No, yes, attempted   |
| Date of death                 | 06/29/1994 commits suicide                                     |

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