

***VULGAR FAVORS:
ANDREW CUNANAN, GIANNI VERSACE AND TH
E LARGEST FAILED MANHUNT IN U.S. HISTOR
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By Maureen Orth

BIOGRAPHY

Maureen Orth is an American journalist, author, and a Special Correspondent for *Vanity Fair* magazine. Orth published *Vulgar Favors: Andrew Cunanan, Gianni Versace, and the Largest failed Manhunt in U.S. History*. She dedicated the book to her late husband, Tim Russert, and their son Luke, as well as Orth's mother. In the book, Orth claimed, among other things, that Gianni Versace had AIDS and that his deteriorating health was kept a secret to avoid putting a public listing of his company at risk.



In October 2016, reports began circulating that FX would be developing a television miniseries based on Orth's book as part of the American Crime Story franchise. In January 2018, FX debuted a nine-episode miniseries, "American Crime Story: The Assassination of Gianni Versace" starring Darren Criss, Édgar Ramírez, Penélope Cruz and Ricky Martin. Orth was a creative consultant on the series. The Versace family was unhappy with how Gianni Versace was portrayed in both the book and the television show, stating that it presented a distorted and fictionalized account of the designer's life.

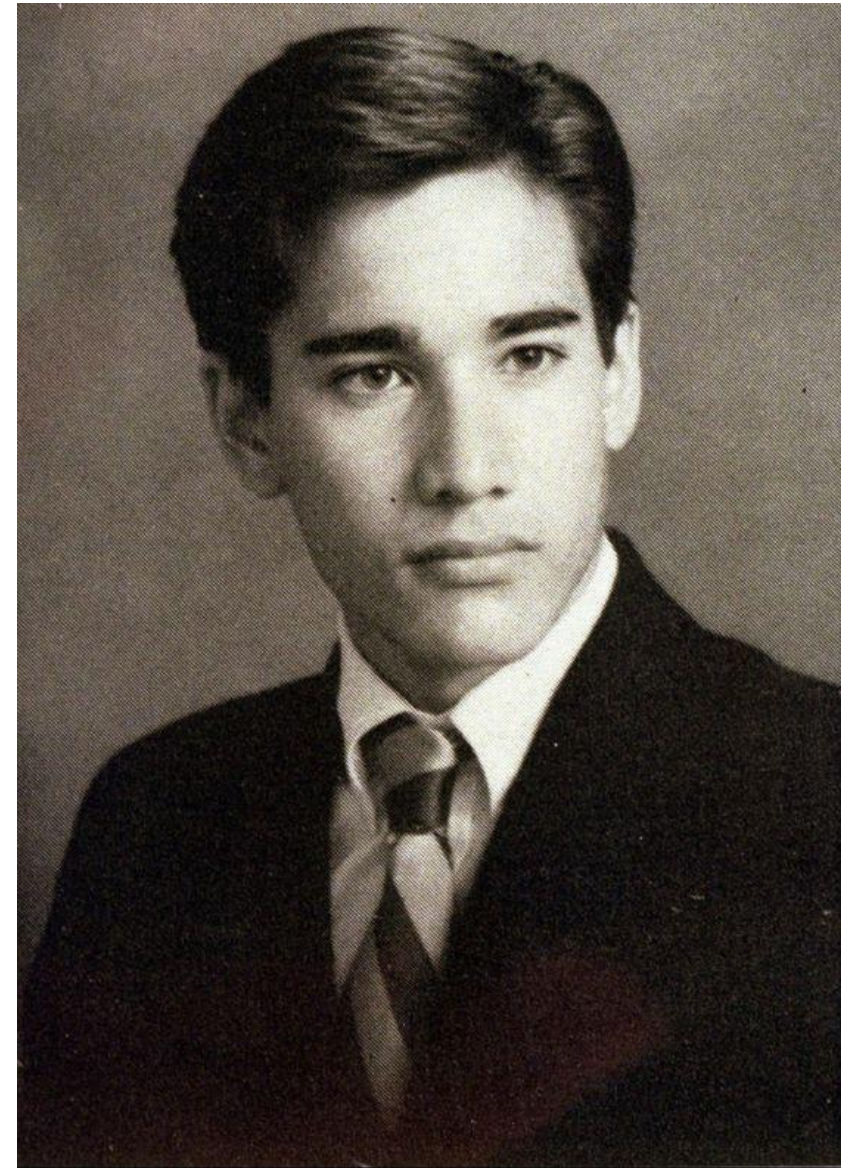


In 1980, in San Diego, the Cunanan family moves into a new home. Modesto gets a job as a broker and Andrew goes to a prestigious school.

Seven years later, in 1987, Cunanan is in his senior year of high school. Meanwhile, Modesto is fired from his job at a brokerage firm.

Andrew finds his father in his native village and makes financial claims, but he is not going to share the millions allegedly hidden in an inaccessible place.

Back in the United States, he fills out a job application for a pharmacy and lies to the manager that his father owns several pineapple plantations in the Philippines.





In 1992, in Milan, Versace persuades Donatella to take over the management of Versace after his death.

After Gianni is diagnosed with a rare form of ear cancer, he decides to move to Miami for a vacation.

That same year, Cunanan, who lives in a tiny apartment in San Diego with his mother, begins working as a gay escort for older men. He starts a relationship with Norman Blachford.

Cunanan moves out of his mother's apartment and lies to her that he is going to travel around the world with Versace.



In 1996, Cunanan lives with an elderly and wealthy businessman, Norman Blachford, who pays for all his daily expenses.

At his 27th birthday party, Cunanan, with the help of Jeff Thrale, tries to impress David Madson by telling a fictional story of his life and showing how much everyone loves him.

Cunanan presents Norman with a list of financial requirements, under which he will agree to continue to live with him.

However, the businessman refuses, after which Andrew is forced to get out of his mansion. Cunanan begins to feel depressed, which he tries to overcome with the help of drugs.

Two years later, Cunanan comes to Minneapolis to visit Trail and David Madson. Both men, however, try to avoid communicating with Andrew. Cunanan proposes marriage to Madson, but Madson refuses. An outraged Cunanan steals a registered pistol from Thrale's apartment.



1997 Cunanan, in the apartment of his lover, architect David Madson, beats to death Jeff Thrale with a nail hammer.

Andrew forces Madson to refuse to go to the police, explaining that they will both be recognized as suspects.

The police believe Madson is guilty of murder and are questioning his parents.

Meanwhile, Madson and Cunanan head to Mexico. When David accuses Andrew of lying, Cunanan realizes that he is disappointed in his lover, and kills Madson.





In May 1997, Lee Miglin, a well-known real estate developer and multi-millionaire, was found dead in the garage of his home in Chicago.

A week before, Miglin invites home Cunanan. Cunanan kills Miglin, then steals his Lexus car.

The police use a mobile phone built into the Lexus to track Cunanan's movements.

In a rage, Cunanan dumps a car in Penusville, kills cemetery caretaker William Reese, and steals his old red pickup truck.

On the morning of July 15, 1997, fashion designer Gianni Versace was shot and killed outside his Miami Beach mansion by Andrew Cunanan.

Versace is rushed to the hospital and pronounced dead. While the police cooperate with the federal authorities, Versace's sister Donatella and brother Santo plan the future of their brother's business empire.

While Cunanan buys newspapers covering Versace's murder with a ruthless expression.





On the evening of July 15, 1997, after the murder of Versace, Cunanan takes refuge in a houseboat in Miami Beach, trying to escape from the pursuit of the police and the FBI.

Cunanan makes an attempt to leave Miami Beach.

Andrew kills himself by shooting himself in the mouth with a gun.