



0. LEOPOLD MAKES A MISTAKE - Story Preface

1. WHO WERE LEOPOLD & LOEB?

2. THE PERFECT CRIME

3. THE BRUTAL FACTS

4. WHY DID THEY DO IT?

5. CHANCE EVENTS DESTROY A PLAN

6. LEOPOLD MAKES A MISTAKE

7. TOO MUCH EVIDENCE

8. WHAT DO YOU MEAN NOT GUILTY?

9. LET THEM LIVE!

10. DID JUSTICE INTERVENE?

11. REHABILITATION WORKS for NATHAN LEOPOLD

12. DID IT STICK?

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The Franks family, devastated by Bobby's murder, laid him to rest soon after his body was discovered at the Wolf Creek Culvert. At the time this picture was taken, no one knew that a teenager who lived across the street from the Franks had killed 14-year-old Bobby. Image online via the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law "Famous Trials" website.

Unknown to Leopold, only four people in the Chicago area had a prescription for his type of lenses. Because Leopold rarely wore those glasses, he didn't realize they were in his jacket when he and Loeb killed Bobby Franks. And ... he didn't realize they were missing.

Poor Nathan. His life was about to get jammed with lots of unwanted surprises.

In the meantime, even though Leopold and Loeb thought that no one knew Bobby was dead, investigative reporters from *The Chicago Daily News* were on to something. They knew about both the Chicago kidnapping and the Indiana unidentified body. They started to put the evidence together.

Leopold and Loeb had no idea their plan was already off track.

Expecting Mr. Franks to show up with the ransom money, the murderers were surprised when he didn't come. Leopold and Loeb soon learned why he had ignored their instructions. The headlines of *The Chicago Daily News* screamed at them.

Their plan had gone awry. The body that would never be found turned up. The hydrochloric acid had not done its job. Jacob and Flora knew their son was dead.

As "chance" circumstances continued to work against them, Leopold and Loeb's "perfect crime" continued to unravel. At the time of Bobby's funeral, no one knew that the teenager across the street had killed his neighbor. By the time Bobby Franks' family had his remains interred at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Chicago, Richard Loeb still thought he was smarter than everyone else around him.

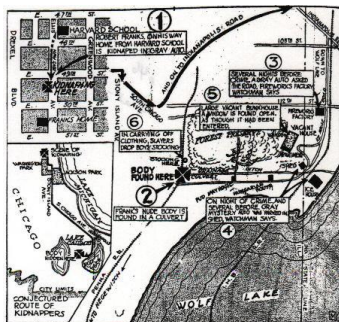
He would learn, very soon, that he was wrong. He would learn, very soon, that he needed the help of the greatest lawyer in Chicago at the time—Clarence Darrow.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/LEOPOLD-MAKES-A-MISTAKE-Leopold-and-Loeb)

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Map Locating Criminal Activities of Leopold and Loeb

Map, created by the *Chicago Daily News*, now maintained by the U.S. Library of Congress.

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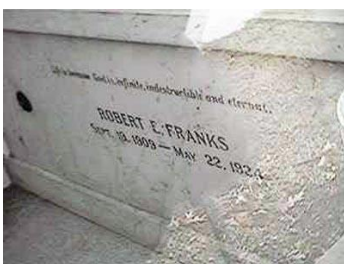
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Map-Locating-Criminal-Activities-of-Leopold-and-Loeb>



Funeral of Bobby Franks

Image online, courtesy the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law [website](#).

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Bobby Franks - Burial Casket

Image online, courtesy the findagrave.com [website](#).

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Bobby Franks - Burial Site

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Rose Hill Cemetery

Image online, courtesy the findagrave.com [website](#).

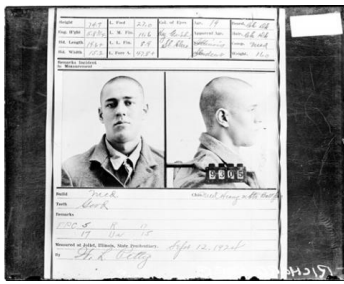
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Richard Loeb in 1924

Image online, courtesy the Chicago Daily News negatives collection, DN-0077053. Courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.

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Police Profile of Richard Loeb

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