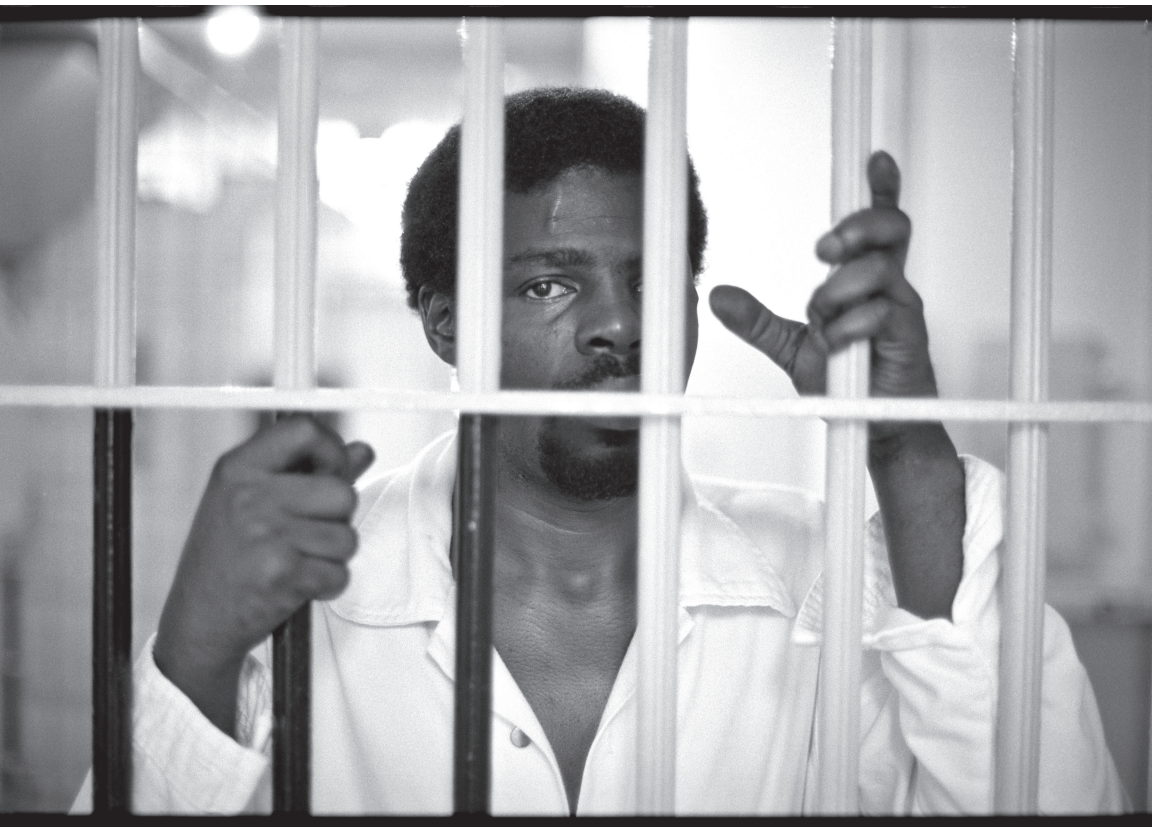


THE TRIALS OF EROY BROWN



JACK AND DORIS SMOTHERS SERIES
in Texas History, Life, and Culture, No. Thirty-one

THE

TRIALS

OF

**THE MURDER CASE THAT SHOOK
THE TEXAS PRISON SYSTEM**

EROY

BROWN

MICHAEL BERRYHILL

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PRESS

 *Austin*

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FRONTISPIECE: Eroy Brown. Photograph by Michael O'Brien.

For Lynn, who made it possible.

In memory of Molly Ivins, who always said it was a great story.

The historian's task is not to disrupt for the sake of it, but it is to tell what is almost always an uncomfortable story and explain why the discomfort is part of the truth we need to live well and live properly. A well-organized society is one in which we know the truth about ourselves collectively, not one in which we tell pleasant lies about ourselves. ||| TONY JUDT

If you put good people in a bad place, do the people triumph or does the place corrupt them? ||| PHILIP ZIMBARDO, *THE LUCIFER EFFECT*