



## The Case of the Reluctant Model (Perry Mason Series Book 66)

By Erle Stanley Gardner



**The Case of the Reluctant Model (Perry Mason Series Book 66)** By Erle Stanley Gardner

Art student Maxine Lindsay, as the guest of her mentor, art dealer Colin Durant, attends a reception aboard the yacht of millionaire Otto Olney , who is unveiling his newest purchase, a \$130,000 Gauguin. When Durant confides that the painting is a fake, Maxine becomes involved in a complicated series of deceptions. Soon gallery owner Leslie Rankin threatens Maxine. Perry Mason is called in, a beatnik artist is accused of painting the fake, and Durant is found fully clothed in Maxine's shower, shot dead with her pistol.

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### Editorial Review

#### About the Author

Erle Stanley Gardner (1889-1970) is a prolific American author best known for his works centered on the lawyer-detective Perry Mason. At the time of his death in March of 1970, in Ventura, California, Gardner was "the most widely read of all American writers" and "the most widely translated author in the world," according to social historian Russell Nye. The first Perry Mason novel, *The Case of The Velvet Claws*, published in 1933, had sold twenty-eight million copies in its first fifteen years. In the mid-1950s, the Perry Mason novels were selling at the rate of twenty thousand copies a day. There have been six motion pictures based on his work and the hugely popular Perry Mason television series starring Raymond Burr, which aired for nine years and 271 episodes.

As author William F. Nolan notes, "Gardner, more than any other writer, popularized the law profession for a mass-market audience, melding fact and fiction to achieve a unique blend; no one ever handled courtroom drama better than he did."

Richard Senate further sums up the significance of Gardner's contribution: "Although the character of Perry Mason is not unique as a 'lawyer-sleuth,' he is the first to come to anyone's mind when it comes to sheer brilliance in solving courtroom-detective cases by rather unconventional means. Besides 'Tarzan,' 'Sherlock Holmes,' 'Superman' ? 'Perry Mason' qualifies as an American icon of popular culture in the twentieth century."

Gardner's writing has touched a lot of people including a number of high profile figures. Brian Kelleher and Diana Merrill say in their 1987 book, *The Perry Mason TV Show Book* that Harry S. Truman was a fan and that it is rumored that when Einstein died, a Perry Mason book was at his bedside. They further describe that when Raymond Burr met Pope John XXIII, the actor reported that the pontiff "seemed to know all about Perry Mason." Federal judge Sonya Sotomayor frequently mentions how Perry Mason was one of her earliest influences.

Starting with his first book, Gardner had a very definite vision of the shape the Perry Mason character would take:

"I want to make my hero a fighter," he wrote to his publisher, "not by having him be ruthless to women and underlings, but by creating a character who, with infinite patience jockeys his enemies into a position where he can deliver one good knockout punch."

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Mary Nixon:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children until adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for people. The book *The Case of the Reluctant Model* (Perry Mason Series Book 66) ended up being making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book *The Case of the Reluctant Model* (Perry Mason

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### **Gayle Anderson:**

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### **Marshall Jackson:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got scholars? We believe that that issue was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. So you know that little person including reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important and book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You get good news or update in relation to something by book. Different categories of books that can you take to be your object. One of them is The Case of the Reluctant Model (Perry Mason Series Book 66).

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