



Penguin Crime

2/6

Two clues

Erle Stanley Gardner





By the creator of Perry Mason

In *Two Clues* Erle Stanley Gardner creates a character of instantaneous appeal—a sort of countryman's Perry Mason—in the slow-spoken, genial sheriff who is more tracker than detective. The ambitious District Attorney or the campaigning publisher of the *Rockville Gazette*, with their faith in finger-prints and lie-detectors, might call Bill Eldon dated, but he knew Rockville district from nether to yon, inside out, and over the hill. Take 'The Case of the Runaway Blonde', in which they found the body of a girl on a freshly ploughed strip of land; or 'The Case of the Hungry Horse', the second of the two stories in this volume, in which a young woman had apparently been kicked to death in a dark stable . . . this was territory where Bill was at home. It was his feel for cornspun characters, cattle, and crops—and not the manoeuvres of the smart lawyers and politicians—which proved to be the deciphering factor.

Cover design by Romek Marber

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