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POCKET BOOK EDITION 6190

THIS
IS

MURDER

ERLE
STANLEY
GARDNER



THE COMPLETE BOOK

**THIS
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MURDER**

Erle
Stanley
Gardner



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

SAM MORAINE

advertising executive, who plays a good game
of poker 1

PHIL DUNCAN

the poker-playing District Attorney 1

BARNEY MORDEN

chief investigator, D.A.'s office, who hates to lose
at poker 1

DORIS BENDER

a gay young woman, addicted to filmy negligees 9

THOMAS W. WICKES

her so-called boy-friend 10

NATALIE RICE

Sam Moraine's superefficient secretary 16

SID BROMLEY

captain of the Moraine yacht 21

ANN HARTWELL

Doris Bender's half-sister, whose disappearance
starts it all 25

DR. RICHARD HARTWELL

her dentist husband 42

CARL THORNE

political boss behind the D.A. 57

Sam Moraine, businessman, poker player
and friend of the D.A.,
agreed as a lark to act as go-between
in a kidnapping case.

Following instructions,
he went to the boat,
delivered \$10,000 in old bills
and received in exchange
a bundle of blond dynamite named Ann Hartwell.



As they reached the mooring float, they were met by
the beam of a flashlight and a man's voice saying:

"You're under arrest, both of you. Get your hands up
in the air and keep them that way."

It was the Federal boys and Sam thought it was the end.
But it was only the beginning.

What had started as a simple adventure turned into
a mess of crooked politicians, double-crossing cops,
certain ladies of elegant if easy virtue—and

**DOUBLE
MURDER!**