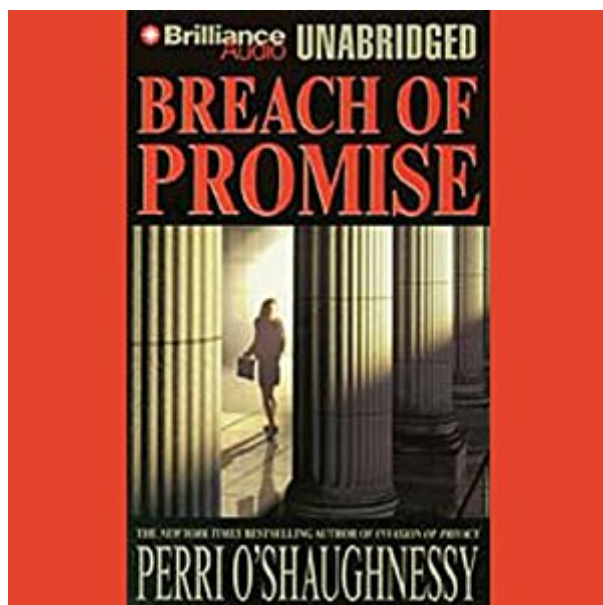


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# Breach Of Promise



## Synopsis

At glitzy Lake Tahoe, couples break up every day, but none quite so glamorous or successful as Lindy and Mike Markov. The scenario starts off in the standard way: Mike's met a younger woman and wants out. The problem? Mike and Lindy built a \$200-million business together and Mike claims he doesn't owe Lindy a dime since they never married. Ready to fight, Lindy hires Nina Reilly to represent her in her palimony suit, and lacking the resources to handle a case with stakes so high, Nina turns to an expert litigator in palimony law who insists on hiring a jury consultant. The case is hardly open-and-shut, and complicating things further, a carefully chosen juror winds up dead. With a host of possible suspects and the biggest case of her career hanging in the balance, the pressure's on Nina to find the killer, win the case, and save the day. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 14 hours 7 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Brilliance Audio

Audible.com Release Date: October 11, 2008

Language: English

ASIN: B001I7RSEA

Best Sellers Rank: #134 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers > Legal Thrillers #1214 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Legal #2207 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers > Suspense

## Customer Reviews

SPOILER ALERT: Do not read any further in this review if you are reading the series in chronological order and you haven't finished this particular book. This one started out quite slowly and I certainly didn't expect it to rate 5 stars. The continual talk about architecture was a snooze fest, especially since Ms. Perry kept repeating the same two or three descriptive phrases over and over. And the idea she tosses out that just because someone is brilliant creatively then they can't be a bad person is ludicrous. Once the trial starts, however, and Monk gets involved, the pace of the story picks up. The shocking revelation during the trial was exactly that. Shocking. I certainly never suspected the truth about Melville's identity. Well done, Ms. Perry. On the personal side, Monk's

passionate defense of Hester to Perdita and his proclamation of his feelings brought tears to my eyes. Finally! Thank heavens, he didn't retract simply because of embarrassment as he was tempted. About the case of Melville's poisoning. As soon as Monk talked to the courthouse guard, I knew how Keelin had been killed and by whom. Right away he should have thought to ask Hester how the poison might be administered without eating or drinking. She certainly has the proper knowledge. Later on, he is actually the one who figured it out. Did not see the ending coming. I expected Monk to express his love for Hester, not to propose. YES! Of course, leave it to Monk to propose in a graveyard. I can't wait to read of the new depths to their relationship and their feelings for each other. In my excitement over the engagement, I nearly forgot to add the list of interesting names and there were plenty in this book! Zillah. Perdita. Phemie. Athol (sounds like a gasoline). Wystan. Keelin (which is actually quite pretty, but I do like Irish names).

So far this is my favorite of the Monk series. The last one was my least favorite so I wasn't sure if I would enjoy this one but from the first I was caught up in the drama of a breach of promise suit that ended in death but which also led to a 21 year old mystery of two disfigured girls given up by their mother. How this all was related was the great fun of reading this book. Not to mention the last page of so had me saying, "Finally!"

I have just finished this book...well, 1:00 this morning. I am new to Anne Perry (within the last year) and wonder how I ever missed reading her. I love mysteries and love the Victorian era. I downloaded this book Saturday and finished, as I said at 1:00 am Monday morning! I absolutely LOVE her writing. I usual am able to figure out most plots by the end of the book - but this one I never saw coming! The "twists" were pretty big and hadn't even entered my mind! Anne's details are amazing - you can actually know what it was like to live in this era. Something I thought I might always like...not so much anymore. It was a hard time for many people. I like that Anne does not sugar-coat any of it. I believe she gives a true perspective of what life was like then...good and bad. You definitely will become invested in the characters and know them quite well - yet may be surprised by many of their actions. If you like intelligently written mysteries - then I would highly recommend Anne Perry. I am looking forward to the next in the series and will be sad when I have read the final one.

I agree with other reviewers that the trial phase, at least, is very slow and the same material is repeated again and again. Was there a required word count? My biggest concern is that there were

far too many credibility issues. I don't believe Victorian etiquette would have approved of the parade of outsiders into a family's private quarters, or that a member of the gentry would have accosted a perfect stranger awaiting an introduction in his brother's home and discussed a personal issue concerning his sister-in-law. A conventionally brought-up young wife would not have berated her brother-in-law in front of guests, and the ever meticulous and composed Delphine could not have possibly been so foolish as to severely censure her daughter in the presence of her nemesis, Mr. Monk. I realize that Ms. Perry was trying to make a point about the strictures of Victorian society, but I think she forgot about Victorian manners, and the story suffered for it. In addition, perhaps because I have not read her other books, I was often confused between Sir Oliver and Mr. Monk. In this tale, at least, they were nearly one and the same: both frustrated in the extreme over the case, both interviewing a string of friends and acquaintances in much the same way, both relying on the intuition and advice of Hester Latterly, both in love with Ms. Latterly but not knowing how to proceed. It would have been helpful if the author had delineated the differences in their roles a little more. At the end, it was quite a surprise that she would choose one over the other.

There wasn't an option for 4.5 stars so I gave it 5. Interesting perspective and story. I was not familiar with William Monk novels so I felt a tad lost with his character development. Still a good light read though.

The very curious mystery at the heart of this book kept me glued to it page after page. I'm a long time devoted fan of Anne Perry's novels, so how I missed this one over the years is a puzzlement to me. I'm certainly delighted that I found it as it was very engrossing and as all her books, it's social issue is still relevant today. At this point in the saga the romance between Hester and Monk is just beginning to ignite. Having read all the other books in this series including the most recent, I just wish Ms. Perry would emphasize some of the marital romance that we must assume exists between these two spicely lead characters. I'm not interested in sordid details just a nod to the passion that Hester and Monk would enjoy equally and would fly in the face of Victorian morals.

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