



# Model: The Ugly Business of Beautiful Women

By Michael Gross

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The definitive story of the international modeling business—and its evil twin, legalized flesh peddling—*Model* is a tale of beautiful women empowered and subjugated; of vast sums of money; of sex and drugs, obsession and tragic death; and of the most unholy combination in commerce: stunning young women and rich, lascivious men.

Investigative journalist Michael Gross takes us into the private studios and hidden villas where models play and are preyed upon, and tears down modeling's carefully constructed façade of glamour to reveal the untold truths of an ugly trade.

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## **Model: The Ugly Business of Beautiful Women** By Michael Gross Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### Amazon.com Review

Michael Gross exposes the day-to-day business of beautiful young women, sex and drugs. Through hundreds of in-depth interviews with models, photographers and agents, he develops a flowing narrative history of the modeling industry from its birth to the present day supermodel craze. It's a story of serendipitous careers like that of industry creator Richard Powers, an out-of-work actor who created a niche for himself by providing beautiful people for the newly-developed fields of photography and advertising.

### From Library Journal

Gross, a writer for *Esquire*, attempts to blow the whistle on the orgy of greed and flesh that is the modeling industry.

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### From [Booklist](#)

Originally slated as a May release, Gross' spicy but intelligent history of the modeling industry was published early to get a jump on what's sure to be a high-interest item. After all, supermodels Cindy Crawford, Kate Moss, and Naomi Campbell make millions for a reason. Models have become the newest form of celebrity, and they're everywhere. Serialized in *New York Magazine* and *Cosmopolitan*, this gossip-rich expose is a name-dropper's dream. It's also a surprisingly solid bit of work. Gross, a top-drawer reporter currently at *Esquire*, has graced the pages of many prestigious magazines and is extremely well connected. His credentials enabled him to interview all the major players and collect dozens of inside stories that confirm everything you've suspected about the glamorous and self-important modeling universe. Gross balances tales of dissipation and promiscuity with substantive history, profiling various agency directors from the "father of the modeling industry," John Robert Powers, to Eileen Ford and beyond, as well as the most influential photographers and, of course, the models themselves, from the cool and snobby "Untouchables" of the 1940s to Twiggy, Veruschka, Lauren Hutton, Jerry Hall, and Iman. As Gross tracks the astonishing growth of the modeling industry, he keeps a running tab on models' salaries, which began at \$5 an hour and have escalated to \$25,000 a day. *Donna Seaman*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Kathleen King:**

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**Adelina Thompson:**

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**Sharon Garon:**

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**Kristy Moore:**

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