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Reviews

When Maurice Utrillo died four years ago, his reputation as a painter had declined. Nevertheless, Stephen and Ethel Longstreet have thought it worthwhile to base a novel, *Man of Montmartre* (Weldenfield & Nicolson, 16s) on his wayward life.

It is not a very good novel, despite the promising material—dipsomania, religious conversion, sundry scandals, a mother who modelled for Renoir before becoming a fashionable painter herself.

The Longstreets' formula is to work in as many names as possible—snippety references covering everyone from Picasso to Gertrude Stein and the black magic of Aleister Crowley.