She was curled up on the armchair in my apartment... and she wasn't my aunt, grandmother, or a visiting friend. She was Lidi, the stout, hottest belly-dancer this side of Faro..."

At one time, Brigid O'Shaughnessy's The Youth Full of Grace (1952) and The Virgin from the Halls of the Department of Justice (1953) were both pulp fiction publications that were quarantined in 1950 and 1953 for their explicit content. The government's decision to ban these two novels was based on their presumed connection with communism and the potential danger they posed to national security.

The decision to quarantine these novels was part of a broader cultural and political climate in which the government was actively monitoring and suppressing perceived threats to society. This period was characterized by a heightened sense of national security, with concerns about communism and the spread of radical ideologies.

In this context, the quarantine of these novels was seen as a means of safeguarding the social and political stability of the nation. The government believed that by removing these books from circulation, it could prevent the dissemination of harmful ideas and maintain a controlled social environment.

The quarantine of explicit novels like Brigid O'Shaughnessy's works is a reflection of the broader cultural and political climate of the time. It highlights the tension between the expression of individual freedoms and the preservation of national values and security.