

the little sister raymond chandler

The Little Sister Raymond Chandler: A Deep Dive into a Noir Classic

the little sister raymond chandler is a novel that stands as a shining example of classic American noir fiction. Written by Raymond Chandler, one of the most influential crime writers of the 20th century, this book captures the gritty essence of Los Angeles in the 1940s through the eyes of the iconic private detective Philip Marlowe. For fans of detective mysteries and hardboiled fiction, *The Little Sister* offers a compelling mix of suspense, sharp dialogue, and vivid characterization that continues to resonate today.

Understanding The Little Sister Raymond Chandler

At its core, *The Little Sister* is a detective novel centered on Marlowe's investigation into the mysterious disappearance of Orfamay Quest, a young woman from a small town who comes to Los Angeles seeking fame and fortune. What starts as a straightforward missing-person case quickly evolves into a tangled web of deception, murder, and corruption, showcasing Chandler's mastery of plot complexity and atmospheric storytelling.

Raymond Chandler's Style and Influence

One of the reasons *The Little Sister* raymond chandler remains a beloved classic is because of Chandler's distinctive writing style. His prose is sharp, witty, and richly descriptive, painting a picture of post-war Los Angeles that is both glamorous and seedy. Chandler's use of similes and metaphors is famously unique—often blending the poetic with the cynical—which brings an almost cinematic quality to his narrative.

Moreover, Chandler's influence on the detective genre cannot be overstated. He helped define the archetype of the hardboiled private eye: tough yet morally upright, witty yet world-weary. Philip Marlowe embodies these traits perfectly, making *The Little Sister* not just a gripping story but a template for many detective novels and films that followed.

The Plot and Themes of The Little Sister Raymond Chandler

The plot of *The Little Sister* raymond chandler is a classic example of noir storytelling. It is filled with twists and turns that keep readers guessing until the very end. However, beyond the mystery, the novel explores deeper themes that give it lasting depth.

The Dark Side of the American Dream

Orfamay Quest's journey from a rural town to Los Angeles symbolizes the pursuit of the American Dream—a desire for success, wealth, and recognition. However, her story quickly reveals the darker underbelly of this dream, exposing the exploitation and moral compromises that often accompany it. Chandler uses Orfamay's character not just as a missing person but as a poignant symbol of innocence lost in a city rife with corruption.

Morality and Justice in a Corrupt World

Philip Marlowe's investigations highlight the blurred lines between right and wrong in a world where powerful figures manipulate events for their own gain. The novel raises questions about the nature of justice—whether it can truly be achieved in a society corrupted by greed and violence. Marlowe's personal code of ethics, which often puts him at odds with both criminals and law enforcement, adds a layer of complexity to the narrative.

Characters That Bring The Little Sister Raymond Chandler to Life

No discussion of The Little Sister raymond chandler would be complete without delving into its memorable characters. Chandler's skill in creating multi-dimensional figures is on full display here, making the story not just a mystery but a study of human nature.

Philip Marlowe: The Quintessential Private Eye

Marlowe is more than just a detective; he's a character who embodies resilience, intelligence, and a certain poetic melancholy. His sharp observations and dry humor make him an engaging narrator, while his determination to uncover the truth drives the story forward. Marlowe's interactions with other characters often reveal both his toughness and his underlying sense of honor.

Orfamay Quest and the Supporting Cast

Though Orfamay is the catalyst for the plot, other characters add layers of intrigue. From the glamorous film industry types to the seedy underworld figures, each person Marlowe encounters contributes to the rich tapestry of Los Angeles life Chandler presents. The interplay between these characters highlights issues such as power dynamics, gender roles, and societal expectations during the mid-20th century.

The Little Sister Raymond Chandler and Its Place in Popular Culture

Since its publication, The Little Sister raymond chandler has influenced countless adaptations and works inspired by its style and themes. The novel

has been adapted into film noir, radio dramas, and television episodes, each capturing different aspects of Chandler's storytelling brilliance.

Film Adaptations and Legacy

The 1949 film adaptation of *The Little Sister* brought Philip Marlowe's world to the silver screen, further popularizing the hardboiled detective genre. Though the movie took some liberties with the plot, it retained the novel's dark atmosphere and complex characters, cementing Marlowe's place in cinematic history.

Beyond direct adaptations, Chandler's influence can be seen in countless detective stories, crime dramas, and neo-noir films. Writers and filmmakers continue to draw inspiration from his vivid portrayal of a morally ambiguous world and the lone detective navigating it.

Why The Little Sister Raymond Chandler Still Matters Today

In an age where detective fiction has evolved in many directions, *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler remains a touchstone for quality storytelling. Its blend of suspense, character depth, and social commentary offers readers much more than a simple mystery.

Timeless Appeal of Noir Fiction

Noir fiction, with its focus on flawed characters and shadowy settings, resonates because it reflects real human struggles—ethical dilemmas, societal corruption, and the quest for truth in an imperfect world. *The Little Sister* captures these elements with nuance and style, making it as relevant now as it was when first published.

Lessons from Philip Marlowe's Character

Marlowe's unwavering integrity and dedication to his personal code offer a compelling example of navigating complexity without losing one's moral compass. In a world full of ambiguity, his character reminds readers of the importance of courage and honesty.

Tips for Readers Exploring The Little Sister raymond chandler

For those new to Raymond Chandler or this particular novel, approaching *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler with some background can enhance the reading experience.

- **Familiarize yourself with the noir genre:** Understanding the conventions of noir fiction will help you appreciate Chandler's unique contributions.
- **Pay attention to the setting:** Los Angeles is almost a character itself, and Chandler's detailed descriptions enrich the atmosphere.
- **Focus on the dialogue:** Chandler's sharp, often witty exchanges reveal character traits and advance the plot.
- **Consider the historical context:** The post-WWII American society depicted in the book influences the characters' motivations and challenges.

Exploring these aspects will deepen your appreciation for the novel's complexity and the craft behind it.

The Little Sister raymond chandler stands as a testament to the enduring power of well-crafted detective fiction. Its rich narrative, unforgettable characters, and evocative depiction of a city both alluring and dangerous make it a must-read for anyone interested in the noir genre or classic American literature. Whether you're drawn by mystery, character study, or social critique, Chandler's work continues to offer a gripping journey through the shadows of Los Angeles.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Little Sister' by Raymond Chandler about?

'The Little Sister' is a detective novel featuring Philip Marlowe, who investigates the disappearance of a young woman in Los Angeles, uncovering corruption and crime in the process.

When was 'The Little Sister' by Raymond Chandler published?

'The Little Sister' was first published in 1949.

Who is the main character in 'The Little Sister' by Raymond Chandler?

The main character is Philip Marlowe, a private detective.

What themes are explored in 'The Little Sister' by Raymond Chandler?

The novel explores themes such as crime, corruption, morality, and the dark side of Hollywood.

How does 'The Little Sister' compare to other Raymond Chandler novels?

'The Little Sister' is considered one of Chandler's classic hard-boiled detective novels, featuring his signature style and complex characters, though some critics find it less polished than 'The Big Sleep.'

Has 'The Little Sister' been adapted into any films or TV shows?

There have been no major film or TV adaptations of 'The Little Sister,' unlike some of Chandler's other works.

What is the significance of the title 'The Little Sister'?

The title refers to the younger sibling of a mysterious woman Philip Marlowe is investigating, symbolizing innocence entangled in the darker elements of the story.

Additional Resources

The Little Sister Raymond Chandler: An In-Depth Exploration of a Noir Classic

the little sister raymond chandler stands as a significant work in the canon of American detective fiction. Published in 1949, this novel showcases Chandler's mastery of hard-boiled storytelling, blending sharp dialogue, atmospheric settings, and a complex plot that reflects post-war anxieties. As a seminal piece in Chandler's Philip Marlowe series, *The Little Sister* exemplifies the author's ability to capture the murky moral landscape of Los Angeles while delving into themes of identity, corruption, and the elusive nature of truth.

Contextualizing The Little Sister within Raymond Chandler's Oeuvre

Raymond Chandler's contributions to detective fiction are often measured by his creation of the iconic private detective Philip Marlowe. *The Little Sister*, being the sixth novel in the Marlowe series, arrives at a point where Chandler had refined his narrative style and thematic concerns. Unlike earlier works such as *The Big Sleep* or *Farewell, My Lovely*, this novel integrates post-war cultural shifts, reflecting the changing social dynamics of late 1940s America.

Chandler's work is characterized by its noir atmosphere—gritty urban landscapes, morally ambiguous characters, and intricate plots. *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler is no exception. It continues the tradition of hard-boiled detective fiction, but with a slightly different flavor that incorporates a more introspective Marlowe and a sharper critique of Hollywood's glamorized but often corrupt world.

Plot Overview and Narrative Style

At its core, *The Little Sister* revolves around Marlowe's investigation into the mysterious circumstances surrounding a young woman named Orfamay Quest. She hires Marlowe to find her missing brother, Orrin, a soldier returning from the war who may be involved in dangerous activities. The narrative quickly weaves through the seedy underbelly of Los Angeles, involving Hollywood studios, gangster elements, and a series of violent confrontations.

Chandler's narrative style in *The Little Sister* is marked by his signature witty, cynical tone and vivid descriptions. His prose combines terse dialogue with richly painted scenes that evoke an atmosphere heavy with suspicion and moral ambiguity. The pacing balances moments of introspection with bursts of action, maintaining reader engagement throughout the unfolding mystery.

Key Themes in *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler

The Post-War American Landscape

The aftermath of World War II plays a subtle but crucial role in shaping the novel's environment. The characters, particularly Orrin Quest, represent the challenges faced by returning veterans—dislocation, identity crises, and the shadowy dealings that often awaited them. Chandler captures the unease of a society transitioning from wartime unity to peacetime uncertainty, reflected in the fractured relationships and blurred lines between law and crime.

Hollywood and Corruption

A significant portion of the novel critiques Hollywood's glittering façade, exposing the industry's connections to crime and moral decay. Chandler's insider knowledge of the film industry lends authenticity to this portrayal. *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler uses the glamorous backdrop as a contrast to Marlowe's gritty realism, highlighting how appearances often mask dangerous realities.

The Complexity of Identity

Identity and deception are recurring motifs throughout the narrative. Characters frequently assume false personas or conceal crucial information, complicating Marlowe's investigation. The novel probes the idea that truth is elusive, and that understanding one's self and others is fraught with ambiguity. This theme resonates with the broader noir tradition, where characters navigate a world of shifting loyalties and hidden motives.

Character Analysis: Philip Marlowe and Supporting Cast

Philip Marlowe, as portrayed in *The Little Sister*, continues to embody the archetype of the lone detective—cynical yet principled, world-weary but doggedly persistent. His internal moral compass often clashes with the corrupt external world, providing a lens through which readers interpret the narrative's ethical dilemmas.

Orfamay Quest, the titular "little sister," is a pivotal figure whose innocence and determination propel the story forward. Her interactions with Marlowe reveal layers of vulnerability and resilience, making her more than a mere plot device. Meanwhile, Orrin Quest represents the archetypal troubled veteran, whose ambiguous motives challenge Marlowe's—and the reader's—judgments.

Other supporting characters, such as studio executives, criminals, and femme fatales, enrich the novel's texture. Each embodies aspects of Chandler's critique of post-war American society, whether through greed, desperation, or moral compromise.

Comparisons with Other Chandler Novels

When juxtaposed with Chandler's earlier works like *The Big Sleep* (1939) and *The Long Goodbye* (1953), *The Little Sister* occupies a unique narrative space. It is less sprawling than *The Big Sleep*'s labyrinthine plot but more focused on psychological complexity than some of Chandler's terse early stories.

The novel's engagement with Hollywood as a setting distinguishes it from other Marlowe adventures, offering an exploration of celebrity culture and its darker undercurrents. Additionally, *The Little Sister*'s treatment of post-war themes anticipates the broader cultural shifts that would become more pronounced in American literature during the 1950s.

Reception and Legacy

Upon its release, *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler received mixed reviews. Some critics praised Chandler's evocative prose and atmospheric storytelling, while others found the plot less compelling compared to his earlier masterpieces. Over time, however, the novel has gained appreciation for its nuanced depiction of post-war America and its contribution to the noir genre.

In contemporary literary analysis, *The Little Sister* is often acknowledged for its thematic depth and its role in expanding the detective fiction genre beyond mere puzzles into a vehicle for social commentary. It has influenced numerous writers and filmmakers, cementing its place as a touchstone in noir literature.

Pros and Cons of *The Little Sister* as a Noir Classic

- **Pros:** Rich atmospheric detail; complex character development; insightful social critique; polished narrative style.
- **Cons:** Some plot elements may appear convoluted; pacing can be uneven; less iconic memorable scenes compared to other Chandler novels.

Why The Little Sister Raymond Chandler Remains Relevant Today

Decades after its publication, *The Little Sister* continues to resonate with readers and scholars for its exploration of themes that transcend its era. Issues of identity, corruption, and the search for truth remain pertinent in contemporary society.

Moreover, Chandler's depiction of Los Angeles as a city of contrasts—beauty and decay, glamour and rot—still captures the imagination, contributing to the cultural mythology surrounding the city. For modern audiences interested in detective fiction, film noir, or mid-20th-century American literature, *The Little Sister* offers a compelling case study in how genre fiction can reflect broader social realities.

In the digital age, where noir influences persist across media, revisiting *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler provides valuable insight into the origins and evolution of storytelling that blends suspense with social critique. It stands as a testament to Chandler's enduring legacy as a pioneer of literary noir.

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the little sister raymond chandler: The Little Sister Raymond Chandler, 1988-08-12 Crime fiction master Raymond Chandler's fifth novel featuring Philip Marlowe, the quintessential urban private eye (Los Angeles Times). In noir master Raymond Chandler's *The Little Sister*, a movie starlet with a gangster boyfriend and a pair of siblings with a shared secret lure private eye Philip Marlowe into the less than glamorous and more than a little dangerous world of Hollywood fame.

Chandler's first foray into the industry that dominates the company town that is Los Angeles.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Die kleine Schwester (The little sister, dt.)* Roman Raymond Chandler, W. E. Richartz, 1975

the little sister raymond chandler: Little Sisters Carolyn Lieberg, 1998 Including interviews with grown-up little sisters, insights, and experiences, Lieberg explores in depth what it is like to be the youngest, shortest female in the household. The author also examines the hotly debated topic of birth order psychology and reveals previously little-known or generally ignored facts about little sisters.

the little sister raymond chandler: THE LITTLE SISTER. BY RAYMOND CHANDLER. Raymond Chandler, 1969

the little sister raymond chandler: *The Little Sister* Raymond Chandler, 2018-05-02 Philip Marlowe heads to Hollywood exploring the underworld of glitter capital, trying to find a sweet young thing's missing brother; a movie starlet with a gangster boyfriend and a pair of siblings with a shared secret. Her name is Orfamay Quest and she's come all the way from Manhattan, Kansas, to find her missing brother Orrin. Or leastways that's what she tells PI Philip Marlowe, offering him a measly 20 bucks for the privilege. But Marlowe's feeling charitable - though it's not long before he wishes he wasn't so sweet. You see, Orrin's trail leads Marlowe to luscious movie starlets, uppity gangsters, suspicious cops, and corpses with ice picks jammed in their necks. When trouble comes calling, sometimes it's best to pretend to be out... We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection. Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades, and therefore have not been accessible to the general public. The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature, and our view is that this is a significant literary work, which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades. The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works. To ensure a high quality product, each title has been meticulously hand curated by our staff. Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work. We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work, and that for you it becomes an enriching experience.

the little sister raymond chandler: Schaulust und Verbrechen Gabriela Holzmann, 2016-12-13 In der Gattungsgeschichte der Kriminalliteratur erweisen sich technische Innovationen als treibende Kraft der literarischen Entwicklungen. In Text und Bild veranschaulicht die Autorin das komplexe Zusammenwirken von kriminalistischen Verfahrensweisen, Wahrnehmung und medialer Präsentation.

the little sister raymond chandler: The Little Sister Raymond Chandler, 2021-08-31 In *The Little Sister*, Raymond Chandler masterfully weaves a complex narrative that explores the dark underbelly of 1940s Los Angeles. Set against a backdrop of Hollywood glamour and seedy undercurrents, the novel follows private detective Philip Marlowe as he navigates a labyrinth of deceit and murder. Chandler employs his signature hard-boiled style, characterized by sharp dialogue, vivid imagery, and a tone that oscillates between cynicism and a deep sense of humanity. The novel not only showcases Chandler's pioneering contributions to the noir genre but also reflects the post-war disillusionment permeating American society. Raymond Chandler, a pivotal figure in 20th-century detective fiction, drew from his own experiences in a rapidly changing world. Born in Chicago and raised in California, Chandler was deeply influenced by the social dynamics of urban life, particularly the stark contrasts between affluence and corruption. His personal struggles, including a tumultuous career in corporate writing and a passionate love for literature, laid the groundwork for his distinctive voice, making Marlowe a cultural icon of resilience amidst moral ambiguity. Readers will find *The Little Sister* an indispensable addition to their literary collection. Its intricate plot and rich characterizations invite both casual and scholarly examination, offering insight into human nature and the complexities of justice. Chandler's ability to blend suspense with a keen observation of societal flaws makes this novel a timeless classic, resonating with anyone drawn to the allure of noir narratives.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Düstere Aufklärung* Sonja Osterwalder, 2011 Düstere Aufklärung beleuchtet die Detektivliteratur von ihren Anfängen im 19. Jahrhundert bis in die jüngste Gegenwart. Entlang von Berühmtheiten wie Sherlock Holmes, Philip Marlowe und Kay Scarpetta werden die unterschiedlichen Ausformungen der Detektivfigur und der detektivischen Methoden in Augenschein genommen und die großen Umwälzungen innerhalb der Gattungsgeschichte thematisiert: der Wechsel von der Story zum Roman, der Einfluss der Psychoanalyse auf das Genre, die Ablösung des Privatdetektivs durch den Kommissar sowie der unaufhaltsame Aufstieg der weiblichen Ermittler und der forensischen Wissenschaften.

the little sister raymond chandler: Politics, Desire, and the Hollywood Novel Chip Rhodes, 2008-09 The story of what happens when a serious writer goes to Hollywood has become a cliché: the writer is paid well but underappreciated, treated like a factory worker, and forced to write bad, formulaic movies. Most fail, become cynical, drink to excess, and at some point write a bitter novel that attacks the film industry in the name of high art. Like many too familiar stories, this one neither holds up to the facts nor helps us understand Hollywood novels. Instead, Chip Rhodes argues, these novels tell us a great deal about the ways that Hollywood has shaped both the American political landscape and American definitions of romance and desire. Rhodes considers how novels about the film industry changed between the studio era of the 1930s and 1940s and the era of deregulated film making that has existed since the 1960s. He asserts that Americans are now driven by cultural, rather than class, differences and that our mainstream notion of love has gone from repressed desire to "abnormal desire" to, finally, strictly business. *Politics, Desire, and the Hollywood Novel* pays close attention to six authors—Nathanael West, Raymond Chandler, Budd Schulberg, Joan Didion, Bruce Wagner, and Elmore Leonard—who have toiled in the film industry and written to tell about it. More specifically, Rhodes considers both screenplays and novels with an eye toward the different formulations of sexuality, art, and ultimately political action that exist in these two kinds of storytelling.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Raymond Chandler's Philip Marlowe* , 1997 In this innovative, graphic adaptation of Raymond Chandler's *The Little Sister* illustrator Michael Lark captures the film-noir vision of Los Angeles that Chandler brought compellingly to life in this classic novel. Full-color illustrations.

the little sister raymond chandler: Books to Die For John Connolly, Declan Burke, 2016-10-25 An anthology featuring the world's greatest mystery authors writing about the world's greatest mystery novels.

the little sister raymond chandler: *The Shape of Things to Come* Greil Marcus, 2007-08-21 From the author of *Mystery Train* and *Lipstick Traces*, an exhilarating and provocative investigation of the tangle of American identity America is a place and a story, made up of exuberance and suspicion, crime and liberation, lynch mobs and escapes; its greatest testaments are made of portents and warnings, biblical allusions that lose all certainty in the American air. It is this story of self-invention and nationhood that Greil Marcus rediscovers, beginning with John Winthrop's invocation of America as a city on the hill, Lincoln's second inaugural address, and Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech about his American dream. Listening to these prophetic founding statements, Marcus explores America's promise as a New Jerusalem and the nature of its covenant: first with God, and then with its own citizens. In the nineteenth century, this vision of the nation's story was told in public as part of common discourse, to be fought over in plain speech and flights of gorgeous rhetoric. Since then, Marcus argues, it has become cryptic, a story told more in art than in politics. He traces it across the continent and through time, hearing the tale in the disparate voices of writers, filmmakers, performers, and actors: Philip Roth, David Lynch, David Thomas, Allen Ginsberg, Sheryl Lee, and Bill Pullman. In *The Shape of Things to Come*, the future and the past merge in extraordinary and uncanny ways, and Marcus proves once again that he is our most imaginative and original cultural critic.

the little sister raymond chandler: Murakami Haruki Michael Seats, 2006-01-01 In his book, *Murakami Haruki*, Dr. Michael Seats offers an important philosophical intervention in the

discussion of the relationship between Murakami's fiction and contemporary Japanese culture. Breaking through conventional analysis, *Seats* demonstrates how Murakami's first and later trilogies utilize the structure of the simulacrum, a second-order representation, to develop a complex critique of contemporary Japanese culture. By outlining the critical-fictional contours of the 'Murakami Phenomenon,' the discussion confronts the vexing question of Japanese modernity and subjectivity within the contexts of the national-cultural imaginary. *Seats* finds mirroring comparisons between Murakami's works and practices in current media-entertainment technologies, indicating a new politics of representation. *Murakami Haruki* is a critical text for scholars and students of Japanese Studies and Critical Theory, and is an essential guide for those interested in modern Japanese literature.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Blood on the Stage, 1975-2000* Amnon Kabatchnik, 2012-10-18 Discussing more than 80 full-length plays, this volume provides an overview of the most important and memorable theatrical works of crime and detection produced between 1975 and 2000. Each entry includes a plot synopsis, production data, and the opinions of well-known and respected critics and scholars.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Hard-Boiled* Erin Smith, 2010-07-07 An examination of the culture that produced and supported pulp-fiction.

the little sister raymond chandler: *Sensory Motor Concepts in Language and Cognition* Liane Ströbel, 2016-07-01 The series 'Proceedings in Language and Cognition' explores issues of mental representation, linguistic structure and representation, and their interplay. The research presented in this series is grounded in the idea explored in the Collaborative Research Center 'The structure of representations in language, cognition and science' (SFB 991) that there is a universal format for the representation of linguistic and cognitive concepts.

the little sister raymond chandler: *The Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century Fiction, 3 Volume Set* Brian W. Shaffer, 2011-01-18 This Encyclopedia offers an indispensable reference guide to twentieth-century fiction in the English-language. With nearly 500 contributors and over one million words, it is the most comprehensive and authoritative reference guide to twentieth-century fiction in the English language. Contains over 500 entries of 1000-3000 words written in lucid, jargon-free prose, by an international cast of leading scholars Arranged in three volumes covering British and Irish Fiction, American Fiction, and World Fiction, with each volume edited by a leading scholar in the field Entries cover major writers (such as Saul Bellow, Raymond Chandler, John Steinbeck, Virginia Woolf, A.S. Byatt, Samuel Beckett, D.H. Lawrence, Zadie Smith, Salman Rushdie, V.S. Naipaul, Nadine Gordimer, Alice Munro, Chinua Achebe, J.M. Coetzee, and Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong'o) and their key works Examines the genres and sub-genres of fiction in English across the twentieth century (including crime fiction, Sci-Fi, chick lit, the noir novel, and the avant-garde novel) as well as the major movements, debates, and rubrics within the field, such as censorship, globalization, modernist fiction, fiction and the film industry, and the fiction of migration, diaspora, and exile

the little sister raymond chandler: *The Essential James Garner* Stephen H. Ryan, Paul J. Ryan, 2018-06-07 Since his television debut in the mid-1950s, James Garner entertained millions of fans on screens both big and small. From supporting roles in memorable films like *Sayonara* and *The Notebook* to leading roles in box office hits including *The Great Escape*, *Victor / Victoria*, and the feature film version of *Maverick*, the actor appeared in some of the most entertaining movies of all time. In *The Essential James Garner*, Stephen H. Ryan and Paul J. Ryan consider the prolific output of one of America's most beloved actors. This book looks at the key feature films, made-for-television movies, and television episodes of Garner's career. The authors discuss each of the actor's most well-known films—*The Great Escape*, *The Americanization of Emily*, *Support Your Local Sheriff!* and *Murphy's Romance*, among others—as well as critically acclaimed television movies including *Barbarians at the Gate*, *Breathing Lessons*, *Decoration Day*, *Heartsounds*, *My Name Is Bill W.*, and *Promise*. Each entry provides details about the film's production, critical reception, and commercial success. The best episodes of Garner's two iconic television, *Maverick* and *The Rockford Files*—as

well as his highly regarded but little seen series Nichols—are also identified. The authors make clear why these choices are indispensable viewings, not only for those already familiar with Garner, but also for those who have yet to enjoy the work of this Oscar nominee and multiple Emmy winner. A tribute to the career of a Hollywood legend, *The Essential James Garner* will appeal to anyone wanting to know more about the actor's best films and programs.

the little sister raymond chandler: Secrets of Crime Fiction Classics Stephen Knight, 2014-11-19 Starting with William Godwin's Caleb Williams and Charles Brockden Brown's Edgar Huntly, this book covers in detail the great works of detective fiction--Poe's Dupin stories, Conan Doyle's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, Sayers' *Strong Poison*, Chandler's *The Big Sleep*, and Simenon's *The Yellow Dog*. Lesser-known but important early works are also discussed, including Wilkie Collins' *The Woman in White*, Emile Gaboriau's *M. Lecoq*, Anna Katharine Green's *The Leavenworth Case* and Fergus Hume's *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*. More recent titles show increasing variety in the mystery genre, with Patricia Highsmith's criminal-focused *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and Chester Himes' African-American detectives in *Cotton Comes to Harlem*. Diversity develops further in Sara Paretsky's tough woman detective *V.I. Warshawski in Indemnity Only*, Umberto Eco's medievalist and postmodern *The Name of the Rose* and the forensic feminism of Patricia Cornwell's *Postmortem*. Notably, the best modern crime fiction has been primarily international--Manuel Vasquez Montalban's *Catalan Summer Seas*, Ian Rankin's Edinburgh-set *The Naming of the Dead*, Sweden's Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with a Dragon Tattoo* and Vikram Chanda's Mumbai-based *Sacred Games*. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

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