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The Notebooks of Raymond Chandler

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The Notebooks of Raymond Chandler Raymond Chandler

During a period of twenty years—from his start as a young writer for H. L. Mencken's classic pulp magazine *The Black Mask* in the early 1930s, through the publication of his novels *The Big Sleep* and *Farewell, My Lovely*, to his career as a Hollywood screenwriter in the 1940s—Raymond Chandler kept a series of private notebooks.

Drawn from those journals, *The Notebooks of Raymond Chandler* offers an intimate view of the writer at work, revealing early ideas, descriptions, and anecdotes that would later be used in *The Long Goodbye*, *The Blue Dahlia*, and other classics.

Filled with both public and private writings, *The Notebooks of Raymond Chandler* includes "Marlowesque" particulars such as pickpocket lingo, San Quentin jailhouse slang, a "Note on the Tommygun," and musings on "Craps." Here, too, are surprising, lesser known essays on Hollywood, the mystery story, British and American writing, and a wicked parody of Hemingway. This sampler—by turns whimsical, provocative, irreverent, and fascinating—also contains a list of possible story titles; "Chandlerisms;" and his short work "English Summer: A Gothic Romance," which the writer viewed as a turning point in his career.

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