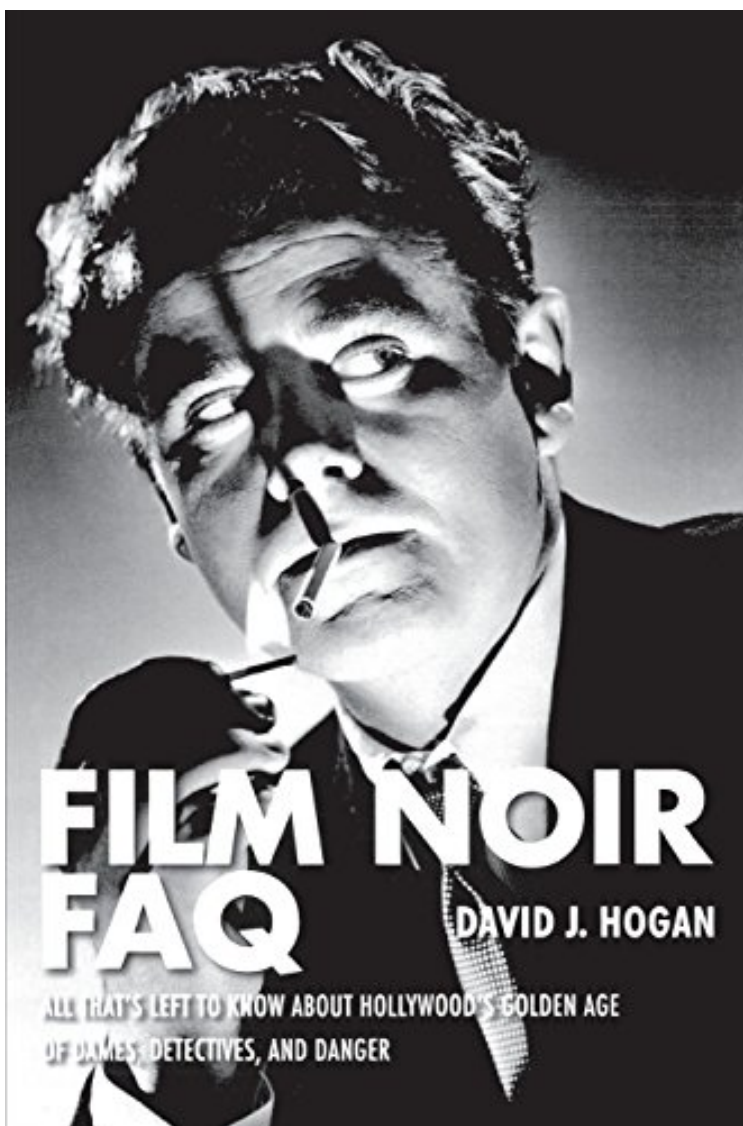


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Film Noir FAQ: All That's Left to Know About Hollywood's Golden Age of Dames, Detectives, and Danger (Faq Series)

David J. Hogan

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David J. Hogan : Film Noir FAQ: All That's Left to Know About Hollywood's Golden Age of Dames, Detectives, and Danger (Faq Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Film Noir FAQ: All That's Left to Know About Hollywood's Golden Age of Dames, Detectives, and Danger (Faq Series):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. "All That's Left to Know "... and more. By Richie Primo If you're someone who, like myself, has read most of the popular literature defining the constitution/designation of true Film Noir - but yearns for a fresh perspective - you'll find it among these pages. In the concise summations of his some-200 chosen titles, David Hogan has managed to convey original, thought-provoking insights, while successfully challenging many self-conceived guidelines established by some of the recognized "experts" on the subject. Hogan is able to inform and educate his reader without trying too hard to sound intelligent. He's quite adept at explaining the process of set design, camera angles, lighting and many other facets. At worst, you'll learn some things about Film Noir that you may not have already known. Hogan's diverse array of film reviews are grouped within various chapters that concentrate on distinct Noir motifs and/or character archetypes. Some of the chapters I particularly enjoyed are the aptly titled "Victims of Circumstance" - "The Private Dick" and "The Best Laid Plans" - which, including all others throughout the book, uniquely review the films containing their respective, sub-genre elements. Another interesting aspect are the 100's of sidebars filled with detailed (and some unknown, to me) information on Actors, Directors, Producers, Cinematographers, etc., placed throughout the book (Hogan calls these "Case Files"). I highly recommend this book to any movie fan simply looking to learn about Film Noir, and also to the seasoned Noir buff searching for a somewhat different approach and view. "Film Noir FAQ" is the freshest take on Noir since Eddie Muller's "Dark City."

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Takes a long time to read Hahahahahahahah By Customer I had one problem with the book. Usually I can read a book in two or three days, but this one took me a month to read. The problem was that every movie the book so vividly describes motivated me to stop reading, and then go to watch the movie on Youtube. And then return to the book, etc. Etc. Lots of great movies. My favorite was the classic 'Kiss of Death' starring Victor Mature and Richard Widmark as Tommy Udo. You might remember the movie from the epic scene when Tommy Udo wrapped a lamp cord around an old lady sitting in a wheel chair and then rolling her into a stairwell and pushing her down the stairs.

17 of 19 people found the following review helpful. EXCELLENT ADDITION TO NOIR LIBRARY! By Richard J. Oravitz There have been a lot of books written over the last couple decades covering Film Noir. I have at least 50+ and most of them are quite good, and David Hogan's new entry goes right to the top of the list alongside Silver and Ursini's FILM NOIR READER series and Eddie Muller's DARK CITY and NOIR CITY series. Hogan's book reeks with Noir style, from the cover photo of Glenn Ford to the entire layout inside. And the text comes in rapid-fire sections like snappy clips of Noir dialogue, each a page or two long, short and sweet, up front and to the point. So you can easily pick up the book and cover a lot of ground in short periods of time, and though I usually like to read for a couple hours a sitting, I found Hogan's presentation useful, making the book an easy and fun read. Hogan nails it perfectly right from the beginning in the introduction when he writes about movies from the 1940s and '50s "...that we now call film noir, force us to acknowledge that the presumably solid foundation upon which we base our assumptions and our very lives is temporal and dangerously unstable. It's likely to not merely shift beneath our feet, but give way completely, turning the routine of our lives upside-down and annihilating our expectations. We're plunged into a disorienting place where everything we thought we knew is wrong." And going on about familiarity of Noir themes Hogan continues, "You do not control the circumstances of your life. Choices you agonize over are likely to be bad ones. Choices you make without thinking are likely to be worse. Whatever you love and value can be taken from you at any moment. Forces greater than you, and greater even than your leaders, can conspire to destroy you. Those forces are no smarter than you, but they have the power and you don't. You are not a true participant in events, only an observer. If you are particularly foolish, or just unlucky, you will be a victim." "Fate", the hapless protagonist of Martin Goldsmith and Edgar G. Ulmer's Detour (1945) dourly observes, "can put his finger on you, or on me, for no reason at all." And there's more, much more, but I'm already primed for the gutter and we're not even out of the introduction yet. Hogan's book is divided into seven separate chapters, covering such topics as Victims of Circumstance and The Unsprung Mind with each chapter containing Case Files on various important directors, actors, actresses, etc. But don't let the contents page fool you, this is not a book on biographies. We have a 400 page study of our favorite, dare I say it, "genre", Film Noir, covering my favorite era, 1940-50s. Bad cops, bad women, bad deals and all in glorious black white. I just received this book a couple days ago and I'm about half-way through it and I'm totally convinced that this is one of the best books on the subject that I've ever read. I can recommend it highly as an important work on Film Noir and as a must-have for any film library. And, like I said, it's a downright fun read too!

Film Noir FAQ celebrates and reappraises some 200 noir thrillers representing 20 years of Hollywood's Golden Age. Noir pulls us close to brutal cops and scheming dames, desperate heist men and hardboiled private eyes, and the unlucky innocent citizens that get in their way. These are exciting movies with tough guys in trench coats and hot tomatoes in form-fitting gowns. The moon is a streetlamp and the narrow streets are prowled by squad cars and long black limousines. Lives are often small but people's plans are big sometimes too big. Robbery, murder, gambling; the gun and the fist; the grift and the con game; the hard kiss and the brutal brush-off. Film Noir FAQ brings lively attention to story, mood, themes, and technical detail, plus behind-the-scenes stories of the production of individual films. Featuring numerous stills and posters many never before published in book form highlighting key moments of

great noir movies. Film Noir FAQ serves up insights into many of the most popular and revered names in Hollywood history, including noirs greatest stars, supporting players, directors, writers, and cinematographers. Pour a Scotch, light up a smoke, and lean back with your private guide to film noir.