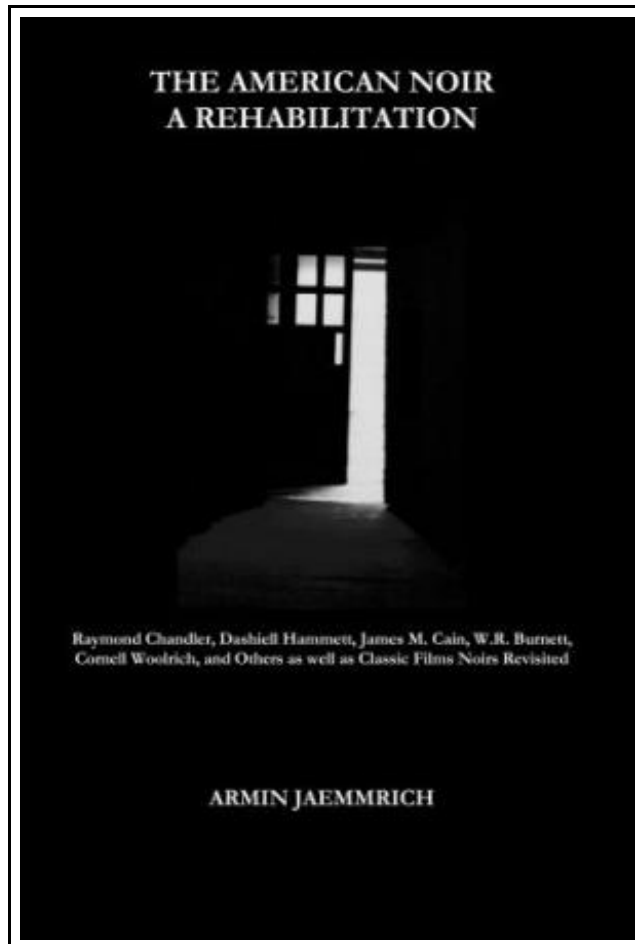


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## **THE AMERICAN NOIR - A REHABILITATION: DASHIELL HAMMETT, RAYMOND CHANDLER, JAMES M. CAIN, CORNELL WOOLRICH, W.R. BURNETT AND OTHERS AS WELL AS CLASSIC FILMS NOIRS REVISITED (PAPERBACK)**



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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.The focus of this broadly based analysis is on representative noir stories and novels, and the dialogs, voice-over, and stage directions of films such as *The Big Sleep*, *Double Indemnity*, *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, *This Gun for Hire*, *The Killers*, *Gun Crazy*, *The Asphalt Jungle*, *Criss Cross*, *Night and the City*, and *Odds Against Tomorrow*, in which the invisible writing Philip Marlowe once mentions in *Farewell, My Lovely* is traced. The author not only takes a fresh look at the works of the usual suspects Hammett, Chandler, and Cain but also of Cornell Woolrich, W.R. Burnett, Lionel White, and Geoffrey Homes. His conclusion is a kind of rehabilitation of the genre, the tenor being that it is about time to re-read the classic American noir and to question not a few of the views presently held. For, in contrast to their alleged general rejection or disdain, we do, in fact, encounter in works of noir traditional values, such as trust, reliability, respect, and friendship. And instead of proof for W.H. Auden's oft-quoted judgment on Raymond Chandler's novels ( powerful but extremely depressing books ), there is discernible in Chandler's and his colleagues narratives an affirmative stance toward and a longing for the recovery of values. Significantly many noir characters, including femmes fatales, disprove the stereotypes of amoral, areligious, and materialistic this-worldliness typically ascribed to them. Nor do we encounter them as generally fatalistic and emotionless automatons (Camus) but rather as goal-oriented human beings with their contradictions and sometimes downright sympathetically modest desires and dreams of life. The catalog of topics addressed includes, but is not limited to, the true self, the past,...

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