



# L.A. Noir: NINE DARK VISIONS OF THE CITY OF ANGELS

*William Hare*

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Los Angeles is an ideal city for film noir for both economic and aesthetic reasons. The largest metropolitan area in the country, home to an ever-changing population of the disillusioned and in close proximity to city, mountains, ocean, and desert, the City of Angels became a center of American film noir.

This work discusses nine films, each analyzed in detail, with explanation of why certain settings are appropriate for film noir, why L.A. has been a favorite of authors such Raymond Chandler, and relevant political developments in the area. The films are also examined in terms of story content as well as how they developed in the project stage, with details drawn from the filmmakers' own accounts.

The major films covered are "The Big Sleep", "Criss Cross", "D.O.A.", "In a Lonely Place", "The Blue Gardenia", "Kiss Me Deadly", "The Killing", "Chinatown" and "L.A. Confidential".

Movie Historian and writer William Hare is a contributor to "Films of the Golden Age". He also the author of "Early Film Noir: Greed, Lust and Murder Hollywood Style". He lives in Sabinillas, Spain.

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