



Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction

Stephen Faison

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction

Stephen Faison

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction Stephen Faison

The prevailing view is that existentialism is a product of post–World War II Europe and had no significant presence in the United States before the 1940s. Jean-Paul Sartre and associates are credited with establishing the philosophy in France, and later introducing it to Americans. But conventional wisdom about existentialism in the United States is mistaken. The United States actually developed its own unique brand of existentialism several years before Sartre and company published their first existentialist works. Film noir, and the hard-boiled fiction that served as its initial source material, represent one form of American existentialism that was produced independently of European philosophy. Hard-boiled fiction introduced the tough and savvy private detective, the duplicitous femme-fatale, the innocent victim of circumstance, and the confessing but remorseless murderer. Creators of this uniquely American crime genre engaged existential themes of isolation, anxiety, futility, and death in the thrilling context of the urban crime thriller. The film noir cycle of Hollywood cinema brought these features to the screen, and offered a distinctively dark visual style compatible with the unorthodox narrative techniques of hard-boiled fiction writers. Film noir has gained critical acceptance for its artistic merit, and the term has a ubiquitous presence in American culture. Americans have much to gain by recognizing their own contributors to the history of existentialism. *Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction* describes and celebrates a unique form of existentialism produced mostly by and for working-class people. Faison’s analysis of the existentialist value of early twentieth-century crime stories and films illustrates that philosophical ideas are available from a rich diversity of sources. Faison examines the plight of philosophy, which occupies a small corner of the academy, and is largely ignored beyond its walls. According to the author, philosophers do themselves and the public a disservice when they restrict what is called existentialism, or philosophy, to that which the academy traditionally approves. The tendency to limit the range of sanctioned material led the professional community to miss the philosophical importance of the critically acclaimed phenomenon known as film noir, and significantly contributes to the contemporary status of philosophy. *Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction* properly identifies existentialism, not as the original creation of post–World War II Europeans, but as a shorthand term used to describe a compelling vision of the world. The themes associated with existentialism are found in the ancient Greek tragedies, and dramatic narrative has been the preferred conveyance of the existentialist message. American and European philosophers present during the early decades of the twentieth century, agreed that the United States was not fertile soil for the existentialist message, but the popularity of hard-boiled fiction and film noir contradicts such claims. Faison examines and emphasizes the working-class origins and orientation of hard-boiled fiction to reveal the division between elites and working-class Americans that led to the ill-informed conclusion. Faison effectively challenges the frequent assertion that the intellectual and creative sources of film noir are to be found in European thinkers and movements, and establishes film noir, like hard-boiled fiction, as a uniquely American phenomenon. *Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction* is scholarly and accessible, and will appeal to academics interested in existentialism, philosophy, and interdisciplinary studies, film enthusiasts interested in the narrative and visual techniques employed in film noir, and fans of hard-boiled mystery fiction and the work of screen legends of the Hollywood studio era.

 [Download Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Ficti ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction Stephen Faison

From reader reviews:

Betty Lavery:

This book entitled Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction to be one of several books that best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this book in the book store or you can order it by using online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this e-book from your list.

Jordan Weatherspoon:

The reserve with title Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction has a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. This book exist new understanding the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to yo7u to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you in new era of the syndication. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

Micheal Ruiz:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book has high quality.

Edward Florez:

You can obtain this Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by go to the bookstore or Mall. Merely viewing or reviewing it might to be your solve trouble if you get difficulties on your knowledge. Kinds of this guide are various. Not only by simply written or printed but also can you enjoy this book by e-book. In the modern era just like now, you just looking by your mobile phone and searching what your problem. Right now, choose your personal ways to get more information about your reserve. It is most important to arrange you to ultimately make your knowledge are still upgrade. Let's try to choose right ways for you.

Download and Read Online Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction Stephen Faison #G64F5BXOA7N

Read Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison for online ebook

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison books to read online.

Online Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison ebook PDF download

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison Doc

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison Mobipocket

Existentialism, Film Noir, and Hard-Boiled Fiction by Stephen Faison EPub