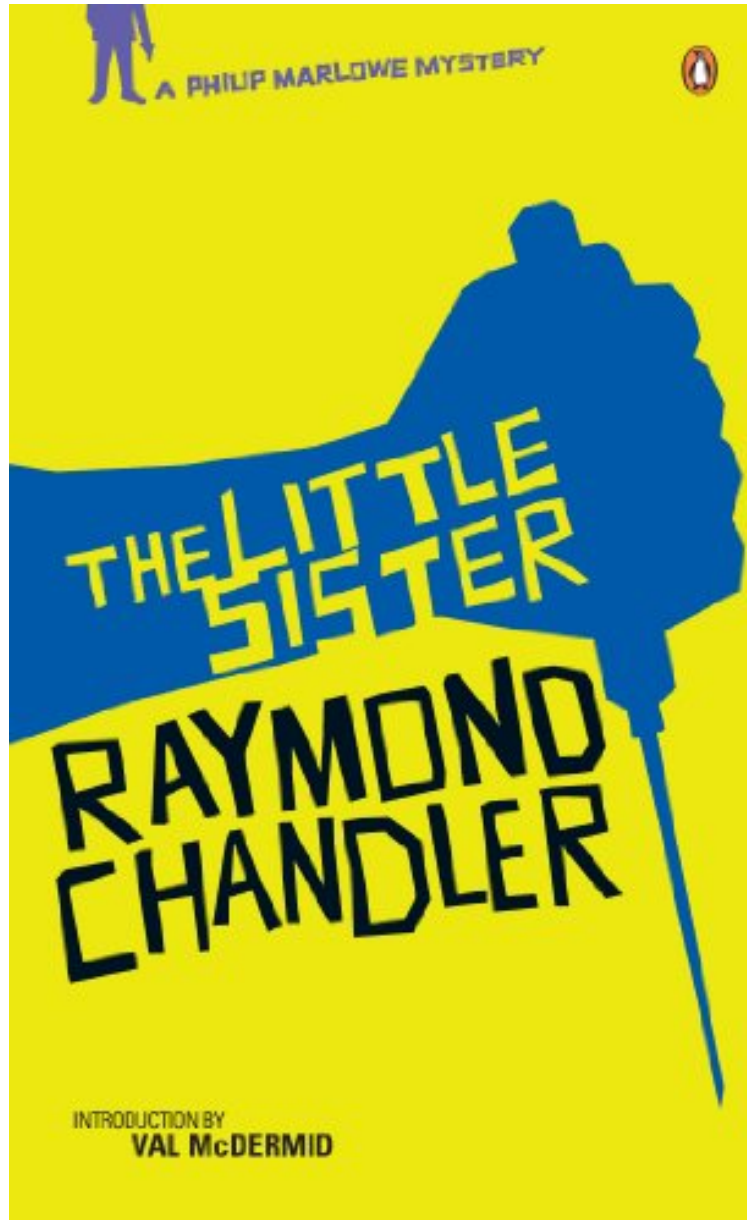


(Library ebook) The Little Sister (Philip Marlowe Series)

## The Little Sister (Philip Marlowe Series)

Von Raymond Chandler

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**Von Raymond Chandler : The Little Sister (Philip Marlowe Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Little Sister (Philip Marlowe Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Every man is quite his own chisel. Have a drink."Von expressThere is no question that without the works of Raymond

Chandler (1888-1959), the American tough guy genre, by some literary egg heads also called the school of hard-boiled detective writing would have been very different. Following in the footsteps of Hammett, Chandler removed murder from the exalted British country manor and placed it where it most frequently happens - in the streets and alleys of the city. With gritty realism he portrays the world of mean streets where there is no safety because even law and order are sometimes corrupted. Chandler was central to the birth of what became known as film noir - for both the movies he wrote in Hollywood and those that were made from his books. Indeed, Chandler had begun *The Little Sister* (1949) while working for Paramount, so it was set in Hollywood. The story opens when Orfamay Quest walks into Philip Marlowe's thinking parlor in search of a detective. However, she is not the gorgeous blonde as the cliché in the gumshoe world. Mousy Orfamay is a "small, neat, rather prissy-looking girl with primly smooth brown hair and rimless glasses." She hires Marlowe to search for her brother Orrin, who has run away to Los Angeles from somewhere in the Midwest. He left a trail that leads Marlowe through a string of cheap boarding houses to a blackmail gang. Orrin fell in with them and took a photograph of a Hollywood starlet called Mavis Weld in the company of a well known mobster. Then he approached her agent for money and simply disappeared. But before Marlowe can get to Orrin, the photographed mobster has gotten wise of the plot and has the poor guy killed. Now Marlowe has the picture and the hunt is on. These relationships give Chandler an opportunity to write about the interlocking levels of Hollywood society, however *The Little Sister* is in no sense a real Hollywood novel as most of the scenes that deal with the movies are just decorative and of no dramatic significance. There is a scene in an agent's office where the waiting room is filled with out-of-work actors. It is funny in the way it shows everyone's pretensions, but it is also a sad revelation of the empty lives involved. These scenes read as though Chandler were trying to avenge himself for all the irritations he had endured while working in Hollywood. The novel contains many familiar Chandler features, but there is no organic development beyond what he had written before. In 1969, director Paul Bogart turned the novel into a neo-noir drama film and succeeded to make a confusing plot even more obscure, so that the end result is more tiresome than amusing. It features James Garner (Marlowe) and worth mentioning among the supporting cast are Bruce Lee, Rita Moreno and Sharon Farrell. The film foreshadowed James Garner's P.I. character Jim Rockford.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not quite as impressed as I thought I would be... Von Chris Longhorn Having read every other "Marlow" novel, I figured that this would follow the pattern established by the previous stories, each one being better than the last. Unfortunately, this one dropped the ball. I wish I could say why - all the usual ingredients are there from seductive women brandishing sex to dangerous mobsters and other assorted degenerates brandishing guns, ice picks and dodgy cigarettes. The accustomed hazards of a private eye! But... this time it never seems to catch fire. The traditional Marlow observations and asides. The chess like dialogue. The characters oozing deceit and human frailty. It's still there, but it's kinda got all formulaic. A sort of writing by numbers. Chandler was by this time famous, well off and held in some esteem, so perhaps he had lost his early enthusiasm and drive. I don't know, but it certainly seems that way. The plot itself starts out tired and, like some of the hapless people in the book, eventually turns up DOA. Again, all the ingredients are there but the recipe is off. Hollywood, starlets, The Mob, bent cops - perhaps it's just too easy a target. It's complex, as one would expect from Chandler, but about two thirds the way through, the author seems to stop bothering to explain (even in a general manner) how we got where we are and loose interest in the narrative. And so did I. Never mind, I have ordered *The Long Goodbye* and that seems to get glowing reviews, so perhaps this was just a bit of an aberration. Please don't be put off trying the other Marlow stories, or even this one. At his worst, Chandler is still head and shoulders above 99% of other detective writers.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Illustrated Mystery - Love IT! Von Ein Kunde I've always been a fan of Raymond Chandler's books - they are so twisted and convoluted. Michael Lark has really brought that sense of being "in the dark" to his adaption of "The Little Sister". Both in terms of plot development and the artwork. The artwork is dark and differs from most comic book art in that it uses crisp lines, very few color gradients in conjunction with heavy inking. Michael Lark and Alex Wald hit upon an dark, art-nouveaux style that works really well for this genre.

Kurzbeschreibung *The Little Sister* is a classic detective novel by the master of hard-boiled crime. Her name is Orfamay Quest and she's come all the way from Manhattan, Kansas, to find her missing brother Orrin. Or leastways that's what she tells PI Philip Marlowe, offering him a measly twenty bucks for the privilege. But Marlowe's feeling charitable - though it's not long before he wishes he wasn't so sweet. You see, Orrin's trail leads Marlowe to luscious movie starlets, uppity gangsters, suspicious cops and corpses with ice picks jammed in their necks. When trouble comes calling, sometimes it's best to pretend to be out . . . 'Anything Chandler writes about grips the mind from the first sentence' Daily Telegraph 'One of the greatest crime writers, who set standards others still try to attain' Sunday Times 'Chandler is an original stylist, creator of a character as immortal as Sherlock Holmes' Anthony Burgess. Best-known as the creator of the original private eye, Philip Marlowe, Raymond Chandler was born in Chicago in 1888 and died in 1959. Many of his books have been adapted for the screen, and he is widely regarded as one of the very

greatest writers of detective fiction. His books include *The Big Sleep*, *The Little Sister*, *Farewell, My Lovely*, *The Long Good-bye*, *The Lady in the Lake*, *Playback*, *Killer in the Rain*, *The High Window* and *Trouble is My Business*. Remember those great film adaptations of Raymond Chandler's work? Who could forget Humphrey Bogart as Philip Marlowe in *The Big Sleep* or Dick Powell playing the same character in *Farewell, My Lovely*? In Raymond Chandler's *Philip Marlowe: The Little Sister*, illustrator Michael Lark has given us a brand-new incarnation of Chandler's famous fictional detective, a "comic book" version of Chandler's 1949 mystery. When Orfamay Quest hires Marlowe to find her missing brother, the case at first seems pretty straightforward, but--beset by mobsters, blackmailers, and murder--Marlowe soon discovers that a missing person is the least of his troubles. *The Little Sister* was not one of Raymond Chandler's best efforts, but Michael Lark has effectively tailored the text to clarify the original story, emphasizing through his "comic noir" artwork the dark, dangerous environs, both physical and psychological, in which Philip Marlowe still moves. From *Library Journal* Chandler is not only the best writer of hardboiled PI stories, he's one of the 20th century's top scribes, period. His full canon of novels and short stories is reprinted in trade paper featuring uniform covers in Black Lizard's signature style. A handsome set for a reasonable price. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.