



The Mammoth Book Of Pulp Fiction

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All the suspense, shocks, kicks, and titilation of yesterday's pulp magazines returns with a vengeance in these pages. Action-packed stories featuring hit men, underworld bosses, rogue cops, private dicks, and shady ladies are assembled here, written by such renegade authors as Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett, Ed McBain, Jim Thompson, James Ellroy, Robert Bellum, and Ed Gorman.

The Mammoth Book Of Pulp Fiction Details

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Author : Maxim Jakubowski

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From Reader Review The Mammoth Book Of Pulp Fiction for online ebook

Andy says

I'm not a big fan of anthologies, but hot damn, what a line-up! Only the cream of the vintage pulp fiction crop: Hammett, Cain, Gil Brewer, Thompson, Westlake, Ellison, Willeford, Joe Gores, etc.

Highlights include "Black Pudding" by David Goodis about a stew-bum on the lam hiding out with an opium addicted beauty.

"Preview of Murder" by Robert Leslie Bellem, great Hollywood private eye Kicking ass and taking names hard-boiled style all over Sunset and Vine. Bellem's a pretty funny writer.

"The Girl Behind The Hedge" by Mickey Spillane, one of the most insane short stories I've ever read, kicking O. Henry's ass with the coldest blooded twist ending ever.

Maxim Jakubowski did a great job compiling these stories. There's hardly a clinker in the bunch.

Jeb says

Another winner from the Mammoth Book series. As is the case with most anthologies, some stories stack up better than others. Nonetheless it lives up to the Mammoth title and gives a very broad selection of hardboiled crime fiction. Dashiell Hammett, Mickey Spillane, Jim Thompson, Robert Bloch and many others are represented. The dialog of these stories alone are worth the read.

Patrick O'Neil says

It's like really big. Mammoth even. And there's pulp fiction bits in the middle. Some readable. Some not.

James Cambias says

This is a fun, highly readable anthology of classic and modern pulp stories. Overall, there's a good level of lurid action -- dames, tough guys who get knocked out a lot, gangsters, private eyes, mean streets, et cetera. The list of authors is a real Murderers' Row of talent.

I did find some of the story selections very odd. Robert Block is a master of horror and crime stories, but he's represented by a third-rate effort which wouldn't even make a good Scooby-Doo episode.

Reading this whole anthology over a few days did make me realize something: the "noir" pulp story is really a branch off the trunk of Romance. These aren't stories of Holmesian deduction or even gritty realistic procedurals. They're wild modern romances, more akin to Dumas than Doyle. The characters are motivated

by grand passions instead of rational goals. Pulp stories are modern-day prose operas, often right down to the tragic ending.

Trevor Edwards says

Fantastic read! Huge fan of pulp crime and mystery stories and this collection has some great examples of why I love them! Robert Bloch's story *Death is a Vampire* is an excellently crafted tale of mystery and *So Young, So Fair, So Dead* by John Lutz stands as one of my favorite short stories of all time. This collection is filled with gems!

Jason Logue says

This was a pretty good collection of pulp fiction from the 40s to the 90s. I had anticipated a collection of short stories mainly from the height of pulp fiction, especially those influential on many noir films, as I am a big fan of film noir. That was not necessarily the case, but many of them had the same language, gritty characters and dark, seedy underworlds. I enjoyed most of the stories, but a few of them were intolerably long.

My favorites were:

Flight to Nowhere - Charles Williams
Cigarette Girl - James M. Cain
The Getaway - Gil Brewer
The Bloody Tide - Day Keene
A Candle for the Bag Lady - Lawrence Block
Black Pudding - David Goodis
The Girl Behind the Hedge - Mickey Spillane
We Are All Dead - Bruno Fischer
The Wench is Dead - Frederic Brown
Killing Bernstein - Harlan Ellison
A Real Nice Guy - William F. Nolan
Ordo - Donald E. Westlake
