Re-Formations of the Thriller: Raymond Chandler and John Le Carre

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Abstract
Crime fiction is hugely popular and some of its authors have been recognized not only as best sellers but also as major artists—Edgar Allan Poe, Wilkie Collins and Graham Greene, for example. Mainstream literary studies have tended to bypass the form, but that attitude is steadily changing as crime fiction is being increasingly studied, especially as a genre which deals, in varying ways, with issues and problems of the contemporary world.

The thriller is first and last a modern form.

Full Text:

Neither made me feel that Le Carré was a novelist who understood women or had much to offer to me as a reader. Gary Oldman received an Oscar nomination for his performance in 'Tinker Tailor' (EPA). But then I actually read one of Le Carré’s novels. But the moment I was convinced of the genius of John le Carré was when a Russian friend came to tea and talked about what it was like living in Moscow at that time. “We would never wear our cardigans,” she said. “We used to envy the girls who came over from Paris with such beautifully cut clothes. 31/40 The Big Sleep, Raymond Chandler. Dashiell Hammett may have been harder boiled, his plots more intricate but, wow, does Raymond Chandler have style.