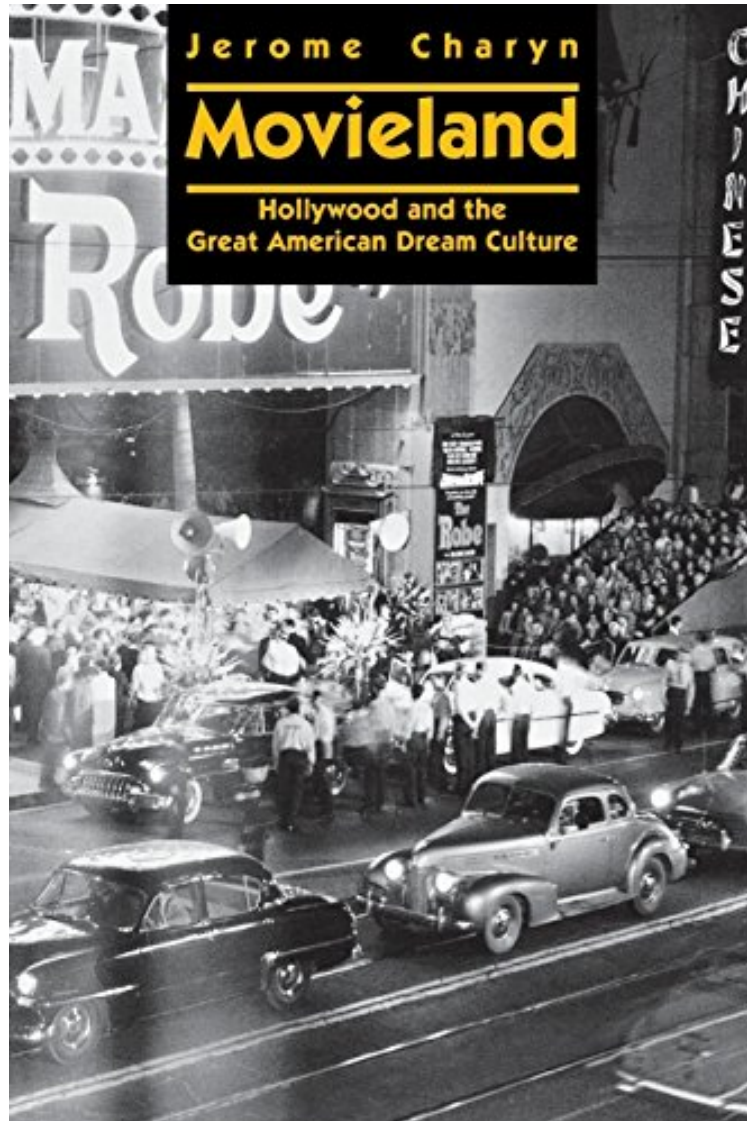


[Free and download] *Movieland: Hollywood and the Great American Dream Culture*

Movieland: Hollywood and the Great American Dream Culture

Jerome Charyn

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Jerome Charyn : *Movieland: Hollywood and the Great American Dream Culture* before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Movieland: Hollywood and the Great American Dream Culture*:

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"unknown" of what Hollywood had to offer and did offer--this is your book--What Jerome includes in this volume will do for you what it did for me--send me to the rest of his works....

In *Movieland*, Jerome Charyn mingles his own life as a moviegoer with the history, romance, and sadness of Hollywood. He meets Paul Newman, Viveca Lindfors, and Mae Clark, the actress who was the original bride of Frankenstein; explores Cinecitta, Mussolini's own Hollywood on the Tiber; recalls his own life as Otto Preminger's house writer (and jester) during Preminger's decline; reinvents the lost years and lost stars of the silent era --Irving Thalberg, Gloria Swanson, and Clara Bow -- and seeks out the hieroglyphics of modern Hollywood; writes of the Nazi officer who saved the Cinematheque Francaise and its library of American films; and pays homage to Hollywood's heroes, victims, goddesses, and neglected lords: Louise Brooks, Raymond Chandler, Carole Landis, Rita Hayworth, Orson Welles, and more.

From *Publishers Weekly*As he did in *Metropolis*, Charyn once again revisits old haunts, concentrating here on the movies (and movie houses, like Loew's Paradise in the upper Bronx) that have obsessed him most of his life. Lovingly he recalls America's screen idols: Astaire and Rogers; Lombard, Grable and Hayworth; Fay Wray and May Clarke; Bogart and Powell; directors Orson Welles and Arthur Penn; screenwriters Daniel Fuchs and Raymond Chandler; moguls Thalberg and Mayer. He meets and, in some cases, works with Paul Newman, Otto Preminger, Viveca Lindfors; Borges and Primo Levi would become mentors and kindred spirits. The author travels beyond Hollywood to Henri Langlois's Cinematheque archive in Paris, Italy's Cinecitta studios and an international meeting of crime writers at Gijon, on the Bay of Biscay. Some of Charyn's loyal readers may be disappointed by the superficiality and lack of focus in this, his 23rd volume. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Library Journal*Charyn, the author of 19 novels, including *Metropolis* (LJ 10/1/86) and *Darlin' Bill* (Donald I. Fine, 1985) explores how movies "recapture for us all the splintered signs of our earliest memories, when past, present, and future had no real distinction" He ruminates on the blasted Hollywood careers of fellow novelists Raymond Chandler and F. Scott Fitzgerald; he meets Paul Newman and Mae Clark (Jimmy Cagney's grapefruit target); and he recalls working for Otto Preminger when that director's career was in disarray. This is a wildly uneven book whose observations range from banal to touching. Charyn also has the jarring habit of dropping quotes into his text without introduction (although he does provide citations at the back of the book). Libraries with bigger film collections may want this; for others, it is a discretionary purchase.- Thomas Wiener, formerly with "American Film," Washington, D.C. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. This book is so smart, Charyn has managed to psychoanalyze just about all of us who ever sat there in the dark sucking on Life Savers or sticking magical popcorn like so many extra thumbs into our mouths.- Stanley Elkin