



**Welcome
to...**





**FILM
NOIR**

**• OR AS WE PREFER TO
CALL IT AROUND
HERE...**

- **MURDER**

- **MAYHEM.....**

- **and...**



ADULTERY!



A photograph of a movie theater interior. The theater is dimly lit, with the focus on a large white screen at the front. The screen displays the text "Today's Movie..." in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Above the screen, several spotlights are visible, casting a glow on the screen. The ceiling of the theater is dark with a grid pattern and several recessed lights. The seats in the foreground are dark and arranged in rows, facing the screen. The overall atmosphere is that of a quiet movie theater ready for a film.

Today's Movie...

A NEW BIG M-G-M SMASH HIT!

JOHN GARFIELD

Sensational Story Of A
Numbers King Whose
Number Was Up!

puts
his
Body
and
Soul
into

FORCE of EVIL

Distributed by
**METRO-
GOLDWYN-
MAYER**

A ROBERTS PRODUCTION
with THOMAS GOMEZ and MARIE WINDSOR

and
introducing

BEATRICE PEARSON

SCREEN PLAY BY ABRAHAM POLONSKY and IRA WOLFERT • Based upon the novel "TUCKER'S PEOPLE" by IRA WOLFERT

DIRECTED BY ABRAHAM POLONSKY • PRODUCED BY BOB ROBERTS

A
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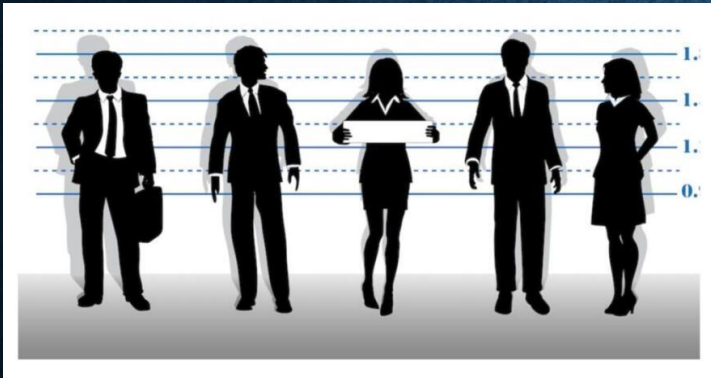
DIALOGUE: “WHAT D’YA MEAN ‘GANGSTER’? IT’S BUSINESS.”



“DARK CITY” BY EDDIE MULLER

- **During the Depression**, the era in which noir germinated, Hollywood fed the public a **glamorous vision of gangsters** as renegade cowboy bandits.
- **Post WW2 criminals** were far scarier. They've **learned how to fold their rackets into the straining seams of the capitalist economy....they work their way from the dark edges of society toward the light of “legitimacy.”**
- **No film traced this transition more clearly, or more artfully, than *Force of Evil*(1948)).**

...MUCH MORE THAN AN INDICTMENT OF RACKETEERING.



- It drew **dark parallels between organized crime and big business**, and painted a **bleak picture of America**, its industrial might festering with **institutionalized corruption**. **Crime** was described (in the novel *Tucker's People*, the source of the screenplay) as **“the grease that makes things run.”**

THE CENTRAL CHARACTER, JOE MORSE (JOHN GARFIELD), SAYS THIS:

- ***“I wanted to be a success, to get ahead in the world, and I believed there were three ways to do it. You could inherit a fortune, you could work hard all your life for it, or you could steal it.***
- ***I was born poor and impatient.”***



IN BOTH CONTENT AND STYLE, *FORCE OF EVIL* WAS PIVOTAL...

- The moral agony faced by the characters was suffocating...And its prescient dissection of the ground shared by free enterprise and racketeering invites present-day viewers to connect the dots between Ben Tucker (the head crook) and the corporate raiders and merger parties of contemporary Wall Street.



- Stylistically, he (Abraham Polonsky, the director) was the first Hollywood filmmaker to attempt **a type of concentrated cinematic poetry, using imagery, dialogue and narration in three-part harmony...**



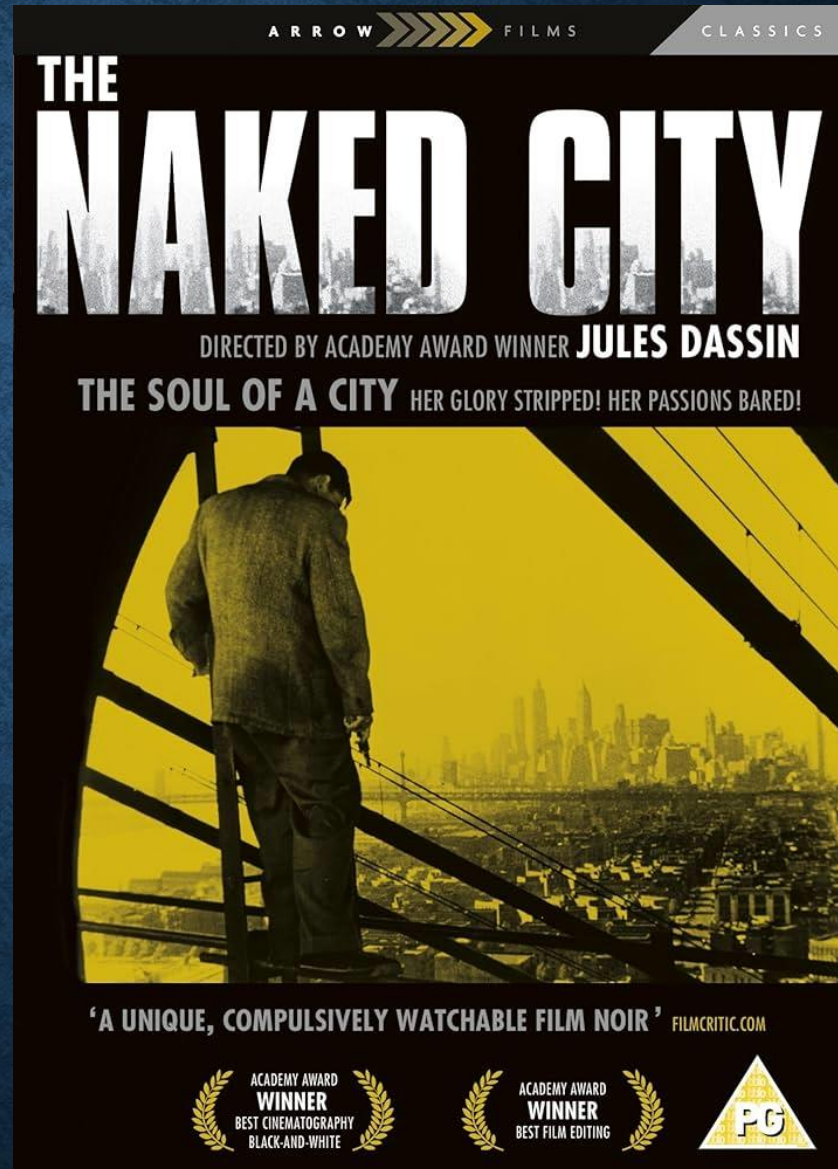
Scenes are framed and lighted with the brooding melancholy of Hopper paintings.



Edward Hopper's 'Nighthawks'
Captures the Isolation of American
Modernity.

**THE
NAKED
CITY VS.
FORCE OF
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**In *The Naked
City*, NYC is
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that works for its
citizens...**



• and **crime**
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- **What is the vision of the city, of American society, that *Force of Evil* shows you?**

- **BEFORE**
- **THE**
- **MOVIE**



**TOMMARYBETH@VERIZON.
NET**

- **I WILL PLACE
THE SLIDES
OF EACH
CLASS ON
OSHER'S
WEBSITE
AFTER EACH
CLASS.**



HOW TO ACCESS THE CLASS NOTES

- **Click on the Osher Website (not the Registration site):**
- **<https://www.wm.edu/offices/auxiliary/osher/index.php>**
- **On the left side of the page, click “Course Information,” and then click on “Class Notes and Presentation.”**
- **When the next page comes up, click on my name next to the class notes you want.**

**THE MOVIES
ARE...**



**JAMES
CAGNEY**

**VIRGINIA
MAYO**

WITH

EDMOND O'BRIEN

in
**"WHITE
HEAT"**

DIRECTED BY RAOUL WALSH (Warner Bros. 1949)

"Made it, Ma! Top of the World!"

...Cody Jarrett



It's a hard world for little things



Robert Mitchum

Shelley Winters

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

A film by
Charles Laughton



PAUL GREGORY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS ROBERT MITCHUM, SHELLEY WINTERS IN "THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER" ALSO STARRING LILLEAN GISH, JAMES GLEASON, EVELYN VARDON, PETER GRAVES, DON BEEDOE, BILLY CHAPIN, GEORGIA CASTILLO, SALLY FANE BRUCE. BASED UPON THE NOVEL BY DAVIS GRUBB. SCREENPLAY BY JAMES ACEE. MUSIC COMPOSED AND CONDUCTED BY WALTER SCRUMANN. PRODUCED BY PAUL GREGORY. DIRECTED BY CHARLES LAUGHTON.

*Lie for it... cheat
for it... drink to
it... the sweet,
sweet smell of
success!*

HECHT, HILL and
LANCASTER
Present

BURT LANCASTER TONY CURTIS

"SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS"

Introducing **SUSAN HARRISON** Featuring **MARTY MILNER SAM LEVENE BARBARA NICHOLS JEFF DONNELL** and **THE CHICO HAMILTON QUINTET**

Screenplay by **CLIFFORD ODETS** and **ERNEST LEHMAN** From the Novella by **ERNEST LEHMAN** Directed by **ALEXANDER MACKENDRICK** Produced by **JAMES HILL**

Photographed by **JAMES WONG HOWE, A.S.C.** A Norma-Curtleigh Productions Picture



NOW, HE HAD ONLY ONE WEAPON LEFT—*MURDER!*
...TO PREVENT AN EVEN MORE SHOCKING CRIME!



**GREGORY
PECK**

**ROBERT
MITCHUM**
**POLLY
BERGEN**

**CAPE
FEAR**

CO-STARRING
LORI MARTIN • MARTIN BALSAM • JACK KRUSCHEN
TELLY SAVALAS AND BARRIE CHASE

Screenplay by JAMES R. WEBB • Directed by J. LEE THOMPSON • Produced by ST. BARTLETT
A Melville-Talbot Production • A Universal International Release

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS
A BLAKE EDWARDS PRODUCTION



**GLENN
FORD • LEE
REMICK**

**TERROR...
TENSION...
ALMOST MORE
THAN THE
HEART CAN
BEAR!**



EXPERIMENT IN TERROR

with **STEFANIE POWERS** | Directed by **THE GORDONS** | Based on the novel **"OPERATION TERROR"** | Produced by **BLAKE EDWARDS** | Distributed by **COLUMBIA PICTURES**

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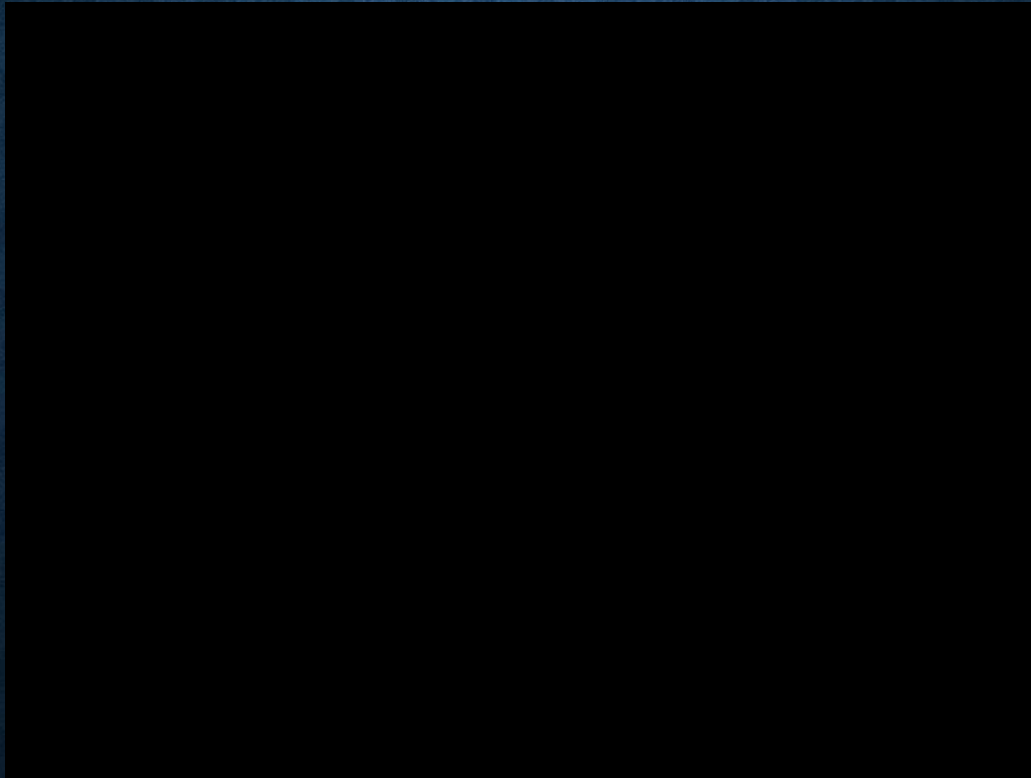
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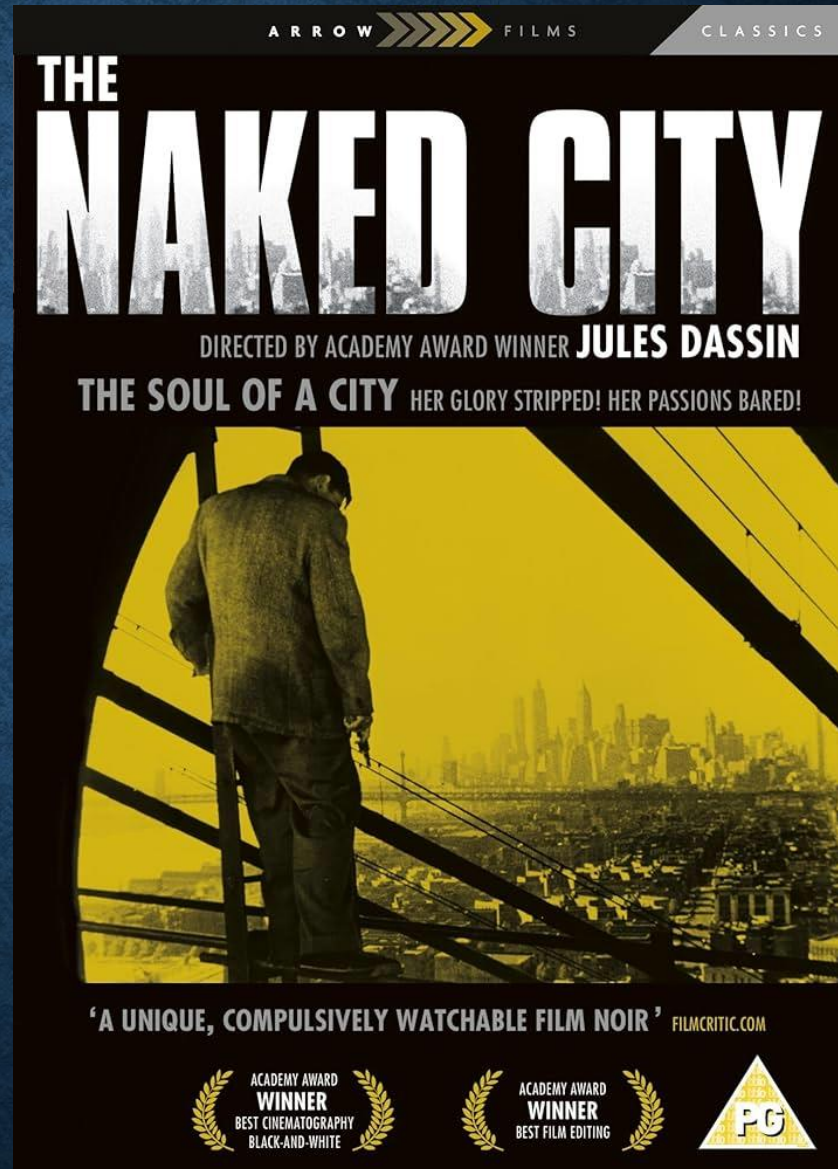
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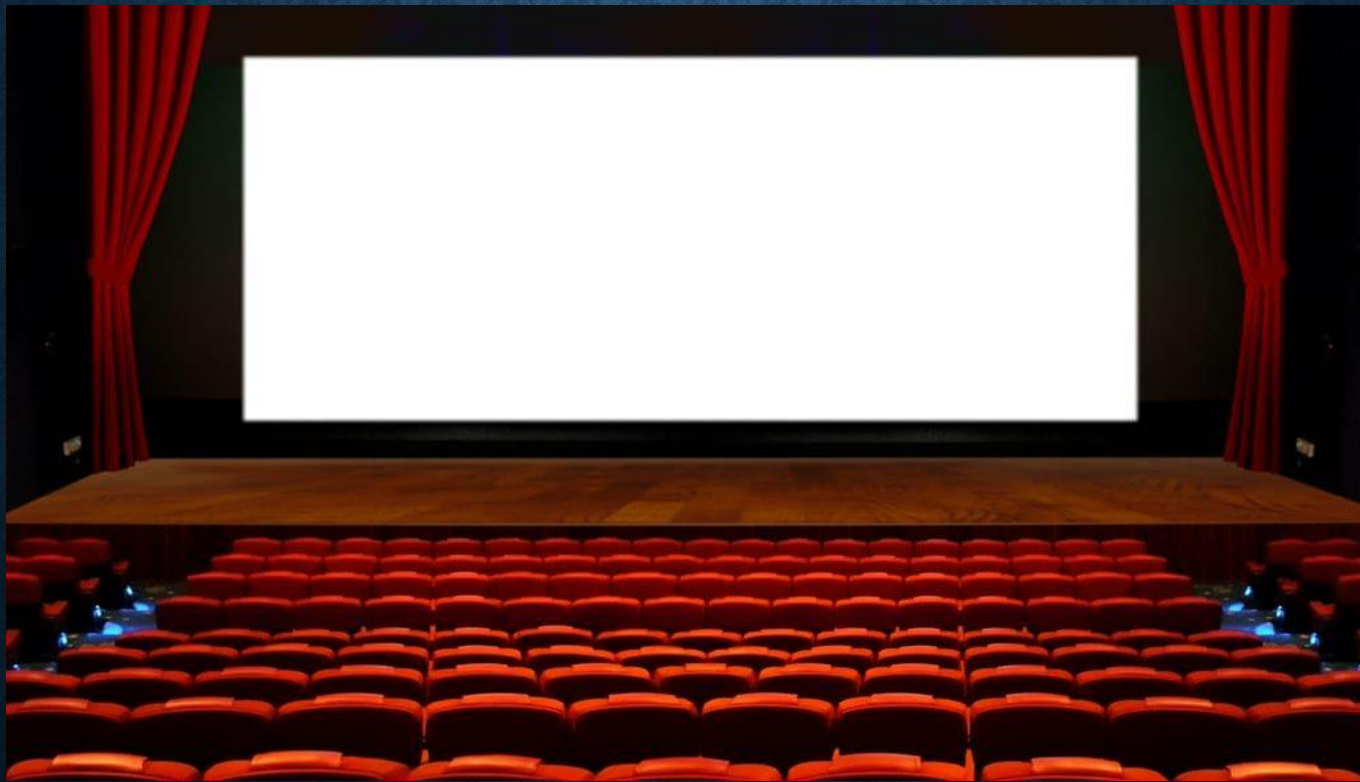


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AFTER THE MOVIE





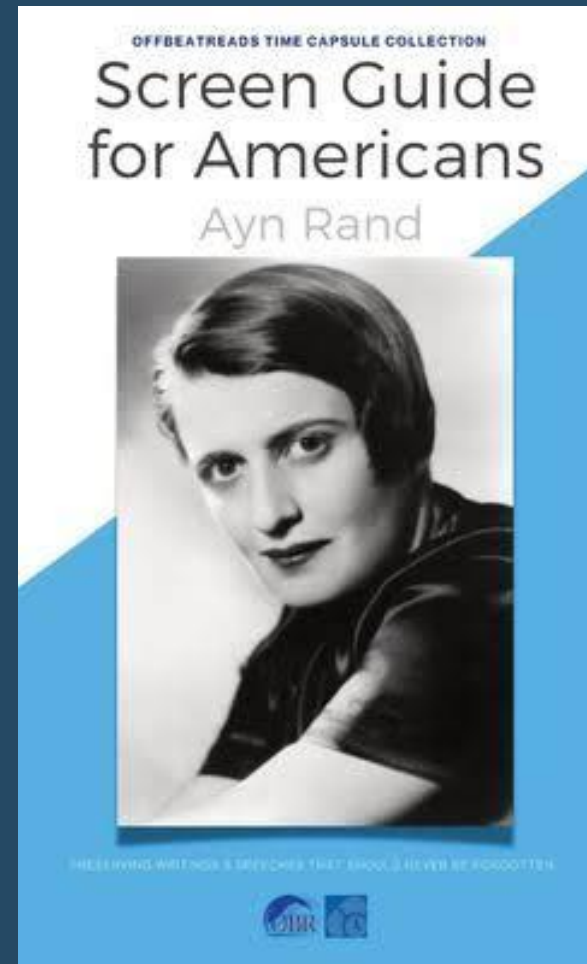
WAS *FORCE OF EVIL* A SUCCESS?

- **No, in America. Yes, in Europe.**
- **Garfield and Polonsky's world view in *Force of Evil* clashed with “*Screen Guide for Americans*” by **Ayn Rand**. Published by the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals, distributed with the imprimatur of HUAC, the guide instructed studio heads**

• **“Don’t Smear Industrialists,”**

• **“Don’t Smear the Free Enterprise System,”**

• **and “Don’t Smear Success.”**





“Co-existence is a myth and neutrality impossible Anyone who is not fighting communism is helping communism.”

-Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals

- There are **parallels connecting the studio system and the rackets depicted in crime dramas such as *Force of Evil*.**
- **Harry Cohn, head of Columbia, once said, “This isn’t a business, it’s a racket.”**

**The deal the mob had
with studios was
simple: bribes were
shelled out to keep
the unions docile and
relatively powerless.**

JOHN GARFIELD

- **Born in NYC in 1913 as Jacob Julius Garfinkle.**
- **“John Garfield would become for another underclass the kind of larger-than-life symbol Jimmy Cagney was for the shanty Irish.”**
- **Some of his movies: *They Made Me a Criminal (1939), The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946), Body and Soul (1947), He Ran All the Way (1951)***

In 1947, free of his contract to Warner Bros.,
he bankrolled Enterprise Studios, an
independent production company dedicated
to challenging the status quo. He demanded
that Enterprise **movies reflect the reality of**
the world beyond the sound stage. Abe
Polonsky shared the same mindset.

Enterprise's first big hit was *Body and Soul*
(**'47**) which dealt with **organized crime's**
involvement in boxing.

GARFIELD VS. HUAC

- **HUAC** was convinced that **Garfield** was **helping communists infiltrate Hollywood.**
- **Garfield**, never a fellow traveler, “**had done more than any other Hollywood actor to aid the war effort on the homefront**” (E. Muller).
- **Garfield**, among other things, had started, with **Betty Davis**, the **Hollywood Canteen** during **WW2.**

**HUAC ASKED GARFIELD TO
NAME NAMES.**

HE WOULDN'T DO IT.

Garfield's Hollywood career was effectively ended and he was exiled to where he had begun – the New York stage. Angry and embittered, Garfield died of a heart attack (he'd had a previous one that had been kept quiet) at the age of 39 in NY.

Abe Polonsky, who would also lose his career to the blacklist, said that Garfield “had defended his streetboy's honor and they killed him for it.”





• *NY Times* Op-Ed

July 5, 2017

by Julie Garfield

Memories of a Real 'Witch Hunt'



The New York Times

- Early on a sunny May morning in 1952, I answered the doorbell of our New York City apartment to find two huge, scary-looking men, wearing hats and raincoats and big black shoes. They were, it turned out, F.B.I. agents.
- I was 6½ years old. **My father, the movie star John Garfield, had died suddenly at the age of 39 the week before. Ten thousand people had gathered outside Riverside Memorial Chapel** in Manhattan, clamoring to pay their respects to him. My family was still in shock.
- I was paralyzed with fear when I saw those two men at our door. But my mother swiftly came to my rescue. **“What do you want?”** she demanded angrily, clutching me and my brother protectively.
- **“We just want to take a look around, Mrs. Garfield,”** one of the men said.

- **“You want to look around?” my mother shot back. “What for? You already killed him! You got what you wanted, now get out of our lives!”**
- **Then she slammed the door.**
- **My father had been a Hollywood star, famous for playing tough guys, including alongside Lana Turner in “The Postman Always Rings Twice.” He was one of the first actors to set up his own production company, and his first independent film, “Body and Soul,” released in 1947, remains among the finest boxing films ever made. It was nominated for three Oscars and was a huge critical and commercial success.**

- **But in 1951 he was subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee.** That committee's work was a prelude to the notorious Senate investigations into **Communists in the government led by Senator Joseph McCarthy and his counsel, Roy Cohn.**

- **My father was not a Communist, but he declined to name people who might have been. The experience ruined his career.** Even before the House hearing, Hollywood movie studios had barred my father from performing in their films. He didn't work for 18 months after he was first accused of being a member of the party.

- **My father died of a heart attack. But we were all convinced that it was the witch hunt of the House committee that had killed him.**
- **My father was a great actor, but also a fervent patriot.** He had tried to enlist in World War II but failed his physical. Instead, he found a way to contribute by organizing, with Bette Davis, a club in Los Angeles called the Hollywood Canteen to entertain troops. The canteen gave service members, many on their way to war, a chance to relax and the reassurance that they had the country's support. He went on a number of tours in combat zones predating those of Bob Hope.

The F.B.I. had been following my father for about a year before his death, shadowing him wherever he went, even when he paid a visit to the deathbed of his friend (and co-star) Canada Lee. Agents visited my school. They followed my mother to the grocery store. They tapped our phones.

These actions were in every respect a true “witch hunt.” The committee hounded United States citizens, looking to prosecute and persecute anyone it considered a “leftist,” very often with scant proof. More frequently all it had was innuendo, insinuation and lies.

Most of those blacklisted people weren't famous like my father. They were teachers, writers, directors, painters, intellectuals; many, but not all of them, worked in creative fields.

My father was never a member of the Communist Party, although my mother briefly was. He had learned his craft in the legendary Group Theater, some of whose members had been in the party. They were idealists searching for a way to help the poor and hungry, the unfortunates of our country. They had survived the Great Depression and took literally Emma Lazarus's words inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: "Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

- Both the House Un-American Activities Committee and Senator McCarthy's committee were focused on hunting down as many "Reds" as they could, destroying reputations and careers along the way. Some of those people left the country. Others were able to work only under assumed names. And some, like my father, were hounded to death.
- So I cringe when I hear President Trump claim to be the victim of a "witch hunt" because of the F.B.I.'s investigation into Russian interference in one of our most vital rights: free elections.

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So I cringe when I hear President Trump claim to be the victim of a "witch hunt" because of the F.B.I.'s investigation into Russian interference in one of our most vital rights: free elections.

How ironic that Mr. Trump has adopted the phrase used to criticize the work of his friend and mentor, Roy Cohn. But this investigation is no witch hunt. It is an appropriate, responsible and intelligent response to a hostile act against the nation.

And remember this, Mr. President: You still have your job, your family, your money. And your life.

Julie Garfield is an actress, teacher and painter.

