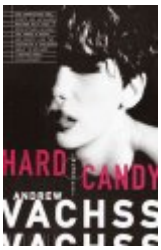
Hardboiled Detective Fiction

In the 20s and 30s, Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler pioneered the clever, tough-talking, detective who was not afraid to face violence and never got too distracted by a pretty face. The term comes from hard-boiled eggs that are tough and hard to destroy. Don your trench coat and wide-brimmed hat and follow some very interesting cases to the end.

Compiled by: Keith C.

Echo Park
Michael Connelly MYS Connell
Eleven years after his investigation into the disappearance of Marie Gesto goes cold, Harry Bosch finally gets a chance to solve the case when a man accused of two brutal killings agrees to come clean about others.

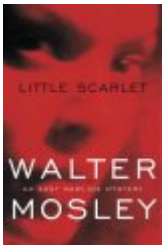
Gone Baby Gone
Dennis Lehane MYS Lehane
Boston private investigators Patrick Kenzie and Angela Gennaro delve into the disappearance of a four-year-old girl, involving a strangely cool mother, a pedophiliac couple, and a shadowy police unit.



Hard Candy
Andrew Vachss Va
Burke, an unlicensed ex-con private eye, tries to rescue a former lover's daughter from a Brooklyn cult. Very edgy, street-smart investigation of New York's underbelly.

last Dance: a Novel of the 87th Precinct
Ed McBain

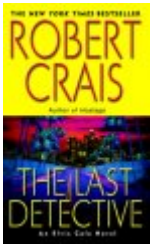
MYS Mcbain
The hanging death of a nondescript old man in a shabby apartment in a meager section of the 87th Precinct was nothing surprising. But everyone has a story, and this old man's story stood to make some people a lot of money.



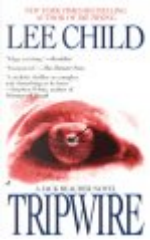
Little Scarlet
Walter Mosley MYS Mosley
When a man who fled the 1965 Watts riots is suspected of killing a woman in a nearby apartment building, Easy Rawlins begins a murder investigation and learns that the case has racial origins.

Paper Doll
Robert B Parker MYS Parker
A Spenser novel which takes the PI to South Carolina to investigate a wife's murder and leads him into the confidence of a powerful senator.

Right as Rain
George Pelacanos MYS Pelecan
Ex-cop Derek Strange is hired by the mother of a slain police officer to investigate the killing. Strange uncovers the guilty feelings and questions of the cop responsible for the shooting.



The Last Detective
Robert Crais MYS Crais
When the son of his long-time girlfriend goes missing, Elvis Cole finds himself haunted by his personal demons, the dark secrets of his childhood, and long-supressed memories of his service in Vietnam.



Tripwire
Lee Child Child
Viet Nam vet and free-lance investigator Jack Reacher is tracked down by an investigator who is later murdered. Reacher determines to find out who was looking for him and why.