

Conan Doyle/Chandler

1859	Arthur Conan Doyle b. Edinburgh
1887	<i>A Study in Scarlet</i> (first Holmes novel)
1888	Raymond Chandler b. Chicago
1891	"Scandal in Bohemia" initiates Holmes stories in <i>The Strand</i>
1892	Conan Doyle, "The Speckled Band," <i>Strand</i> <i>Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i> (London: George Newnes)
1893	"The Adventure of the Final Problem" (Holmes's death)
1895	Chandler lives in England, goes to Dulwich College through 1905
1901	Conan Doyle, <i>Hound of the Baskervilles</i> : £££ brings Holmes back
1920	Christie, <i>Mysterious Affair at Styles</i> (Lane, 1920)
1922	<i>Black Mask</i> incubates the "hard-boiled detective" (Hammett etc.)
1927	Christie, "The Tuesday Night Club" Conan Doyle's last Holmes story
1928	Detection Club founded in London Doubleday (New York) launches Crime Club imprint
1930	Conan Doyle d.
1932	Chandler fired from Dabney Oil Syndicate
1933	Chandler, "Blackmailers Don't Shoot," <i>Black Mask</i>
1934	Chandler, "Smart-Aleck Kill," <i>Black Mask</i>
1939	Chandler, <i>The Big Sleep</i> (New York: Knopf); other novels follow
1959	Chandler d.
1976	Christie, <i>Sleeping Murder: Miss Marple's Last Case</i> (London: Collins Crime Club) Christie d.

The boys with their feet on the desks know that the easiest murder case in the world to break is the one somebody tried to get cute with; the one that really bothers them is the murder somebody thought of only two minutes before he pulled it off. But if the writers of this fiction [the "classic detective story"]—much loved and much admired as I know it is—wrote about the kind of murders that happen, they would also have to write about the authentic flavor of life as it is lived. And since they cannot do that, they pretend that what they do is what should be done. Which is begging the question—and the best of them know it.

Raymond Chandler, "The Simple Art of Murder," *Atlantic* (November, 1947): 56.