

CHRIS BENNETT PRESENTS
LOS ANGELES

1936



CBO1 LOS ANGELES 1936

CREDITS

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Los Angeles 1936 was a special release playset for Gen Con 2010.

BOILERPLATE

This playset is an accessory for the Fiasco role-playing game by Bully Pulpit Games.

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For more information about Fiasco or to download other playsets and materials, visit www.bullypulpitgames.com.

If you'd like to create your own playset or other Fiasco-related content, we'd like to help. Write us at info@bullypulpitgames.com.



"When you play, play hard." - Theodore Roosevelt

THE SCORE

"I NEEDED A DRINK..."

...I needed a lot of life insurance, I needed a vacation, I needed a home in the country. What I had was a coat, a hat and a gun." – Raymond Chandler

In Raymond Chandler's Los Angeles, circa 1936, the sun-blinded streets would just as soon put a knife in your back. And all the diamond-edged glamour of a Hollywood starlet can't save you from a fall off a 30-story building.

Enter the black and white world of smoky nightclubs and faded apartment hallways, where every crime is shot "on location."

There are many grand dreams waiting to be unraveled.

Are you ready to enter the labyrinth?

MOVIE NIGHT

Classic Film Noir in LA:

The Big Sleep (1946), The Maltese Falcon (1941), Chinatown (1974), Murder, My Sweet (1944), Double Indemnity (1944), Sunset Boulevard (1950), Kiss Me Deadly (1955), The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946)

Modern Noir:

L.A. Confidential (1997), To Live and Die in L.A. (1985), The Usual Suspects (1995)

RELATIONSHIPS...

1 FAMILY

- ◻ In-law / son- or daughter-in-law
- ◻◦ Cousins
- ◻◦ Siblings
- ◻◦◦ Parent / child or stepchild
- ◻◦◦ Estranged husband and wife
- ◻◦◦ Aunt / uncle and nephew / niece

2 WORK

- ◻ Boss / employee
- ◻◦ Night shift workmates
- ◻◦ Insurance agent / client
- ◻◦◦ Working stiff / client
- ◻◦◦ Salesman / customer
- ◻◦◦ Lawyer / client

3 SHIPS IN THE NIGHT

- ◻ Cheap hoods wanting to settle the score
- ◻◦ Sports figure / manager
- ◻◦ Old fraternity / sorority buddies
- ◻◦◦ Nightclub owner / favorite entertainer
- ◻◦◦ Veterans of the Great War
- ◻◦◦ Office workers with a shared secret

4 ROMANCE

- ◻ Young lovers
- ◻◦ A frozen marriage
- ◻◦ One-time fling
- ◻◻ Incestuous family members
- ◻◻ Former spouses
- ◻◻◻ Current spouses

5 CRIME

- ◻ Dirty cop / patron
- ◻◦ Pimp / prostitute
- ◻◦ Hustler / mark
- ◻◻ Crime boss / hood
- ◻◻ Outlaws on the lam
- ◻◻◻ Thieves

6 COMMUNITY

- ◻ Elected officials
- ◻◦ Bankers
- ◻◦ Community volunteers
- ◻◻ Church
- ◻◻ Civic
- ◻◻◻ Police

...IN 1936 LOS ANGELES

NEEDS...

1 TO GET OUT

- ... of town - this week
- ... from under their thumb
- ... of some gambling debts
- ... before someone finds out about you
- ... of a relationship with a lover
- ... of an obligation you cannot keep

2 TO GET EVEN

- ... with the lousy cop who burned you
- ... with your ex
- ... with your old boss
- ... with the Man
- ... with a rival
- ... with a family member

3 TO GET RICH

- ... through political graft
- ... through a sure thing at the track
- ... through blackmail
- ... through the theft of something valuable
- ... through an insurance claim
- ... through murder

4 TO GET RESPECT

- ... from this town, by bringing down the establishment
- ◻ ... from this town, by showing everybody who's boss
- ◻ ... from your lover, by proving yourself
- ◻ ... from the police, by ratting out your friends
- ◻ ... from a family member, by rescuing them from ruin
- ◻ ... from yourself, by finally doing it once and for all

5 TO GET THE TRUTH

- ... about someone's infidelity
- ◻ ... about your real parents
- ◻ ... about the mistake that haunts you
- ◻ ... about this town's dirty past
- ◻ ... about this town's political corruption
- ◻ ... about someone's criminal past

6 TO GET LAID

- ... by anyone, anywhere, to dull the pain
- ◻ ... by that girl/guy you've had your eye on
- ◻ ... by an exotic foreigner
- ◻ ... by an old lover, rekindling an old romance
- ◻ ... by an old lover, to further your agenda
- ◻ ... by a prostitute, to prove you are a man

...IN 1936 LOS ANGELES

LOCATIONS...

1 DOWNTOWN

- 77th Precinct police station
- ◻ Los Angeles City Hall
- ◻ District Attorney's house
- ◻ The Athlete Club
- ◻ The Belfront Building
- ◻ Florian's bar

2 TINSELTOWN

- An unused RKO backlot
- ◻ Grauman's Chinese Theater
- ◻ Bullock's Wilshire department store
- ◻ Geiger's rare books
- ◻ The Jigsaw Gothic mansion, up Laurel Canyon Drive
- ◻ Bryson Towers apartments

3 WORKING CLASS

- Del Mar racetrack
- ◻ Tony Acosta's sausage factory
- ◻ Art Huck's auto garage and filling station
- ◻ County Morgue
- ◻ Faded lobby of the Mayfair Hotel, now a boarding house
- ◻ Union Station

4 BAY CITY

- ◻ Red Griffin Room in the Georgian Hotel
- ◻◻ Gambling Ship S.S. Rex, three miles out in Santa Monica Bay
- ◻◻ Thelma Todd's Sidewalk Café, up the Pacific Coast Highway
- ◻◻◻ Casa del Mar beachfront hotel
- ◻◻◻ "Dr. Feelgood's" office in Ocean Park
- ◻◻◻ Santa Monica City Hall

5 OFF THE BEATEN PATH

- ◻ Eddie Mar's illegal casino under the Hotel Metropole
- ◻◻ Holly's Burlesque Theatre
- ◻◻ Mandy Menendez' Club: El Privado
- ◻◻◻ Pawnshop on Wilcox Boulevard
- ◻◻◻ Hobart Arms apartments
- ◻◻◻ Frankie's boxing gym

6 OUTSIDE OF TOWN

- ◻ Abandoned airstrip near La Jolla
- ◻◻ J-class racing yacht "Lolita", moored in the Malibu Pier
- ◻◻ The John Reed Club, Boyle Heights
- ◻◻◻ Tuck-Me-Inn Motel, Big Bear Boulevard
- ◻◻◻ Secluded cabin near Cedar Lake
- ◻◻◻ A faded Pasadena estate

...IN 1936 LOS ANGELES

OBJECTS...

1 UNTOWARD

- ☐ Box of stag reel loops starring someone slightly famous
- ☐. Vial of pure heroin
- ☐. Set of break-in tools
- ☐. Pictures of the Senator with his “boyfriends”
- ☐. Counterfeit plates for \$100 notes
- ☐. Jewel-encrusted sex toy

2 TRANSPORTATION

- ☐ Sleeper car on the Super Chief train down to San Diego
- ☐. “Yellow Car” downtown trolley
- ☐. Green Top Taxicab No. 469
- ☐. Battered grey Packard sedan
- ☐. Curtiss JN-4 “Jenny” biplane fitted for crop-dusting
- ☐. Custom-built Duesenberg Torpedo Phaeton convertible

3 WEAPONS

- ☐ 1896 German Broomhandle Mauser pistol
- ☐. Vial of hydrochloric acid
- ☐. Long-barreled .22 Colt automatic with a bone grip
- ☐. Sawed-off 12-Gauge Winchester double-barrel shotgun
- ☐. White phosphorous grenade
- ☐. .38 snubnosed revolver in an ankle holster

4 VALUABLES

- ☐ • Key to a safe deposit box at the Commonwealth Savings & Loan
- ☐ • Gold bar stamped with a swastika and the number 30422
- ☐ • Hollow figurine of a ballet dancer with microfilm inside
- ☐ • Handful of uncut diamonds
- ☐ • Battered briefcase full of opium bricks
- ☐ • \$100,000 in Series A bonds

5 INFORMATION

- ☐ • High-class madam's black book of phone numbers
- ☐ • Celluloid discs of wiretap recordings
- ☐ • Eastman camera with a Zeiss telephoto lens and exposed film
- ☐ • Hollowed-out Gideon Bible
- ☐ • Two sets of accounting books: official ones and the real ones
- ☐ • Imprint of address left on writing pad after top sheet was ripped off

6 SENTIMENTAL

- ☐ • 1925 Omega gold watch with retirement inscription on back
- ☐ • Sapphire engagement ring
- ☐ • Box of old love letters, with a scented sachet
- ☐ • Postcard from Tijuana with a handwritten note
- ☐ • Old cloth doll with a missing eye
- ☐ • Sweat-stained hat with a hidden pocket in the lining

...IN 1936 LOS ANGELES

A PRE-WAR LOS ANGELES INSTA-SETUP

RELATIONSHIPS IN 1936 L.A.

For three players...

- * Family: Estranged husband and wife
- * Romance: Young lovers
- * Ships in the Night: Nightclub owner / favorite entertainer

For four players, add...

- * Community: Elected Officials

For five players, add...

- * Crime: Hustler / Mark

NEEDS IN 1936 L.A.

For three players...

- * To get out of some gambling debts

For four or five players, add...

- * To get rich through political graft

OBJECTS IN 1936 L.A.

For three or four players...

- * Untoward: Box of stag reel loops starring someone slightly famous

LOCATIONS IN 1936 L.A.

For three, four or five players...

- * Off the beaten path: Holly's Burlesque Theatre

For five players, add...

- * Working class: Del Mar Racetrack