



Get Carter (Jack Carter Trilogy)

By Ted Lewis

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Get Carter (Jack Carter Trilogy) By Ted Lewis

Famously adapted into the iconic film starring Michael Caine, *Get Carter*—originally published as *Jack's Return Home*—ranks among the most canonical of crime novels.

With a special Foreword by Mike Hodges, director of *Get Carter*

It's a rainy night in the mill town of Scunthorpe when a London fixer named Jack Carter steps off a northbound train. He's left the neon lights and mod lifestyle of Soho behind to come north to his hometown for a funeral—his brother Frank's. Frank was very drunk when he drove his car off a cliff and that doesn't sit well with Jack. Mild-mannered Frank never touched the stuff.

Jack and Frank didn't exactly like one another. They hadn't spoken in years and Jack is far from the sentimental type. So it takes more than a few people by surprise when Jack starts plying his trade in order to get to the bottom of his brother's death. Then again, Frank's last name was Carter, and that's Jack's name too. Sometimes that's enough.

Set in the late 1960s amidst the smokestacks and hardcases of the industrial north of England, *Get Carter* redefined British crime fiction and cinema alike. Along with the other two novels in the Jack Carter Trilogy, it is one of the most important crime novels of all time.

From the Trade Paperback edition.

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Get Carter (Jack Carter Trilogy) By Ted Lewis Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Praise for *Get Carter*

A *Philadelphia Inquirer* Best Book of 2014

"Aristotle, when he defined tragedy, mandated that a tragic hero must fall from a great height, but Aristotle never imagined the kind of roadside motels James M. Cain could conjure up or saw the smokestacks rise in the Northern English industrial hell of Ted Lewis's *Get Carter*."

—**Dennis Lehane, author of *Live by Night***

"Brilliant... *Get Carter* is one of the best-ever fictional portraits of a small, industrial English city with its tawdry shops, dingy rooming houses, and suffocating air of decline from something that wasn't that great to begin with."

—**John Powers, NPR's Fresh Air**

"The book [*Get Carter*] gave readers a brutal look at hitherto hidden English sleaze and seediness. "It ripped off the rose-tinted glasses through which most people saw our mutual homeland," writes Mr. Hodges. Forty-four years later, the book... still has the power to jolt."

—**Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal***

"Sums up the hard-boiled ethos as well as anything I've ever read... As far as classic hard-boiled fiction, *Get Carter* is *sui generis*, the place where British noir begins."

—**David L. Ulin, *The Los Angeles Times***

"Rereading all three books, I was struck by the influence Lewis's novels have had on so many current hard-boiled writers whose main characters are hard cases (certainly Lee Child's Jack Reacher is a literary son). Written in first person and present tense, Lewis' trilogy has an immediacy that belies its age."

—**Carole Barrowman, *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel***

"Masterful... Lewis had a shrewd eye for the shifting class politics of late-'60s England, the point at which the austerity of the postwar years had melted away and prosperity was slowly creeping into the regions, creating a new middle class."

—***Los Angeles Review of Books***

"The year's big event in international noir is the republication of the Jack Carter Trilogy by England's Ted Lewis. Few crime writers could inject menace and desperation into small talk the way Lewis did, and he had a fine eye for period detail."

—***The Philadelphia Inquirer***

"Incomparable scene-setting and eloquent descriptive prose."

—***Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine***

"Among crime-novel aficionados, it's generally accepted that Ted Lewis established the noir school of writing in Britain, and one novel in particular got it going: *Get Carter*."

—**Shelf Awareness**

"Lewis remains a sharp social anatomist of the hopelessness and soul-sucking dinginess of his era. Starting with [*Get Carter*], Lewis sketched the horror of a Britain where home was the kitchen sink, the sodden bar towel, the decrepit industrial landscape: a kingdom from which Carter and his like cannot escape."

—**Barnes and Noble Review**

"One of the very best tough guy novels of all time."

—Acadiana Lifestyle

"Get Carter is one of the most influential works of crime fiction in existence. In the world of U.K. hardboiled literature it's had the kind of impact that books by Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler had on the genre in the U.S."

—**Criminal Element**

"It arrived in the post, out of the blue, along with an offer to write and direct it as my first cinema film. Its literary style was as enigmatic as the manner of its arrival. Whilst set in England and written by an Englishman it was (aside from the rain) atypically English. More importantly it ripped off the rose-tinted glasses through which most people saw our mutual homeland. I suspect Ted never shared that Panglossian take on England."

—**Mike Hodges, director of *Get Carter*, from the Foreword to this edition**

*"Lewis was one of the first British writers in the sixties to take Chandler literally—'The crime story tips violence out of its vase on the shelf and pours it back into the street where it belongs'—and [*Get Carter*] is a book that I and plenty of other people at the time considered to be a classic on these grounds."*

—**Derek Raymond, author of the *Factory Novels***

"Get Carter remains among the great crime novels, a lean, muscular portrait of a man stumbling along the hard edge—toward redemption. Ted Lewis cuts to the bone."

—James Sallis, author of *Drive*

"The finest British crime novel I've ever read."

—**David Peace, author of *Red or Dead***

"Ted Lewis is one of the most influential crime novelists Britain has ever produced, and his shadow falls on all noir fiction, whether on page or screen, created on these isles since his passing. I wouldn't be the writer I am without Ted Lewis. It's time the world rediscovered him."

—**Stuart Neville, author of *The Ghosts of Belfast***

"Lewis is major."

—**Max Alan Collins, author of *Road to Perdition***

"The finest British crime novel ever written."

—**John Williams, author of *The Cardiff Trilogy***

"Despite a taste for hard-boiled on wry, Lewis has the soul of a serious novelist, capturing the brothers' troubled relationship, the grimness of the surroundings, and, ultimately, the futility of being top dog."

—**Booklist, STARRED Review**

"[An] impressive novel... Evocative prose sets this above similarly themed crime stories... Ian Rankin fans who have not yet read Lewis will be pleased."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Much like Hammett and Cain, Lewis used the hard boiled novel to make subtle social commentary on his country. Despite his many dark qualities, we follow Jack Carter because of his willingness to be his own man in both the criminal and British class system."

—Scott Montgomery, Mystery People Bookstore

"Too good to read slowly."

—**Detectives Beyond Borders**

About the Author

Born in Manchester, England, Ted Lewis (1940-1982) spent most of his youth in Barton-upon-Humber in the north of England. After graduating from Hull Art School, Lewis moved to London and first worked in advertising before becoming an animation specialist, working on the Beatles' *Yellow Submarine*. His novels are the product of his lifelong fascination with the criminal lifestyle of London's Soho district and the down-and-out lifestyle of the English factory town. Lewis' novels pioneered the British noir school. He authored nine novels, the second of which was famously adapted in 1971 as the now iconic *Get Carter*, which stars Michael Caine.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Candice Delgado:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a publication your ability to survive improve then having chance to stay than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading the book, we give you this specific *Get Carter* (Jack Carter Trilogy) book as starter and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Walter Feuerstein:

Reading a e-book can be one of a lot of task that everyone in the world really likes. Do you like reading book so. There are a lot of reasons why people love it. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new information. When you read a e-book you will get new information mainly because book is one of numerous ways to share the information or their idea. Second, reading a book will make anyone more imaginative. When you examining a book especially fiction book the author will bring you to definitely imagine the story how the character types do it anything. Third, you may share your knowledge to other people. When you read this *Get Carter* (Jack Carter Trilogy), you are able to tells your family, friends as well as soon about yours guide. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a publication.

Shirley Pedro:

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William Marsh:

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