Double Indemnity

(Paramount, 1944, 104 minutes)

Director  Billy Wilder
Writers  Billy Wilder and Raymond Chandler,
based on a novel by James M. Cain
Cinematographer  John F. Seitz
Editor  Doane Harrison
Costume designer  Edith Head
Makeup  Wally Westmore
Process Photographer  Farciot Edouart

Fred MacMurray  Walter Neff
Barbara Stanwyck  Phyllis Dietrichson
Edward G. Robinson  Barton Keyes
Porter Hall  Mr. Jackson
Jean Heather  Lola Dietrichson
Tom Powers  Mr. Dietrichson

Byron Barr (II)  Nino Zachetti
Richard Gaines  Edward S. Norton
Fortunio Bonanova  Sam
Garlois
John Philliber  Joe Peters

Billy Wilder (Samuel Wilder, born in Sucha, Austria-Hungary, 1906) wrote more than 60
screenplays and directed 24. Some of the films he wrote and directed are Irma a Douce 1963, The
Apartment 1960, Some Like it Hot 1959, The Spirit of St. Louis 1957, Witness for the Prosecution
1957, The Seven Year Itch 1955, and The Lost Weekend (1945). He was nominated for 21 Oscars and
won 7 of them, as well as the Academy’s Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award (1988), the American
Film Institute’s Life Achievement Award (1986), and nearly every other international major award
given to directors. For more on him visit

Fred MacMurray (1908, Kankakee, IL—1991, Santa Monica) is perhaps best known for his
twelve-year stint in the homey tv series “My Three Sons.” He was also in about 90 movies,
though (with the possible exception of Tom Keefer in The Caine Mutiny 1954) he probably never
had in any of them a role for which he was as perfectly suited as Walter Neff in Double
Indemnity. Some of his other films are The Happiest Millionaire 1967, Son of Flubber 1963, The
Absent Minded Professor 1961, The Apartment 1960, Good Day for a Hanging 1958, Gun for a
Bomber 1941, Trail of the Lonesome Pine 1936, The Princess Comes Across 1936, and The Texas
Rangers 1936.

Barbara Stanwyck (Ruby Stevens, 1907, Brooklyn—1990, Santa Monica) finished her career playing
Constance Colby in the tv series Dynasty (1985-1986). Before that she appeared in other tv series and miniseries,
as well as about 90 films, starting as a fan dancer in Broadway Nights 1927. Some of her other films are Forty
Night 1952, No Man of Her Own 1949, Sorry, Wrong Number 1948, The Strange Love of Martha Ivers 1946,
Lady of Burlesque 1943, Ball of Fire 1941, Stella Dallas 1937, The Woman in Red 1935, Ladies of Leisure 1930,
and Mexicali Rose 1929. She was nominated for four oscars (Sorry, Wrong Number, Double Indemnity, Ball of Fire, Stella Dallas) and received an Honorary Academy Award in 1982. In 1987 she received the AFI Life Achievement Award.


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