

Contents

1. What They Are and Why We Read Them	<i>page</i> 9
2. The Two Strands: Godwin, Vidocq, Poe	24
3. Dickens, Collins, Gaboriau: the Pattern Forms	42
4. Interregnum	58
5. The Case of Sherlock Holmes	67
6. The Short Story: the First Golden Age	79
7. The Rise of the Novel	93
8. The Golden Age: the Twenties	101
9. The Golden Age: the Thirties	118
10. The Golden Age: Rebellion	132
11. Simenon and Maigret	143
12. 'Mr. Queen, will you be good enough to explain your famous character's sex life, if any?'	148
13. The Short Story's Mutations	163
14. Crime Novel and Police Novel	173
15. Big Producers and Big Sellers, Curiosities and Singletons	202
16. A Short History of the Spy Story	221
17. In the Crystal Ball	237
Index of Books and Short Stories	244
Index of Authors and Names	250