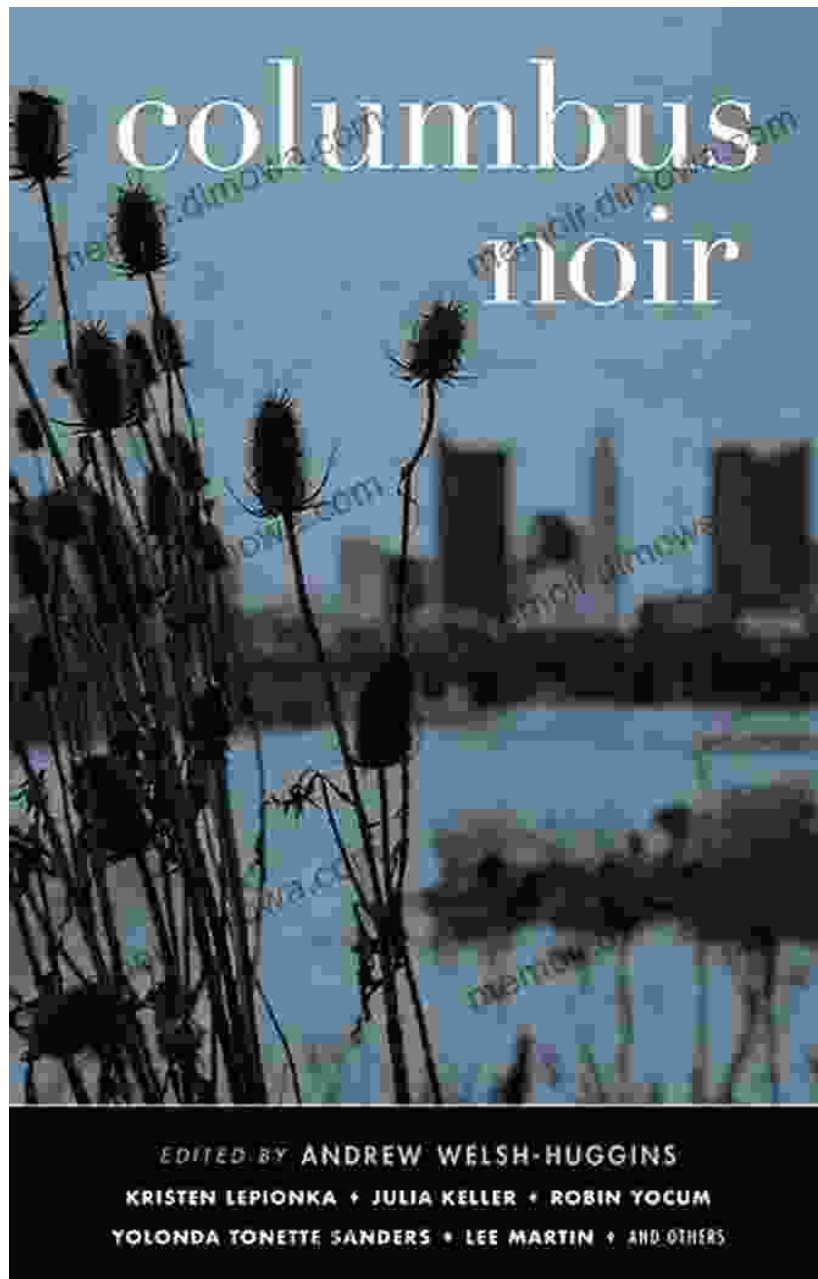


# Unveiling the Shadows of Columbus: A Literary Noir Exploration with "Columbus Noir"



**Columbus Noir (Akashic Noir)** by Andrew Welsh-Huggins

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 3823 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 259 pages
Lending	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled



## **Unveiling the Underbelly of Columbus**

In the heart of the Midwest, nestled along the banks of the Scioto River, lies a city with a rich and complex history. Columbus, Ohio, often overlooked in the literary landscape, has long held a fascination for those drawn to its hidden depths and untold stories. Now, in a compelling anthology edited by Andrew Welsh Huggins, the city's dark side takes center stage in "Columbus Noir," a collection of 14 gripping noir tales that plunge the reader into the city's shadowy underworld.

## **A Literary Landscape Steeped in Darkness**

"Columbus Noir" is not for the faint of heart. The stories in this anthology delve into the gritty underbelly of the city, exposing the corruption, violence, and despair that simmer beneath its surface. From the seedy bars and back alleys to the halls of power and the affluent suburbs, Huggins has assembled a diverse cast of authors who capture the essence of Columbus's dark side.

With each story, we are introduced to a new facet of the city's hidden history. There's the tale of a down-on-his-luck private investigator who

uncovers a sinister plot involving a missing person and a corrupt politician. Another story follows a group of friends who stumble upon a dark secret while exploring an abandoned asylum on the outskirts of town.

### **Akashic Noir: A Platform for Local Noir**

"Columbus Noir" is part of Akashic Noir, a renowned series of anthologies that showcase the crime fiction of cities around the world. From Brooklyn to Delhi, each volume offers readers an immersive and authentic glimpse into the underbelly of a particular location. Huggins, an acclaimed author and editor, brings his deep knowledge of Columbus and its literary scene to this collection, ensuring that "Columbus Noir" captures the city's unique character and flavor.

### **A Literary Tour de Force**

The authors featured in "Columbus Noir" represent a diverse range of voices and perspectives, each contributing their own unique take on the city's criminal underworld. Among the contributors are established crime writers such as Erin Elizabeth Smith and John C. Boland, as well as emerging talents like Carrie Laben and Michael Wiley.

Together, these authors paint a vivid and multifaceted portrait of Columbus, revealing a city that is both alluring and dangerous, both familiar and utterly foreign. Through their gritty prose and evocative storytelling, they bring to life the shadows that lurk beneath the surface, offering readers an unforgettable literary experience.

### **Unveiling the City's Soul**

While "Columbus Noir" is a work of fiction, it also serves as an exploration of the city's soul. Through its dark tales of crime and corruption, the

anthology exposes the underlying social and economic forces that shape Columbus's character. It is a unflinching look at the city's past and present, and a provocative meditation on the nature of good and evil.

Ultimately, "Columbus Noir" is not just a crime anthology. It is a literary tour de force that paints a vivid and unforgettable portrait of a city often overlooked in the literary landscape. Through its gripping stories and diverse cast of characters, the anthology captures the essence of Columbus's dark history and its enduring allure.

For readers who enjoy crime fiction with a strong sense of place, "Columbus Noir" is an absolute must-read. It is a provocative and unsettling exploration of the shadows that lurk beneath the surface of this Midwestern city, and it will leave readers with a lasting impression of its grit, its grime, and its undeniable charm.



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