

Disposable Disposables 1

A major seventies English pop star goes missing and his manager hires a private detective to find him. The detective is a red herring. The pop star, whose name is Richard Monitor (how quaint), has resolved to settle scores with a former artistic and business collaborator who he is still obsessed make that in love with. This is in L.A. He meets a woman who is involved with Zero Population Growth and they sort of have an affair. But he must deal with his true love and so he takes the plunge, only to find the man dead. Richard Monitor now assumes he will be the prime suspect so he checks into a motel and decomposes. Of course, someone else like a petty mobster from the entertainment business is probably the real villain. But no... the real murderer is Richard's old bookstore-owning friend who has always coveted him and Richard nearly gets killed himself. The psycho bookworm... hmmm. And, in the end, for legally-related reasons, he and the Zero Pop woman must live somewhere else under phoney names, for the rest of their lives.

Think of this book as Raymond Chandler's version of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* starring David Bowie.