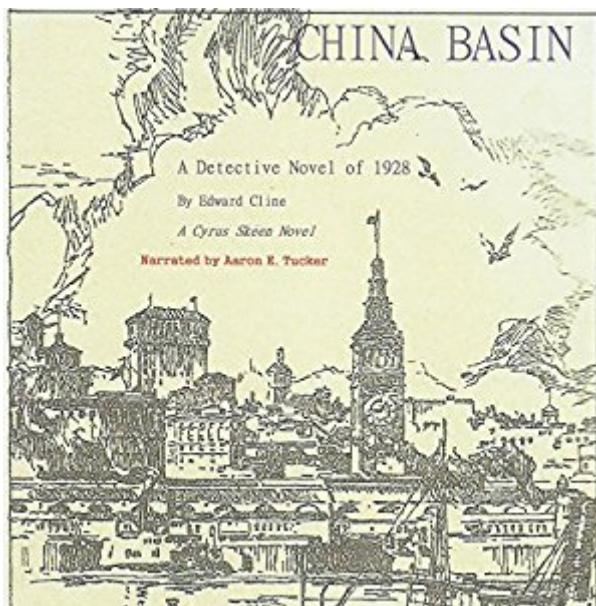


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# China Basin: The Cyrus Skeen Series



## **Synopsis**

Cyrus Skeen, private detective, scours 1928 San Francisco in search of the man who stole a priceless medieval artifact. The thief, who is also a pathological killer, is not Skeen's only obstacle. The exquisite Frenchwoman and retured British colonel who are searching for the artifact also prove to be obstructions. Helping him in his search is his loyal and adoring secretary, Dilys Jones. Complicating the search are two Yale classmates, one of whom has penned a hit play that is headed for Broadway, but who has a secret about its true authorship. This is the other side of Sam Spade's San Francisco.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours and 36 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Edward Cline

Audible.com Release Date: July 31, 2012

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

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## **Customer Reviews**

Ed Cline is a master at creating sophisticated intellectual mysteries with memorable characters, strong plots, plenty of action, and satisfying climaxes. In this novel, set in Roaring Twenties San Francisco and partly modeled after "The Maltese Falcon," tough, opinionated sleuth Cyrus Skeen tries to uncover a fabled historical relic from Medieval England while at the same time solving a modern literary mystery, taking on a whole gallery of opponents, from a crooked cop and a mysterious Frenchwoman to a maniacal killer. What dazzles the reader, in the end, is not just the plot twists, but the boldly American spirit embodied in all the author's works: freedom-worshiping, ambitious, confident, literate, benevolent, and individualistic. Readers should not miss Ed's magnum opus, the six-volume "Sparrowhawk" series, about the kind of free-thinking heroes who created the American Revolution; "We Three Kings," a no-holds-barred fight between an American entrepreneur

and a murderous Arab diplomat; and the Chess Hanrahan detective series ("First Prize," "Presence of Mind," and soon-to-be-released "Honors Due")!

I will admit right up front that I am a sucker for just about any crime novel that is from a period 1950's or earlier. Given that some of those books can really stink I must say this book WAS INCREDIBLY WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED. Great characterizations; a history of an item belonging to Thomas Beckett that the characters were looking for was an amazing chapter. I will look for any and all of Mr. Cline's works to read in the future. I cannot believe that I got this book for free over the Christmas gorging of free Kindle books on . If crime, Noir books are to your liking then you will be enthralled by this one. In Noir the bad guys are usually very bad this one surely was. The good guys are bad in an endearing sort of way and Cyrus Skeen is my new hero.

Very good. It's definitely a buy for anyone who enjoys classicdetective fiction from the likes of Hammett and Chandler.

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