-The woman who came in the beginning is trying to call Curly
-There was a woman who came in pretending to be Mrs. Mulray.
-The big boys can control the water department
-The veil makes it look like Mrs. Mulray is hiding something. She claims that she knew
about the affair and did not really care. She was also having affairs, but she wouldn’t tell
him about those.
-She does not want publicity. She does not want to go into then or now.
-Metier is ones area of specialty.
-What’s Jake’s Metier? -He tells Mrs. Mulray that he does the best matrimonial work
-Even in his vocabulary he is overreaching himself
The man has a very dressy shirt- Dandy Cowboy
Hubris

Jake Gidess- There were a lot of shots and silhouettes in this movie. Most of the other
people in this film were not shot like this.
-Why do they go to Chinatown? Gidess was rushing to get out of the house to get over
there. Once Jake learned the truth about Mrs. Mulray and her daughter he decided that
he wanted to help them get away from Noah Cross, but that plan fails when Cross kills
Catherine.
Who else is at Chinatown besides Escobar? The workers are there because Escobar went
to them and made them tell him where they are. They do so to have any personal interest
in the case.

The ending is awful, but it’s also fantastic because the camera goes up and it seems like
you really don’t have much of a choice but to accept it. Life goes the way it goes. The
streets were extremely quiet and then a whole mass of Chinese people walked out after
Mrs. Mulray got shot.

When they are driving to Chinatown they are showing all of the crazy camera work and
wild music. There is no rhythm.

Noir Movies usually end in an unsatisfying way. The little guy is up against a power
much larger than he, and he can’t beat it. In this case Noah Cross gets what he wants. He’s a disgusting man that gets away.

At the end of the movie we feel bad for Evelyn and Gidess. Catherine almost gets her and
her daughter away from this disgusting man, but she doesn’t make it. There were some
pretty dramatic sound effects in the film as well. When Catherine gets shot and she’s
leaning up against the shot. It completely intensifies the scene. Everything contributes
to something else, but not in a manipulative way. It is not random at all what happens.
The music at the end is perfect because it totally fits the mood.

Why is this film called Chinatown? -Asian immigrants in one place and it is relevant in
this movie because it’s a neighborhood that isn’t payed attention to, and has it’s own
agenda. At the beginning of the movie we found out that Jake used to work in China
with Escobar. The peak of his career, but then they dismissed him. Chinatown is almost
dangerous is to say nothing at all. Though she continues in the film noir tradition of sleeping with the detective, the oddly tender scene beforehand makes it clear that the sex is the mutual seduction of two lonely people. The discussion of Jake’s past that immediately follows is a quest for emotional intimacy that neatly bookends the moment. Dunaway’s portrayal suggests that Evelyn hopes to have found a kindred spirit in Jake. The occasional quaver of her voice and the fragile desperation with which she asks him to come back with her hint at a woman who believes she is just as lost as Jake has become.

John Huston’s portrayal of Noah Cross is the film’s most electrifying performance. He has less screen time than Nicholson and Dunaway, but he still succeeds in giving his character depth. Noah Cross appears to be a faultlessly personable and charming man, a characterization that sets Huston’s interpretation of villainy apart from traditional screen villains. Huston’s care to keep his pleasantly wrinkled face and friendly smile unmarred by any shades of baser intent makes Cross’s character all the more sinister to viewers as they discover his inherently evil nature. How can someone do what Cross has done, believe the things Cross believes, and still look so innocent? What depth of psychosis does that require? Huston’s genius is that the viewer’s imagination eclipses an entire film’s worth of character analysis, turning a character with a mere handful of scenes into a nightmare incarnate.

Crew

Director: Roman Polanski
Screenplay: Robert Towne, Roman Polanski (uncredited)
Cinematography: John A. Alonzo
Editing: Sam O’Steen
Original music: Jerry Goldsmith
Production design: Richard Sylbert
Costume design: Anthea Sylbert
Producers: Robert Evans, C.O. Erickson

Cast

Jack Nicholson (Jake Gittes)
Faye Dunaway (Evelyn Cross Mulwray)
John Huston (Noah Cross)
Perry Lopez (Lieutenant Lou Escobar)