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Two off-beat film noirs by Robert Siodmak

- - W. K. Everson

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAX Long witheld because of story rights problems, this much-doctored adaptation of a Somerset Maugham story was commercially successful at the time because of curiosity in seeing Deanna Durbin in a straight role, but it was considered a failure as a film. Durbin fans didn't appreciate film noir, and noir devottes wouldn't go to a Durbin film! Durbin herself astutely characterised it as her best film, and it survives extremely well: as Durbin, as Siodmak, and as film noir. Extremely handsomely mounted. co-starring Gene Kelly, with Gale Sondergaard, Richard Whorf and Dean Harens. 85 mins ap.