Wilder’s double indemnity, one of the first film noir, is based on the play by John Wexley, a 1940s author. The play was adapted by Billy Wilder and Charles Brackett, and directed by Wilder. The film was released in 1944 and is considered a classic of the genre. It tells the story of a couple who plan and execute a murder to collect on a life insurance policy. The film is known for its twist ending and its dark, pessimistic tone. It was nominated for six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Screenplay. The film was also a commercial success, grossing over $2 million at the box office. It remains a popular film noir today, often cited as one of the greatest films of all time.