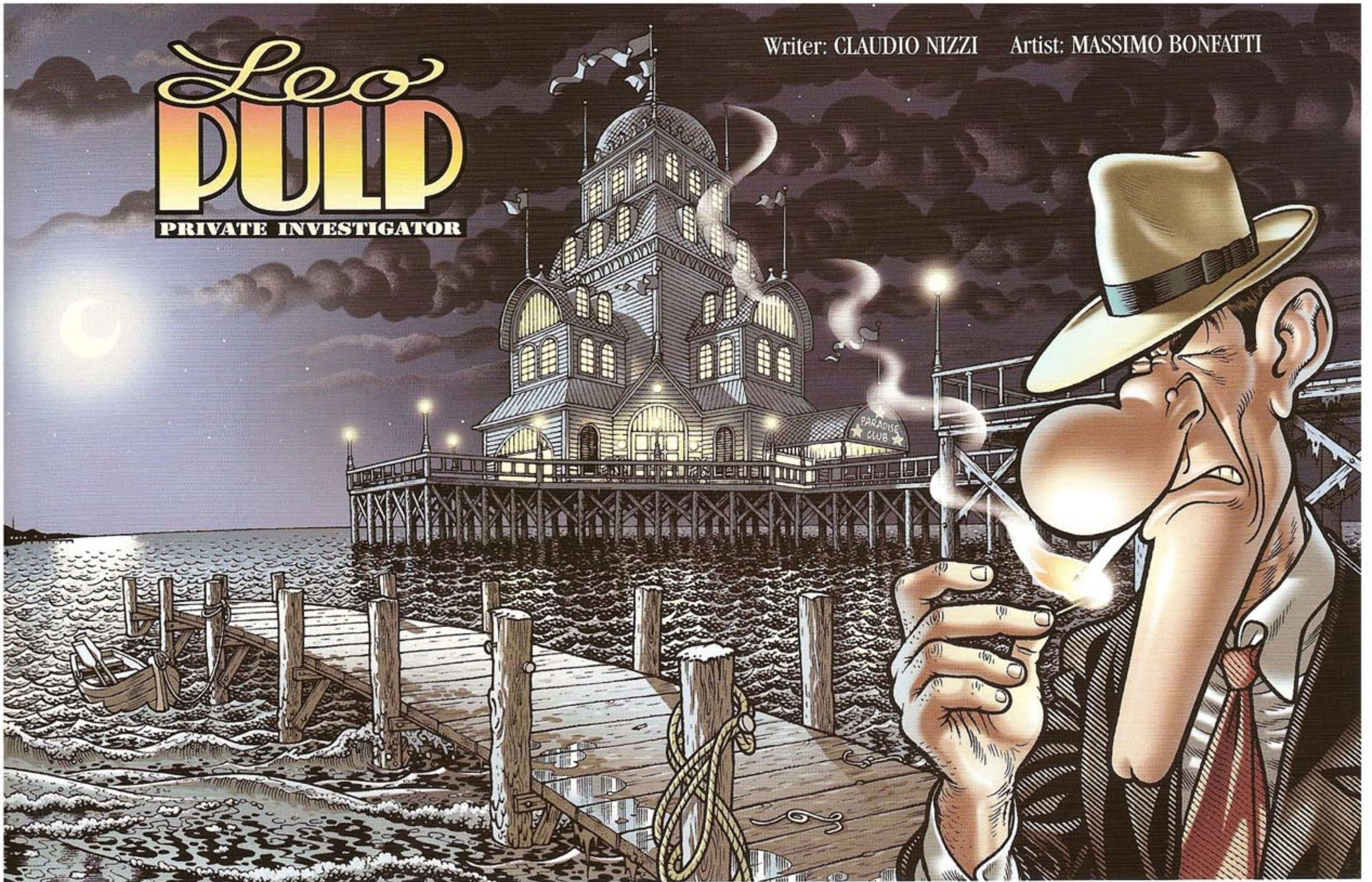


Leo Pulp

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

Writer: CLAUDIO NIZZI Artist: MASSIMO BONFATTI



His fee is \$25 a day plus expenses, his weapon an automatic Browning, his car an old jalopy that often won't start, his main asset a damn good knack for smelling out the mysterious intrigues of 1940s Hollywood. Who are we talking about? Sam Spade, Philip Marlowe, or one of the other melancholy, charismatic private investigators we learned to love in the old American "noir" movies and in the "hard-boiled" novels of Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler? Yes... and no! Leo Pulp is from the same era as these "tough-guy" detective stories, yet his adventures are a bit more amusing. Certainly, anyone who entrusts a particularly sensitive "hot potato" case to a guy like Leo Pulp gets a detective who's not one iota less on the ball than Spade or Marlowe. He's a strong-willed, cynical, romantic maverick like them, and -- to use a modern phrase -- more politically incorrect than they ever were.

In "The Crimes on Sunset Boulevard," Leo investigates the disappearance of a young actress, and discovers at least five other movie starlets have also disappeared without a trace. The trail leads him to the foreboding mansion of an old silent movie star, who seems to be hiding sinister and blood-spattered secrets...

In "The Case of Red Magnolia," the body of a young woman was found cut in half in a suburb of Los Angeles. This discovery unleashed the biggest manhunt of the times, and went down in history as the Black Dahlia Case. But, only a few months earlier, the City of Angeles lived almost the same nightmare, and it was up to Leo to investigate that murder...

