

Dane Clark

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[Dane Clark](#)



from the trailer for *Whiplash* (1948)

Born	Bernard Zanville disputed date (see "Early Life") Brooklyn, New York, U.S.
Died	11 September 1998 (aged between 83 and 86) Santa Monica, California, U.S.

Dane Clark (disputed date between 1912 and 1915 - **September 11, 1998**) was an **American film actor** who was known for playing, as he labeled himself, "Joe Average".**[1]**

Early life

Bernard Zanville was born in **Brooklyn, New York**. His date of birth is a matter of dispute between sources: the three most frequently shown dates are 26 February 1912, 18 February 1913, and 18 February 1915. Dane Clark also co-starred in the film 'Highly Dangerous'(1950) He graduated from **Cornell University** and earned a law degree at **St. John's University School of Law** in **Queens, New York**. During the **Great Depression**, he worked as a boxer, baseball player, construction worker, and model.[1]

Acting career

Modeling brought him in contact with people in the arts. He gradually perceived them to be snobbish, with their talk of the "theatah", and "I decided it [*sic*] give it a try myself, just to show them anyone could do it." [1]

He progressed from small **Broadway** parts to larger ones, eventually taking over the role of George from **Wallace Ford** in the 1937 production of ***Of Mice and Men***. [1] *Clark got his big break when he was signed by Warner Bros. in 1943. He worked alongside some of his era's biggest stars, often in war movies such as **Action in the North Atlantic** (1943), his breakthrough part, opposite **Humphrey Bogart**, **Destination Tokyo** (1943) with **Cary Grant**, and **Pride of the Marines** (1945) with friend and fellow New Yorker **John Garfield**. According to Clark, Bogart gave him his stage name.* [1]

Clark played Peter Chambers in the short-lived radio show Crime and Peter Chambers, a half-hour show that aired from April 6 to September 7, 1954. He also guest starred on a number of television shows, including **The Twilight Zone**, in the episode "**The Prime Mover**". He played Lieutenant Tragg in the short-lived revival of the **Perry Mason** television series in 1973.