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Autore	Farjeon J. Jefferson
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Sommario/riassunto	<p>From the Collins Crime Club archive, the first original novel to feature Ben the Cockney tramp, the unorthodox detective character created by J. Jefferson Farjeon, author of <i>Mystery in White</i>. Strange things are happening in the untenanted houses of Jowle Street. There are unaccountable creakings and weird knockings on the door of No.29, where a homeless ex-sailor has taken up residence. But even stranger things are happening in the House Opposite, from where a beautiful woman in an evening gown brings Ben a mysterious message; and worse--the offer of a job! Ben the 'passing tramp' was immortalised on film by Alfred Hitchcock in the film <i>Number 17</i>, based on a popular 'twenties stage play and novelisation by journalist-turned-author Joe Jefferson Farjeon. <i>The House Opposite</i> (1931) was the first full-length original novel to feature Ben, a reluctant down-at-heels Cockney sleuth, who went on to feature in six more successful detective thrillers from 1931 to 1952.</p>