
*James Baldwin’s first novel; a semi-autobiographical depiction of a teenager in 1930s Harlem.*


*The first of six novels featuring Hawaiian detective Charlie Chan.*

*Originally published by Harcourt, Brace, and Howe, Lewis features a vivacious female protagonist eager to transform the Midwest small town she moves to with her husband after college. Lewis was the first American to win a Nobel prize for literature owing to his ability to craft fresh character arcs.*

Inspired by real life senator Huey P. Long, this classic novel follows the aspirations of a governor's populist campaign in the South during the Great Depression. Often cited as an important modern classic of political fiction. Awarded the Pulitzer prize in 1947 and went on to become a major motion picture.

From the Viking Press First Edition Library. Considered a seminal work in the mid century burgeoning genre of Beat literature.

188; 223pp. Duodecimo [20.5 cm] Green wraps lettered and bordered in black and white. The bottom edge of the front wrap of volume 1 shows very minor edge wear, else fine. In a natural beige cloth covered clamshell, as issued (near fine, with just a bit of rubbing to the title label). This title was not issued with the First Edition Library Explanatory Notes, however there is a single explanatory note page that was issued for all three titles in the series. Tropic of Cancer and Ulysses are the other two tiles that were issued in this series (not present). All three titles in this series are scarce. Fine. $1,500

The First Edition Library is known for producing superior quality facsimile editions of highly regarded works from the 19th and 20th centuries.

From the Indiana University Banned Books Website Page-

"One of the most famous and controversial novels of the twentieth century, Lolita by the Russian-born American writer Vladimir Nabokov (1899-1977) is presented as prison confession of the protagonist Humbert Humbert, who recounts his pedophilic attraction for twelve-year old Lolita and their subsequent "affair." First published in Paris by Maurice Girodias' Olympia Press in 1955, the book was banned by the French government a year later... The first U.S. edition of the novel, published by Putnam in August 1958, ranked it among the bestselling novels of all time, with 100,000 copies sold in the first three weeks, and more than 50 million copies sold worldwide since then. Despite its lasting impact on popular culture... the novel has become more popular than ever in recent years because of its subject matter"

The basis for the text and dust jacket is a copy owned by Otto Penzler.

From the publisher's notes-

"Wright, who scorned 'light fiction,' became obsessed with mystery novels. Pouring his considerable intellectual energy into analyzing the genre, Wright concluded that the most successful mysteries were those in which the detective's character was more important than the crime. Convinced he could beat American pop culture at its own game, he set out to create a truly vivid detective: an eccentric, elitist intellectual more interested in art and psychology than logic and forensics- i.e., a detective like Willard Huntington Wright. In 1926, the detective Philo Vance made one of the most sensational debuts in American publishing history. The book's author was one 'S.S. Van Dine'- for Wright was too ashamed of writing such 'popular' fiction (and too afraid of failure) to use his own name. When The Dragon Murder Case, the eight book in the series, appeared in 1933, Wright was famous, rich- and well known for flaunting his wealth. Inspired by a shared passion for tropical fish, he dedicated Dragon to his wife Claire. The couple had filled their huge Manhattan home with hundreds of aquariums and thousands of fish."

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The story that made Burroughs' fortune, and a story which was followed by over twenty sequels. The novel relates the story of John Clayton, who was born in the western coastal jungles of equatorial Africa to a marooned couple from England, who unfortunately die relatively early in his life. He is then adopted as an infant by the she-ape Kala and named "Tarzan" ("White Skin" in the language of the apes) and raised without knowledge of his human heritage. Renowned science fiction bibliographer, E. F. Bleiler states in "Science Fiction Writers: Critical Studies of the Major Authors from the Early Nineteenth Century to the Present Day," that Tarzan of the Apes is perhaps the only character in twentieth-century English literature to achieve universal familiarity. Bleiler goes on to explain that Burroughs' first novel, Under the Moons of Mars, garnished little attention, however his second, Tarzan of the Apes (All Story, October 1912), was an instant success, and within two years Burroughs was writing full-time. Over the next thirty-five years he wrote over one hundred novels and short stories, and it is claimed that his books sold close to six million copies during his lifetime. His individual stories were commonly published in magazines and books, translated into foreign languages, serialized in newspapers, published in comic books and strips, as well as published as "Big-Little" books, read over the radio, and turned into motion picture productions.

_The first of the Ellery Queen mysteries. A facsimile of the 1929 edition._

_This new series of facsimile reprints provides an alternative for those who enjoy the look and feel of great old books. Produced to the highest standards, all books in this series will replicate exactly (except for a notice on the copyright page and on the back flap of the dust jacket) the striking period look and craftsmanship of the true first edition._

*From the Otto Penzler collection of the First Edition Library. Cornell Woolrich was encouraged to don the pen name "William Irish" when publishers feared the public would grow tired of him with his high rate of publication in the years preceding "The Phantom Lady", not knowing it would become a classic murder mystery.*

*Kurt Vonnegut's first novel.*

"While Player Piano was celebrated as a science-fiction novel, astute observers recognized that Vonnegut was more the novelist than the science-fiction writer. They saw that his essential interest was character and the human experience, and that technology and the future were simply the backdrops for his novel, not central to it. 'I wrote a novel about people and machines,' he later wrote, 'and learned from the reviewers that I was a science-fiction writer. I didn't know that. I supposed that I was writing a novel about life, about things I could not avoid seeing and hearing in Schenectady, a very real town, awkwardly set in the gruesome now.'"

French for spearhead, or "iron of the lance", "Fer-De-Lance" is Stout's first book following the investigation of overweight and eccentric detective Nero Wolf. It was later adapted into a major motion picture titled "Meet Nero Wolfe".
This is an exact replica of the first edition of Norman Mailer's THE NAKED AND THE DEAD.

From the publisher’s notes-

“In the summer of 1942, while still an undergraduate at Harvard, Mailer took a job working at a mental institution where beatings and violence were commonplace, even encouraged. He quit after a week, but the horror stayed with him. He was to draw on the experience several times; first, in a play written for the Harvard Dramatic Society and then, again, in a novel he wrote the following summer (A Transit to Narcissus). While the novel would never be published and the play would never be produced, Mailer would use the play’s title one more time, six years later, for the war novel he would call The Naked and the Dead.”

Named one of Time magazine’s "100 Best Novels Written in English," Chandler was inspired by the honesty of pulp fiction and the disdain for intellectualism during the Great Depression to write a murder mystery with complex emotion and dialog.
An exact replica of the first edition of THE WAPSHOT CHRONICLE.

**Often heralded as a strong example of early 20th century social realism, “Tobacco Road” paints the lives of impoverished southerners struggling with starvation. When Caldwell first submitted this work to the publisher, they stated that it needed no editing; this impacted the author greatly and from then on he staunchly believed that his manuscripts needed no changes and was infuriated if any publisher suggested otherwise.**

*An classic of hard-boiled detective fiction.*

*From the publisher-*

"*Introducing the immortal Sam Spade, The Maltese Falcon is the story of two different quests: the hunt for his partner's murderer and for a priceless statue. An exact facsimile of the extremely scarce 1930 first edition, this attractive volume constitutes a rare treat for book lovers.*"

*Seen as emblematic of the meaningless angst of the "hangover generation", "Appointment in Samarra" was controversial for its obsession with suicide and sexuality. It was named one of Time Magazine's "List of 100 Top Novels Written in English", which spans the years 1923-2005. It was also ranked number twenty-two in the Modern Library "100 best English-language novels of the 20th century".*

*From the publisher-

"Frequently cited as the greatest of all Philip Marlowe novels, this facsimile is a precise replica of the rare 1949 English first edition, which actually preceded the American first edition by three months."
Terms & Conditions: Advance reservation suggested. All items subject to prior sale. Please contact us to reserve an item via phone or email (801-521-3819 or books@kensandersbooks.com). All items may be examined at our bookshop, which is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Saturday, Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., or by special arrangement (open hours subject to change). All items are guaranteed authentic and as described. Items may be returned for a full refund within ten days, with prior notification. Prices are in U.S. Dollars, payment with order. Regular customers may expect their usual terms. Institutions will be accommodated according to their needs. We accept, cash, check, wire transfer, PayPal, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. Shipping charges are $5.00 for the first item, and $1.00 for each additional item. All other shipping, including expedited shipping and large items, will be billed at cost. Utah residents, please account for 7.75 % sales tax.