

Quair Books

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Anonymous [RHELINGER, Elisabeth; Stetten, Paul von]. *Lettres d'une Femme du Quatorzième Siècle: Traduites de l'Allemand. Ornées de très-belles Figures gravées en taille-douce.*

. Amsterdam; Paris: Chez NYON, l'aîné & Fils, Libraires, rue du Jardinnet, 1788.

First French edition. 18mo (129 x 78mm), pp. 2 ff, xii, 180 + engraved frontis and 10 plates (most hand-coloured, unfortunately not with agility) and vignettes. Marbled sheep, gilt ruling to spine (barely present now) and boards. AEG (faded). Hand-marbled endpapers. Well-used: rubbed and chipped, especially spine, loss to spine ends, wear to corners, joints cracked, front completely, but both holding. POI in brown ink to verso of ffep: "de l'Allemand" du Paul Stetten/ v.Barb.n. 10223'. Occasional light spotting and toning, particularly to plates, small loss to bottom margin of pp.71-2, else, pleasingly clean and bright.

Originally published in German in 1777 (another two editions followed), the 'Avertissement' identifies the letter-writer as the widow, Elisabeth Rehlinger. As a previous owner (dealer or librarian?) identifies in this copy (citing Barbier II (2nd edition)), the fictional letters in fact flowed from the pen of epistolary cross-dresser Paul von Stetten the Younger (1731-1808), writer, historian and, later, Mayor of Augsburg.

[ref: 1182] ~~£130~~ £95



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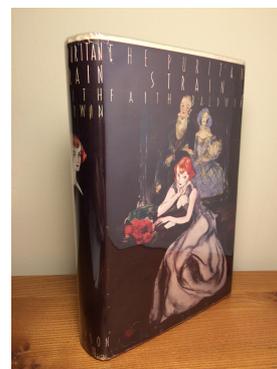
BALDWIN, Faith; MORTON-SALE, J. [John]
(dust jacket illustrator). *The Puritan Strain.*

London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd, 1935.

n.d. [1935, from BL]. First UK edition. 8vo, pp. 348. Bright red cloth, black lettering to spine. Spine ends lightly bruised. Edges lightly spotted, else, clean and tight. In John Morton-Sale's fabulous illustrated dust jacket - price-clipped, edgewear to spine ends & corners, closed tear to top corner of front panel, light shelf soiling to rear. But, the cover and spine images remain striking.

A smart, square copy of Baldwin's sequel to Conflict (also 1935) in the scarce original DJ. 'The doyenne of American light fiction' (NYT Obit), her work oft adapted by depression-era Hollywood, Baldwin also took advantage of the novel medium of television, hosting a weekly anthology series on Saturday afternoons, entitled 'Faith Baldwin Romance Theater'.

[ref: 1088] ~~£45~~ **SOLD**

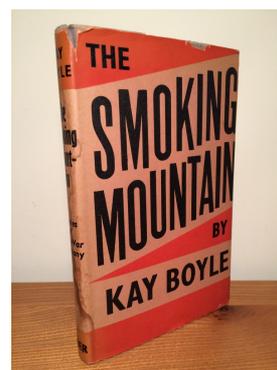


BOYLE, Kay. *The Smoking Mountain Stories of Post-war Germany.*

London: Faber and Faber, 1952.

First edition. Burgandy cloth, black lettering to spine. Lean to spine, slight bow to front board. Dusty top edge, tanned edges, light offsetting to endpapers, very occasional spotting. Else, clean and tidy. In the bright original DJ - staining to spine, small losses to top edge and head of spine, which has been taped by PO, a few short closed tears. A VG copy of Boyle's sobering stories of post-war Germany, where she lived from 1948. Framed by a lengthy Introduction.

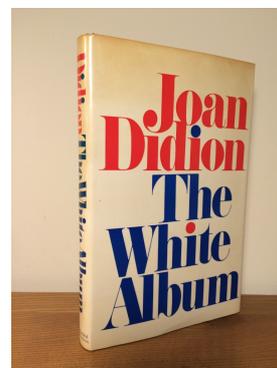
[ref: 1117] ~~£30~~ **£25**



DIDION, Joan. *The White Album.* London:
Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1979.

First UK edition. 8vo. Navy cloth, gilt lettering to spine. Tanned edges. A few faint grey marks to pp. 34 & 39, else, clean and tight. Two newspaper reviews of the volume of essays laid in. In VG original dust jacket: tobacco-toned, light wear to edges. Still, a smart copy.

[ref: 1160] ~~£45~~ **SOLD**



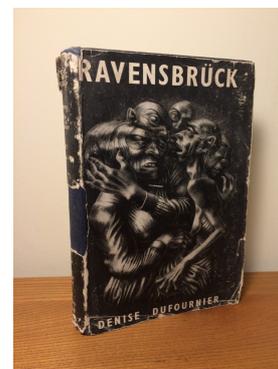
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DUFOURNIER, Denise; SCHUMANN, Maurice (preface). *Ravensbrück: The Women's Camp of Death*. London : George Allen & Unwin Ltd, 1948.

First UK edition (in English). 8vo, pp. [xvi incl. b/w plan of camp], 150. Navy cloth, red-stamped lettering to spine and upper board. Errata slip pasted to verso of title page, listing original publication details and translator. Corners bruised, slight warp, faint damp-staining to front board. Edgewear. Else, pleasingly, clean and tidy internally. In Gordon Noel Fish's terrifying dust jacket: rubbed and creased, losses to spine, numerous closed tears, front flap separating. Still, the striking cover illustration remains intact.

Published two years after its French appearance (as *La Maison des Mortes*) and the first Ravensbrück war crimes trials at Hamburg, Dufournier's account of the women's death camp aimed to 'set forth only the facts. May they, however, arouse in the reader a just anger!' (Foreword). Dufournier was a member of the French resistance, who helped British and American airmen to escape occupied France. Translated from the French by Miss F W McPherson. Uncommon.

[ref: 1159] ~~£60~~ **SOLD**



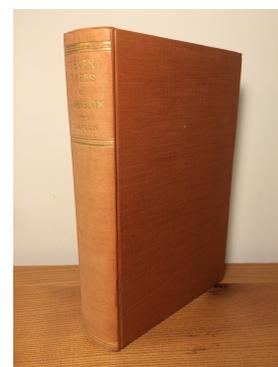
EMPSON, William. *Seven Types of Ambiguity*.

London: Chatto & Windus, 1930.

First edition. 8vo, pp. [326]. Orange cloth, gilt lettering and bands to spine. Top edge orange. Slight lean to spine. Spine sunned, short red pen mark, light bruising to corners. Discrete POI to ffeþ, spotting to endpapers and first/last few pages, very occasionally to margins. Enthusiastic pencil marginalia, plus corrections, to Empson's 'serious quotation' of Sidney: pp.45-47. Else, pleasingly clean and tight for its age.

A VG copy of this key text of New Criticism, which was published when the 'licensed buffoon' was 24.

[ref: 1158] ~~£50~~ **SOLD**



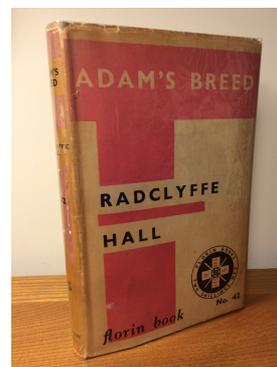
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HALL, Radclyffe. *Adam's Breed*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1935.

1935 reprint. 8vo, pp. [416], [20 catalogue]. Coarse oatmeal cloth, brown lettering to spine and upper board. Some spotting and sunning to edges of boards. POI to ffep, else pleasingly clean and tight. In VG dust jacket (the pink variant): spine sunned, toned, rubbed, edgewear, nicking to extremities, minor loss to head of spine.

No. 42 in Florin Books, one of Cape's cheap interwar reprint libraries, comprising modern fiction sold at 2s. By the 1930s, Cape had overcome its meekness about *The Well of Loneliness*, and was happy to leverage its commercial value again: the title page highlights Hall's authorship of the banned novel, while the front flap notes that *Adam's Breed* won the Femina Vie Heureuse Prize in 1926 and was a title 'which before the appearance of *The Well of Loneliness* showed Miss Hall to be an author of power and sympathy'. Uncommon in dust jacket.

[ref: 1143] ~~£18~~ **SOLD**

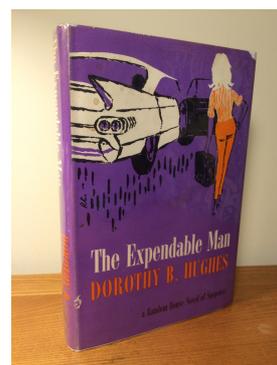


HUGHES, Dorothy B. *The Expendable Man*. New York: Random House, 1963.

First US edition. 8vo, pp. [248]. Illustrated paper boards, black spine with purple and green lettering, Random House Mystery device in gilt. Top edge purple (faded). Spine ends and top corners bruised, light shelf wear to heel and bottom edges. Small, faint stain to top edge, pink stain to bottom edge, else, pleasingly clean and tight. In Richard Corson's stylish dust jacket: small loss to top corner, smatter of pale droplet marks, stain and four letters to rear panel, a few nicks.

Hughes' late, great novel, which HRF Keating included in his *Crime & Mystery: The 100 Best Books*. A critic and sometime screenwriter for Hollywood (which adapted three of her novels), Hughes published the bulk of her crime oeuvre between 1940-1952. Writing from the perspectives of a variety of protagonists, the 'creation of difference itself was her subject' (*Smallwood*, *New Yorker*). Here, she explores race and gender during the Kennedy presidency.

[ref: 1144] ~~£75~~ **SOLD**



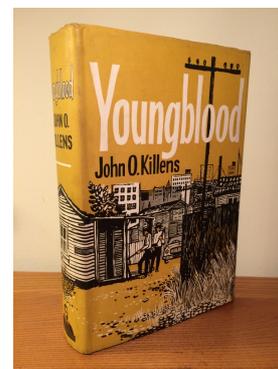
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KILLENS, John O.; BOSWELL, James (dust jacket illustrator). *Youngblood*. London: The Bodley Head, 1956.

First UK edition. 8vo. Black cloth, gilt lettering to spine. Scant, faint spotting to toned endpapers, plus bookseller's stamp to ffeep, else, clean and square. In VG James Boswell-designed DJ - edgewear, lightly soiled, a touch of foxing to reverse, but front panel still grand.

Killens' (1916-1987) first novel, it was developed at Harlem Writers Guild (HWG) meetings, a group he had founded in 1950. *Youngblood* follows the lives of a black family in interwar Georgia. New Zealand-born artist James Boswell (1906-1971), similarly sought to use his creative work to effect social change, a member of the Communist party, and later a socialist, 'his graphic works were integral to the successful [UK] Labour Party election campaigns of 1945 and 1964' (James Boswell At The Art Workers Guild).

[ref: 1103] ~~£35~~ **SOLD**

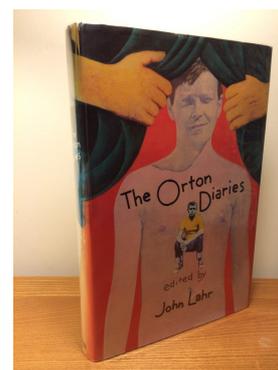


ORTON, Joe; LAHR, John (editor). *The Orton Diaries Including the correspondence of Edna Welthorpe and others*. London: Methuen, 1986.

First edition. 8vo. With b/w frontis and plates. Black cloth, gilt lettering to spine. Illustrated endpapers. Very occasional blemish to text block, else, clean, tight and bright. In the playful original DJ - sunning to spine, light wear to spine ends. A pleasing copy of Orton's posthumously published diaries.

Edna Welthorpe (Mrs) was one of Orton's letter-writing alter egos. Created in the 1950s, she was a guardian of public morals, who Orton used to mischief-make and even, occasionally, to generate controversy around his plays.

[ref: 1124] **£25**



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RORSCHACH, Hermann; LEMKAU, Paul and KRONENBERG, BERNARD (translators).

Psychodiagnostics (Text and Tables): A diagnostic test based on perception. Including Rorschach's paper The application of the form interpretation test. Berne: Verlag Hans Huber, 1942.

[©1942] Second edition – ‘unchanged except a few corrections’ and the inclusion of Rorschach’s paper (Preface). 4to, pp.226, [2 adverts] + striking frontis of Rorschach. Text: yellow cloth, black lettering to spine and upper board. Boards grubby, extremities worn, loss and fraying to head of spine. Stamps – ‘Edith O. Mercer’ and ‘CSSB/ 12 Nov. 1945/ Psychologists Office’ – to ffep. Tanned edges and margins, toned, else, clean and tidy for its age. Tables: cardboard portfolio, paper title label to upper panel – 10 colour and b/w plates, plus 1 page advert (dog-eared). Portfolio browned and worn, loss to head of ‘spine,’ splitting to front joint, but still complete and functioning. Faint stamps – ‘Edith O. Mercer’ and ‘CSSB/ 12 Nov. 1945/ Psychologists Office’ – to front panel. Minor edgewear to plates, else, pleasingly clean and bright: VG. Unusual in their original pairing.

Dr Edith Mercer was an administrative civil servant and psychologist on the Civil Service Selection Board (CSSB), which interviewed candidates for the senior classes of the Civil and Foreign Service. During WWII she was the Technical Adviser in the War Office Directorate of Selection of Personnel, and authored *Psychological Methods of Personnel Selection in a Women's Service*. She also co-wrote *Interviewing for the Selection of Staff* (1956). It seems likely, then, that this set of Rorschach’s Text and Tables was intended for use in the Civil Service recruitment process, however, given their clean condition they seem not to have been put to use.

[ref: 1133] ~~£100~~ **SOLD**



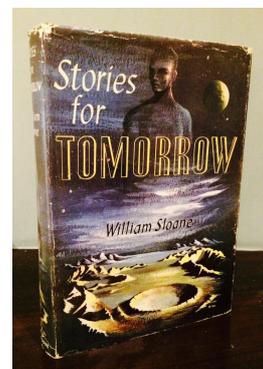
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SLOANE, William. *Stories for Tomorrow: An anthology of modern science fiction.* London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1955.

First UK edition. 8vo, xii, 476. Black cloth, silver lettering to spine. Edges tanned and spotted. Endpapers lightly toned, scant spotting, else clean and tight. In Biro's lunar dust jacket: edgwear, rubbed, rear panel lightly spotted and shelf-soiled, lighter patch to top corner. Still, the cover art remains bright and affecting.

William Milligan Sloane III, author, playwright and publisher, was a genre-transgressor, mixing sci-fi and horror in his brief output, including the 1937 'To Walk the Night'. Still in print, this short story collection has been described as 'one of the finest collections of its period' (Clute and Langford, *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*).

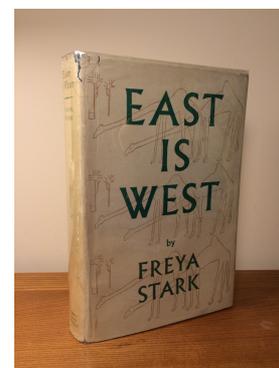
[ref: 1177] **£20**



STARK, Freya (1893-1993). *East is West.* London : John Murray, 1945.

First edition. 8vo, pp. xxii, 218 + colour map (by H. W. Hawes), b/w frontis, plus numerous b/w photographic plates by Stark. Turquoise cloth, gilt stamped lettering to spine and facsimile signature to upper board. With attractive title page in red and black. Spine a touch baggy, wear and bumping to spine ends and corners. Still, binding firm. Lightly toned edges and pages, else, pleasingly clean and bright, especially the plates. In good original DJ with the humorous line-drawn camels: small losses to spine ends, wear to corners, a few light blotches. A good+ copy of Stark's wartime experience in the Middle East.

[ref: 1121] **£35**



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