



## TEMPORARY CULTURE

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List no. 6 : October 2021

Twenty books, including a set of the five *Lost Tales* of Lord Dunsany printed letterpress by Mike Tortorello of Pegana Press, the newly published *Sexual Stealing* by Wendy Walker and signed copies of other books by her, including *The Secret Service*, now scarce.

1. (CRIME) PRATT, Fletcher. *The Cunning Mulatto and other cases of Ellis Parker American Detective*. Told by Fletcher Pratt. Frontispiece, plates. 8vo, New York: Harrison Smith and Robert Haas, 1935. First edition. Green cloth. Good copy only (cloth toned, thumb nick at center of spine, ends rubbed), lacking dust jacket. Provenance: estate of Fletcher Pratt (card addressed to Inga Pratt at 110 Portlands Road, Highlands); purchased from Carol Burnett-Jones. \$75

Uncommon account of the investigations of Ellis Parker, chief of detectives of Mount Holly, New Jersey, told in the first person, with occasional conversational interjections. Fletcher Pratt was a popular military historian and noted author of science fiction and fantasy, and longtime dean of nonfiction at Bread Loaf writers' conference. [310802]

2. CROWLEY, John. *And Go Like This. Stories*. [8], ii, 332, [6] pp. 8vo, Easthampton, MA: Small Beer Press, [2019]. First trade edition. White boards, dust jacket. As New. [310796] \$25

Delightful collection of short fiction, including the previously unpublished "Anosognosia" is the funniest, most thoroughly John Crowley story ever, a perfect evocation of a lost past, rich in ambiguity : an American garden of forking paths.

3. DUNSANY, Lord. *Lost Tales*. 5 vols., small 8vo, Olympia, Washington: Pegana Press, 2012-2020. First editions. Vol. I, one of 128 copies; vol. II, one of 92 copies; vols. III, IV, V, each one of 80 copies. First three volumes in Hahnemühle wrappers, stitched; vols. IV and V hand bound in cloth with letterpress labels, Nepalese paper endsheets. As new. **\$1,250**

Complete set of the Pegana Press series of finely printed *Lost Tales* of Lord Dunsany, assembling previously uncollected work from the pen of the author of *The King of Elfland's Daughter*, *The Gods of Pegana*, and other classics of twentieth century fantasy. Volume I includes an introduction by Michael Swanwick. Vol. II, *The Emperor's Crystal & Other Lost Tales*, includes an introduction by Darrell Schweitzer and reproduces a line drawing by Dunsany as frontispiece. Vol. III has a frontispiece after a drawing by S. H. Sime. Volume IV has an introduction by Douglas A. Anderson and a frontispiece after Sime. Volume V has a frontispiece by Amelia Royce Leonards. These books are beautifully produced and presenting significant short work by Dunsany which is otherwise fugitive or unavailable. An important series. [310803]

4. DUNSANY, Lord. *The Emperor's Crystal & Other Lost Tales. Vol II*. [With an introduction by Darrell Schweitzer]. Frontispiece reproduction of a line drawing by Dunsany. [xiv], 34, [4] pp. First leaf is a blank. Small 8vo, Olympia, Washington: Pegana Press, 2013. First edition, one of 92 copies. Blue Hahnemühle wrappers, stitched. As new. **\$250**

Previously uncollected work from the pen of the author of *The King of Elfland's Daughter*, *The Gods of Pegana*, and other classics of twentieth century fantasy. Beautifully produced and presenting significant short work by Dunsany which is otherwise fugitive or unavailable. An important series. This volume collects nine stories, 1909-1920. [310805]

5. DUNSANY, Lord. *Lost Tales. Volume III*. Frontispiece after a drawing by Sidney H. Sime. [x], 34, [4] pp. First and last leaves are blanks. Small 8vo, Olympia, Washington: Pegana Press, 2014. First edition, one of 80 copies. Grey Hahnemühle wrappers, stitched. As new. **\$250**

Previously uncollected work from the pen of the author of *The King of Elfland's Daughter*, *The Gods of Pegana*, and other classics of twentieth century fantasy. Beautifully produced and presenting significant short work by Dunsany which is otherwise fugitive or unavailable. An important series. This volume collects seven stories, 1910-1954. [310804]

6. GARNETT, Richard. *The Twilight of the Gods and Other Tales*. 346, [6, 32, ads] pp. 8vo, London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1888. First edition, later issue binding (32-page catalogue dated 1890). Blue cloth lettered in black and gilt. Bookplate and owner signature of I.H. Arthur Hart and his gift inscription to W. Bateson, 1906. Extremities rubbed, front inner hinge tender. Very good. CBEL III, 742; Bleiler: Guide to Supernatural Fiction, 675. **\$75**

Collection of fables and fantasies by librarian and author Richard Garnett (1835-1906), Chief Keeper of books at the British Museum, and father of Edward Garnett, grandfather of David Garnett. *The Twilight of the Gods* “is really an unplaceable book, pagan in tone and disrespectful of all religions, wry and subversive in humour, and mannered, but not unpleasantly so, in expression” (ODNB). [310800]

7. HAND, Elizabeth. *The Best of Elizabeth Hand*. Edited by Bill Sheehan. 560 pp. 8vo, [Burton, Michigan]: Subterranean Press, 2021. First edition, one of 1000 copies signed by the author. Sage green cloth. As new in pictorial dust jacket. **\$50**

Excellent retrospective collection, including the fierce tales “The Bacchae” and “Cleopatra Brimstone” and many award-winning stories, among them “Near Zennor” (Shirley Jackson award), World Fantasy award winners “Illyria” and “The Maiden FLight of McCauley’s Bellerophon”, and “Last Summer at Mars Hill” (Nebula and World Fantasy awards). [310797]

8. HOWARD, Peter B. *Martin Stone, Bookscout*. 13, [3] pp. 9 x 12 inches, Berkeley: Serendipity Books, 2000 [i.e., March 2004]. Second printing of 200 copies. Stitched in printed wrappers with pictorial onlay. Fine. **\$300**

Reminiscence of the legendary scout Martin Stone by Peter Howard, originally published to accompany a portfolio of photographs by Steven J. Gelberg (edition of 15 copies). Musician and bookscout Martin Stone (1946-2016) was the protagonist, with Drifffield, of Iain Sinclair’s *White Chappel, Scarlet Tracings*. UNCOMMON. [310798]

9. (HOWARD, Peter B.) *A Wake for the Still Alive: Peter B. Howard*. Edited, with an introduction by Stephen J. Gertz. 53, [1] pp. 8vo, Los Angeles: Booktryst, August 2010. First edition, one of 200 copies. Pictorial wrappers. Fine. OCLC: 671495309 (5 locations). **\$125**

Memoirs of the legendary proprietor of Serendipity Books in Berkeley, Peter B. Howard (1939-2011), by Dan Adams, John Baxter, Taylor Bowie, John Crichton, Mary Cooper Gilliam, Ed Glaser, Gordon Hollis, Eric Korn, John Martin, David Mason, William Matthews, James Pepper, Ken Sanders, Justin Schiller, Charles Seluzicki, Ralph Sipper, Martin Stone, Michael Thompson, Jeff Towns, and Vic Zoschak. [310799]

10. LE FANU, J. Sheridan. *In a Glass Darkly. Stories ...* with an Introduction by V. S. Pritchett. 288 pp. 8vo, London: John Lehman, 1947. The Chiltern Library, no. 4. Green cloth. Near fine copy in very good dust jacket (spine panel toned, scuffed at foot). CBEL III, 492; Bleiler, Guide to Supernatural Fiction, 995 "Beautifully written". **\$75**

Originally published in 1872. Comprises five tales, "Green Tea" (1869), "The Familiar" (originally published as *The Watcher*, 1851), "Mr. Justice Harbottle" (1872), "The Room in the Dragon Volant", and "Carmilla" (1871-2). Bleiler notes that Le Fanu (1814-1873) wrote *Uncle Silas* (1864), "which is the finest Victorian mystery novel. A good choice for the foremost writer of supernatural fiction in English literature, certainly in the Victorian period. ... His nouvelle *Carmilla*, probably the best vampire story of all, was important in establishing the vampire theme in higher levels of modern English literature". [310809]

11. MOORE, Ward. *Greener than You Think*. [x], 358 pp. 8vo, New York: William Sloane, [1947]. First edition. Green cloth stamped in green. Near fine (light paste action at endpaper gutters) in very good plus dust jacket. In '333'; *Anatomy of Wonder* (1987) 3-292. [310806] **\$50**

12. (O'BRIEN, Flann) O'Keeffe, Timothy, editor. *Myles. Portraits of Brian O'Nolan*. Frontispiece portrait and 6 illustrations from photographs. 134 pp. 8vo, London: Martin Brian & O'Keeffe, [1973]. First edition, no. 9 of 100 copies. Red cloth. About fine without dust jacket as issued. **\$125**

Memoirs of Brian O'Nolan (1911-1967), best known as Flann O'Brien or Myles na Gopaleen, author of *The Poor Mouth*, *At Swim-Two-Birds*, *The Third Policeman*, and others. [310808]

13. PRATT, Fletcher. *Secret and Urgent. The Story of Codes and Ciphers.* 282 pp. 8vo, Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, [1939]. First edition. Burnt orange cloth. Very good plus copy, without dust jacket. Inscribed by the author on the flyleaf, "For E. H. St. Leger Lawrence, Fletcher Pratt". \$125

Excellent survey of cryptography, its principles, history, and applications through the first world war (noting that the history since then is "locked in secret records in the world's Black Chambers"). Pratt was a popular military historian and a notable author of science fiction and fantasy. [310801]

14. WALKER, Wendy. *The Secret Service.* [vi], 459, [7] pp. 8vo, [Los Angeles]: Sun & Moon Press, [1992]. First edition. Sun & Moon Classics 20. Pictorial wrappers. SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR ON THE TITLE PAGE. As new. Now scarce. Wessells, Conversation 58. [310116] \$75

Walker's brilliant novel tells the story of an elaborate nineteenth-century catholic conspiracy against the english monarchy, complete with dastardly continental noblemen — aesthetes of prodigious sophistication and guile — and a mysterious heiress sequestered in a tower impregnable. Walker's astonishing conceit is that the three principal British agents of the eponymous secret service have the capacity to transform themselves into objects, the better to spy upon the conspirators. The great underrated book of the 1990s, a work of astonishing complexity that grows more interesting with each reading.

#### A NEW EDITION

15. WALKER, Wendy. *The Secret Service.* Interview by George Salis. [vi], 465, [7] pp. 8vo, Arlington, Massachusetts: Tough Poets Press, [October 2021]. Pictorial wrappers. SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR ON THE TITLE PAGE. As new. Wessells, Conversation 58. [310811] \$25

16. WALKER, Wendy. *Stories out of Omarie.* [ii], 311, [11] pp. 8vo, [Los Angeles]: Sun & Moon Press, [1995]. First edition. Pictorial wrappers. SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR ON THE TITLE PAGE. As new. \$35  
Collection of eight formally innovative feminist reinterpretations of the *Lais* of Marie de France. [310812]

## JUST PUBLISHED

17. WALKER, Wendy. *Sexual Stealing*. [With a foreword by Daniel Levin Becker]. With color and black and white illustrations throughout, pictorial endsheets. 192 pp. Book design by Jerry Kelly. 7 x 10 inches. [Upper Montclair, New Jersey:] Temporary Culture, [September,] 2021. First edition, one of 125 copies, signed by the author. Red cloth, printed paper labels. ISBN 09961359-5-2 ISBN13 978-0-9961359-5-5 **\$200**

A formally innovative interrogation of the Gothic, slavery, and sexual exploitation, written using a simple constraint to extract clues from Anne Radcliffe's *The Mysteries of Udolpho*. Walker notes, "*Sexual Stealing* is poetic in that its form reflects its subject; it searches for a way to write the voices that are buried in full view, and subverts available genres to talk about something widely felt and intuited but not discussed." With quotations and images, chiefly from late eighteenth and early nineteenth century sources, to illuminate and comment upon the newly excavated text. [301750]

'essential reading' — *Publishers Weekly*

18. WESSELLS, Henry. *A Conversation larger than the Universe. Readings in Science Fiction and the Fantastic 1762-2017 ...* With a Foreword by John Crowley. 288 pp. With more than 100 illustrations; index. Book design by Jerry Kelly. 8vo, New York: The Grolier Club, 2018. First edition, trade issue, one of 1500 copies printed. Pictorial wrappers, french flaps. As new. Signed. ISBN 978-1-60583-074-2. **SPECIAL SALE PRICE \$25**

*A Conversation larger than the Universe* is an illustrated collection of essays to accompany the first Grolier Club exhibition of science fiction, including a descriptive checklist of the materials on view at the Club from 25 January to 10 March 2018. The book includes 'A Hatful of Adjectives', an original Foreword by John Crowley. [310010]

19. WETERING, Janwillem van de. *Afterzen* [Advance uncorrected proofs]. [With:] *The Empty Mirror. Experience in a Japanese Monastery* [and:] *A Glimpse of Nothingness. Experiences in an American Zen Community*. 3 vols. New York: A Thomas Dunne Book. St. Martin's Press; St. Martin's Griffin, [1999]. First edition of *Afterzen*, advance uncorrected proofs. Blue or tan wrappers. Fine. **\$50**

Advance proofs of van de Wetering's memoirs. The published edition of *Afterzen* added a subtitle "Experiences of a Zen Student Out on His Ear". [310807]

20. WRIGHT, Austin Tappan. *Islandia*. [With:] *An Introduction to Islandia* [Cover title] by Basil Davenport. Pp. [x], 1013, [1]; [4, maps], 61 pp. 2 vols. 8vo, New York: Farrar & Rinehart, [1942]. First edition, with the publisher's insignia on the copyright page. Beige buckram. Very good plus copy (some toning and soiling to spine) lacking the dust jacket. Davenport's *Introduction* in boards (spine ends rubbed). **\$250**

Wright's first and only book, published ten years after his death. A nostalgic, agrarian utopia, *Islandia* describes the journey and adventures of John Lang, a once very proper American college student. Austin Tappan Wright did not just write a novel of adventures in a strange land and civilization; *Islandia* is a country with a history, towns, cities and streets, its own geography, language, people (and demographics), politics, law and customs, even its virtues and faults. This copy is accompanied by the now very scarce prospectus, *An Introduction to Islandia*, by Basil Davenport. In this, we learn more about the creation of *Islandia*, "the imaginary country of a schoolboy, which was not abandoned as he grew up." In the prospectus, we found history, maps, poetry, a bibliography, and demographic charts (such as Grazing Farms and Non-Farming Population). An absolutely fascinating book. [310810]

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All books are as described and may be returned for any reason within five days upon notification. Institutions will be billed and and deferred shipping or other special requests will be accommodated. New Jersey residents will be charged 6.625% sales tax. Shipping is additional.