

Colby Quarterly

Volume 6 Issue 7 *September*

Article 5

September 1963

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Recommended Citation

Colby Library Quarterly, series 6, no.7, September 1963, p.293-302

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impression of loss: the society of farmers and hunters in Fraternity is a shrinking one, and we seem to gaze at it from an increasing distance. The recurring descriptions of the land-scape, however, tend to reassure us that our loss is not final: the blue hills, the woods, the meadows, and the streams remain; nature waits only to give instruction and to be cultivated like the "thrifty stock" of Mr. Moore. Williams the pastoral moralist is not convinced that we must follow the lead of the Pattens; the way of Nikky Karonen is also open.

BEN AMES WILLIAMS IN BOOKS

By RICHARD CARY

FOR sheer industry and productivity Ben Ames Williams ranks among the most proficient writers of our time in America. During his four decades of active authorship he turned out forty books, which ran into at least seventy-seven subsidiary and English editions, as well as twenty-six foreign translations; he edited three volumes; he contributed introductions, forewords, or chapters to fourteen books by other authors (including a play based upon one of his short stories); and his stories and articles have been incorporated into more than fifty anthologies. His appearances in periodicals number in excess of four hundred.

The immediate reaction to such quantity is to suspect its quality, but one finds no substantiation in Williams' record. A dedicated and meticulous man, Williams served a rugged apprenticeship in his vocation. Satisfied at the outset merely to entertain, he steadily and earnestly raised his sights to loftier concepts of the function of literature. His earlier novels of action and mystification gave way to purposeful studies of character and mores—Splendor, The Strange Woman, House Divided, Owen Glen; his multiple adventurous fictions in the "pulp" magazines are later balanced by the almost plotless

"Fraternity" regional sketches in the Saturday Evening Post, and in such sober havens as the American, Harper's, Century.

The most striking testimonial to Williams' intrinsic worth, and to his versatility besides, is his universal acceptance by editors of starkly disparate anthologies. Whatever topic Williams chose to write about, one of his short stories was inevitably singled out as among the finest in that category. His titles are prominent in collections of Best stories about holidays, dogs, religion, sports, doctors, war, detectives, college life; in stories for children, for men only, for analysis by aspirant authors and by students of literature; in the devilishly difficult short-short story genre. He was awarded laurels by both of the outstanding annual judges of prize American short stories —the O'Brien and the O'Henry Memorial. He was even cited for having produced one of the best rejected stories of the year.

The following list is as complete an approximation of Williams' presence in books as could be gathered from widely scattered and often inadequate sources. Almost every item was verified by the compiler; those few lacking a bibliographic point were unavailable at every locus of inquiry. The known first edition of each book by each different publisher is noted, but no subsequent re-issues by the same firm.

BOOKS BY BAW

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 2. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1919.
 3. London: Mills & Boon, 1920.
 4. New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1921.
 5. London: London Book Co., 1929—as Across to Singapore.
 6. New York: Avon Publishing Co., 1949.
- The Sea Bride. New York: Macmillan Co., 1919.
 2. London: Mills & Boon, 1920.
 3. New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1921.
- The Great Accident. New York: Macmillan Co., 1920.
 - London: Mills & Boon, 1921.
- Evered. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1921.

 - London: Mills & Boon, 1921.
 New York: Bantam Books, 1951.
- Black Pawl. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1922.
 - London: Mills & Boon, 1922.
- Thrifty Stock, and Other Stories. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1923.

Sangsue. London: Mills & Boon, 1923.

(The typescript of a play in three acts dramatized from this novel by Seargent S. Prentice and entitled *Hate* is in the theatre collection at the New York Public Library.)

Audacity. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1924.

The Whaler. Garden City, N. Y.: Garden City Publishing Co., 1924.

The Rational Hind. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1925.

2. London: Mills & Boon, 1925.

The Silver Forest. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1926.

- 2. New York: Popular Library, 1926.
- London: Mills & Boon, 1927.
 New York: A. L. Burt, 1929.
- 5. New York: Lion Library Editions, 1957—as A Killer Among Us.
- Verona: A. Mondadori, 1935—translated by Mario Pensuti as Il delitto nella foresta.

Immortal Longings. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1927.

Splendor. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1927.

- New York: International Readers League, 1927.
- London: Mills & Boon, 1928.
- 4. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1941.

The Dreadful Night. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1928.

- 2. London: S. Paul, 1928.
- 3. New York: Popular Library, 1948.

Death on Scurvy Street. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1929.

New York: Continental Books, 1929.

London: S. Paul, 1930—as The Bellmar Mystery.

(The typescript of a play in three acts dramatized from this novel by Frank E. Carstarphen and with the original title is in the theatre collection at the New York Public Library.)

Touchstone. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1930.

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- New York: A. L. Burt, 1931.

Great Oaks. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1930.

- 2. London: S. Paul, 1931.
- 3. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1951.
- 4. Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1951.

An End to Mirth. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1931.

Pirate's Purchase. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1931.

- 2. Milwaukee: Red Arrow Books, 1939.
- 3. Cleveland: World Publishing Co., 1942.

Honeyflow. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1932.

New York: A. L. Burt, 1933.

Money Musk. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1932.

2. New York: Popular Library, 1948—as Lady in Peril.

Pascal's Mill. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1933.

Mischief. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1933.

Hostile Valley. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1934.

2. New York, Avon Book Co., 1948—as Valley Vixen.

Small Town Girl. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1935.

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Crucible. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1937.

Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1937.

New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1938.

4. New York: International Readers League, 1945—with It's A Free Country.

Cleveland: World Publishing Co., 1946.

- Copenhagen: Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 1948—translated by Michael Tejn as Smeltediglen.
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The Strumpet Sea. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1938. 2. New York: International Readers League, 1938.

3. Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1938.

New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1939.
 London: Robert Hale, Ltd., 1939—as Once Aboard the Whaler.
 New York: Lancer Books, 1962.

Thread of Scarlet. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1939.
2. New York: International Readers League, 1939.

- Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1939.
- New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1940.
- 5. London: Robert Hale, Ltd., 1940.

The Happy End. New York: Derrydale Press, 1939.

Come Spring. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1940.

- Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1940.
 Garden City, N. Y.: Sun Dial Press, 1944.
- Toronto: Blue Ribbon Books, Ltd., 1944.

The Strange Woman. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1941.
2. New York: International Readers League, 1941.

- New York: Bantam Books, 1941.
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 New York: Armed Services Editions, 1941.

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 Garden City, N. Y.: Sun Dial Press, 1945.

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- Sao Paolo: Instituto Progresso Editorial, 1947-trans. by Jose 10. Geraldo Vieira as Flor do mal.
- Milano: A. Mondadori, 1947-trans. by Luciana Agnoli Zuc-11.
- chini as La venere peccatrice. Paris: J. Ferenczi, 1947—trans. by Marion Gilbert & Th. Case-12. vitz as Une femme etrangere.
- Jyvaskyla, K. J.: Gumerus Osakeyhtio, 1948-trans. by R. 13. Sopanen as Nainen ja seitseman miesta.
- 14. Oslo: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag, 1949—trans. by Drude Magnus as En kvinne og syv menn.
- Barcelona: Planeta, 1957-trans. as Extrana mujer.
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Deep Waters. Chicago: Western Newspaper Union, 1942.

Time of Peace: September 26, 1930-December 7, 1941. Houghton Mifflin Co., 1942.

- Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1942.
- Mexico: Espasa, [n.d.]-translated by Joao Tavora as Tempo

Leave Her to Heaven. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1944.

- 2. New York: International Readers League, 1944.
- Toronto: Thomas Allen, 1944. 3.
- 4. Melbourne: Lothian Publishing Co., 1944.
- London: Robert Hale, Ltd., 1946.
- Garden City, N. Y.: Sun Dial Press, 1947.
- Toronto: Blue Ribbon Books, Ltd., 1947. 7.
- 8. New York: Bantam Books, 1950.
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- 10.
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- 12. Mexico: Editorial interamericana, 1945—trans. by Francisco Giner de los Rios as Que el cielo la juzgue.
- 13. Geneva: Jeheber, 1946—trans. by Erna Delile as L'insatiable.
- 14. Zurich: Diana Verlag, 1947—trans. by Hermynia Zur Muhlen as Hol sie der Himmel.
- 15. Prague: Vaclay, 1948—trans, by Zorka Chrastinova-Dandova as Smrtelny hrich.
- Oslo: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag, 1948—trans. by Drude Magnus as La himmelen domme henne.
- 17. Barcelona: Jose Janes, 1958—trans. by Mary Rowe as Que el cielo la juzgue and included with Los inconquistados in Obras de Ben Ames Williams.
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- 2. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1947; de luxe 2-volume edition.
- 3.
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 Zurich: Diana Verlag, 1948—translated by Annemarie Schnieper as Im Schatten Lincolns.
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BEN AMES WILLIAMS AND ROBERT H. DAVIS: THE SEEDLING IN THE SUN

By RICHARD CARY

WHEN the stout and florid Editor first saw the Tyro and his wife, he grinned genially, extended his hand, and said, "I'm Bob Davis." Years later he roared with laughter as he "I found myself facing the youngest, the recalled the scene. most frightened pair of kids I had ever seen, and, so help me, they were holding hands!" His impression of the eager, uncertain, emergent author, "weighing 280 on the hoof and broad as a roll-top desk," was one he never let Ben Ames Williams forget.

Born twenty years and a thousand miles apart (Robert Hobart Davis on March 23, 1869, in Brownville, Nebraska: Ben

¹ Florence Talpey Williams, All About Da (Portland, Me., privately published, 1962), 72. This is Mrs. Williams' informal biography of her husband, "written for my grandchildren."

² Fred S. Mathias, The Amazing Bob Davis (New York, 1944), 7.