
"I have finished Bran the Blessed.... I think Helaine Newstead has proved her point all right, but what she has proved is that certain kinds of folklore magically survive."
--JS/CH, 4 October 1957 (AN)


JS/CH, 18 December 1957 (Bracken)


"Read [it] last night and am still a little sick."
--JS/GA, [1931] (SLL, p. 49)


EFRL (desiderata)


"'Oh, I've [Jim Nolan] read a hell of a lot.... Nietzsche....'"
--JS, IDB, Chapter 1 (p. 8)

CS/RD, 13 May 1979


EFRL (purchased 22 June 1939)


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CS/RD, 25 July 1979

"I'm working on a devil of a long hard book. Having the same troubles always.... I wish I could find a pattern and stick with it the way Kathleen Norris does."
--JS/Carl Wilhelmson, 2 December 1936 (SUL)

"In nature two things do not occur—the wheel and good taste.... Robert Nathan always writes in good taste—so does Kathleen Norris."
--JS/PC, [1945] (SLL, p. 278)

611. North, A.W. *Camp and Camino in Lower California.*

"A popular account of wandering, hunting and exploring the length of the peninsula."
--JS & EFR, "General References," SOC (p. 582)

Leipzig: Insel-Verlag, 1936.

EFRL (purchased August 1937)


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GG/RD, 3 December 1981


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"Have you found too that the same people who kicked
the hell out of Appointment when it came out—now
want you to write it over and over?"
--JS/John O'Hara [26 November 1951] (SLL, p. 432)

JSPL

618. ———. *Butterfield 8*. New York: Harcourt, Brace,
1935.

JSPL

"It's a hell of a good book."
--JS/John O'Hara, [26 November 1951] (SLL, p. 432)

JSPL

620. ———. *Pal Joey*. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce,
1940.

621. ———. *Pipe Night*. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce,
1945.

GS/RD, March 1971

"O'Hara sent me his new book airmail special. I've
read 120 pages and it is very good. Like a literate
James Farrell. Hope it continues good. I want it to
be good. He has a remarkably good ear."
--JS/ES, 1 August [1949] (SUL)

JSPL

623. ———. *Ten North Frederick*. New York: Random House,
1951.

JSPL

624.* O. Henry [Pseud. of William Sydney Porter]. *The Four

JSPL


JS, ARJ, Chapter 9 (p. 200)

"Suddenly the great ones stirred to life ... O'Neill...."

JSPL


"It is the Paston letters of Tuscany gleaned from one hundred and fifty thousand letters of one business firm in Prato in fourteenth and early fifteenth century and a beautiful job."
--JS/OE, 19 April 1957 (ACTS, p. 303)

JSPL


"There was truth in it. It showed."
--JS/GA, [1933] (Bancroft)

JSPL


"The investigations have so far been gratifying. I find that ... Ouspenski ... is headed in the same direction and the direction is toward my thesis. This in itself would indicate the beginning of a new phalanx or group unit."
--JS/CS, 30 June 1933 (SUL)

EFRL (purchased March 1937)


EFRL (desiderata)


"I am gradually accumulating a library which would delight you I think. It's a library of words--all dictionaries--12 [sic] vol. Oxford...."
--JS/CS, 10 September 1952 (SLL, p. 457)

"I know no book I use more--nor value more. I hate to be away from it."
--JS/PC, 7 January 1957 (SLL, p. 522)
"I think the big Oxford is the greatest book in the English language for people in our business."
--JS/CH, 25 October 1957 (Bracken)

"Thank God for the big Oxford dictionary. A glossary is a very unsatisfactory thing but that big Oxford is the greatest book in the world. I find myself running to it constantly."
--JS/EO; 9 July 1958 (ACTS, p. 320)

P


"Dorothy Parker wrote a wonderful play about these women [widows]--a heartbreaking play."


"I am gradually accumulating a library which would delight you I think. It's a library of words ... dic. of slang...."
--JS/CS, 10 September 1952 (SLL, p. 457)


"Why don't I read Dr. Zhivago? Because in four pages
I knew it wasn't very good and was an echo of many other things, and what I refuse to accept in others I seem capable of doing myself."
--JS/EO, [19 December 1958] (LTE, p. 103)

London: Chatto and Windus, 1904.

"We know that people like the Pastons ... went to great expense to acquire books, even paying heavily to have some of them copied.... The fact that a book was valuable and negotiable must have penetrated all levels of society...."  
--JS/CH, 4 October 1957 (AN)

"The Pastons speak of having the messenger read the letter so that he could repeat it verbatim if it was stolen or lost."  
--JS/CH, 28 January 1958 (ACTS, p. 328)


"Walter Pater whom I used to admire has slipped way back for me...."
--JS/EO, 19 February 1962 (SUL)


642. ———. A Passion for Privacy. New York: Knopf, 1940.


"I am very grateful for it and will get to it immediately. I read snatches of dialogue here and there and liked it very well."
--JS/Louis Paul, [1941] (SLL, p. 223)
644. ———. *This is My Brother*. New York: Crown, 1943.

"I only got to your book last night. It seems very effective to me. Can't tell until a little time goes by but right now it seems very good indeed."

─ JS/Louis Paul, [December 1943] (Barrett)

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"I am reading Pepys in bed at night. What a wonderful thing it is. Have you read the uncut version? Such a good man he was."

─ JS/ES, 1 November (*SLL*, p. 383)

"... without Pepys and Evelyn we would know what happened in the 17th century but not what people thought about it."

─ JS/Mr. Downie, 12 August 1963 (*SRC*)

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"Do you realize that language reaches its greatest height in sorrow and despair--Petrarca for Laura...."


JSPL
649. Phelps, Rev. W. *History and Antiquities of Somerset...*  
"What a joy!"  
--JS/CH, 11 April 1959 (ACTS, p. 334)  
JSPL

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Edition Unknown.  
"It is difficult for us to understand the reality of Democritus, of Aristotle, of Pliny, for they did not see what we see and yet we know them to have been careful observers. We must concede then that their universe was different from ours or that they warped it and to a certain extent created their own realities."  
--JS, BPT (p. v)

"My chief reading has been pretty immaculate. I have re-read ... Plutarch...."  
--JS/Amassa Miller, [1930] (SLL, p. 25)  
"Actually [EE] will be a kind of parallel biography."  
--JS/PC, 12 February 1951 (JN, p. 7)  
"Oddly enough the real depth of thought and style I have found lately has been in Plutarch. What a great man that was."  
--JS/EO, 19 February 1962 (SUL)

   NV/RD, 3 May 1974


   JS/Marion Sheffield, 21 September [1923] (SUL)

   "The Ship of Fools has been so far removed from reality that it is a kind of reverse morality play."
   --JS/PC, 28 January 1963 (S&C, p. 228)

   EFRL (desiderata)

   AN

   EFRL (purchased 28 July 1939)

   "'Oh, I've [Jim Nolan] read a hell of a lot.... Prescott...""
   --JS, *IDB,* Chapter 1 (p. 8)
   JSPL


"In a maniacal period this summer I went through Pushkin and Turgenev."
--JS/Edith Wagner, 1924 (SLL, p. 8)
NV/RD, 3 May 1974

"... but I do know that if I had only read Russian history I could not have had the access to Russian thinking I have had from reading ... Pushkin...."

Presentation Copy: "For John and Gwyn--from Ernie--11/6/44"


670. Quarles, Benjamin. The Negro in the Civil War.
Boston: Little, Brown, 1953.

"It is a very good book--a trifle labored in its theme but well done never-the-less."
--JS/PC, [12 July 1945] (HRC)


"It is one thing to criticize and quite another to make the criticized not only admit but accept and enjoy the criticism. I can think only of Cervantes and Rabelais who have succeeded in doing this before Capp."
--JS, "Introduction," The World of Li'l Abner (p. [3])


"I wish you would read the Yearling again. Just a little boy named Jody has affection for a deer. Now I know there is no plagiarism on the Red Pony."
--JS/EO, 7 February 1941 (SLL, p. 225)


EFRL (desiderata)


AN


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EFRL (purchased July 1938)


AN

"I have finished ... Rhys."
--JS/CH, 4 October 1957 (AN)


AN

JS/Kate Beswick, 10 March [1928] (SUL)


"The library contained all the separates then available on the Panamic and Gulf fauna. Primary volumes such as ... Ricketts and Calvin...."
--JS & EFR, WFL, SOC, Chapter 1 (p. 12)

JSPL

EFRL


"I am very grateful for it. It is a valuable thing and a beautiful job."
--JS/PC, 28 February [1937] (SLL, p. 135)
JSPL

GG/RD, 3 December 1981

EFRL (purchased 14 May 1939)

JSPL


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With John Steinbeck Ownership Stamp

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"I am re-reading it for the first time in 30 years and am enjoying it thoroughly for the first time. What a persecution complex that old boy had. But what personal honesty too. I had forgotten how good it is if I ever knew."

--JS/EO, 27 March 1962 (SUL)


JSPL


"The library contained all the separates then available on the Panamic and Gulf fauna. Primary volumes such as ... Russell and Yonge...."

--JS & EFR, WFL, SOC, Chapter 1 (p. 12)

EFRL (purchased January-February 1939)


"And one ancient poet, Rust'hveli, who wrote a long epic poem called *The Knight in the Tiger Skin,* is
honored almost as a national hero in Georgia, and his verses are read and are memorized even by children, and his picture is everywhere."
--JS, ARJ, Chapter 8 (p. 162)

"I have read most of the histories, testimonies, novels and plays which concern Joan [of Arc] and her times...."
--JS, "Joan" (p. 17)

"And with the sources, I read the scholarly diggings and scrabblings--Saintsbury...."
--JS, ACTS (p. xii)


"And surely my eye for fiction has changed its focus.... I know what *Catcher in the Rye* is about but I don't know what *Franny and Zooey* is about. It seems to me a time of brilliance, of despairing brilliance."

Signed: "J.E. Steinbeck, Salinas, California"

Inscribed: "John Steinbeck, as between two soldier citizens and fellow strugglers--with affectionate good wishes, Carl Sandburg, Los Gatos, 1940"