

Forgotten Journey: A Peter Fleming Catalogue

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Peter Fleming was a brilliant author, undeservedly neglected. He was an upper-class British adventurer, brimming with sang-froid, devastating good looks, dry wit, cutting observation, a way with words, and above all - *dash*. Vita Sackville-West, in fact, wrote that he was exactly that: "an adventurous young man with an acid and scornful mind".

Fleming was one of the great pre-War generation of young writers who introduced into British travel writing (of which there is a long and august tradition) a new element: laugh-out-loud humour. Indeed, his first book, *Brazilian Adventure*, published in 1933, "spawned a sub-genre of comedic travel writing", as his daughter, Kate Grimond, notes. His prose is sharp, his mind sharper, and - though occasionally disdainful, as was the wont of his class and generation - he had a fundamentally open and curious view.

Fleming was born in 1907 into the Fleming banking dynasty founded by his grandfather. He was older brother to Ian Fleming (later author of the Bond books) and educated at Eton, where he both wrote and acted from an early age, an interest he carried on to Balliol, Oxford, where he was considered "one of the ablest men of his year". Indulging a taste for shooting and adventure, he travelled widely - to the Caucasus, the Soviet Union, Brazil, China, among other places. He wrote about his travels for the Times and went on to publish a number of highly popular and successful books, including *Brazilian Adventure*, *One's Company*, and *News from Tartary*. These brought him literary fame. In 1935, he married the actress Celia Johnson (later of *Brief Encounter* fame). During the War, his main role was in Deception operations in the Far East; post-War, he continued to write, this time military and political history in an accessible style, as well as being the squire of a sizable estate in Nettlebed, Oxfordshire. He died, suddenly, in 1971.

His contemporaries were Waugh, Greene, and Byron (Robert, not Lord); all, in various forms, ended up with a significant engagement with travel writing - Waugh with *When the Going was Good*, *Labels*, and *Robbery Under Law*, Greene with *Journey Without Maps* and *The Lawless Roads*, and Byron most notably with *The Road to Oxiana*. In some ways, a great generation, and one that has made a lasting impact on British (travel and cultural) writing.

So where is Fleming's place in all this? Not where it should be, we think. Hampered by his output after the War, which focussed mostly on military history and shorter pieces from the *Times* and *Spectator*, overshadowed as a writer by his brother Ian, and all but gone

from the popular mind, his writing is a rich trove of wit and adventure waiting to be rediscovered.

This collection is an unparalleled chance to do just that. The noted bookman John Collins, formerly of Maggs, made an attempt at putting together a bibliography of Fleming's works in 1997 (in *The Private Library*). We are much indebted to his effort, as well as the excellent biography of Fleming by Duff Hart-Davis.

It is almost a hundred years since Colonel Fawcett disappeared in the Brazilian jungle, prompting - though indirectly - an adventure-seeking young Fleming to go after him. This then led to the birth of *Brazilian Adventure*, a highly entertaining and, in places, very funny, account of his travels in search of him. *Brazilian Adventure* was a big hit, both commercially and critically, and made Fleming's name. The Dublin Magazine, in its 1934 review, called it "[a] capital adventure story which the nonchalant pose of the author renders merely more zestful." It was so successful, in part, because it "blew sky-high the excessive reverence and solemnity with which travel books had hitherto been treated, mocking the dangers and himself with infectious humour. People could not believe that a story of true adventure could be so funny" (Rupert Hart-Davis, Fleming's publisher, noted in 1986).

One's Company followed, an account of a solo trip through Soviet Russia to Manchukuo - the part of China then occupied by the Japanese - via the Trans-Siberian Express (as he later wrote: "[O]ne is once more bounded in a nutshell, snug, sociable, secure. The sleigh-driver and the skier, outside, can count themselves lords of infinite space"). In it, Fleming rides out with the Japanese in search of Chinese Communist 'bandits' and deplores the fact that he does not get shot at once (in a similar, if less alarmist, vein than Byron in *Oxiana*).

His third book, *News From Tartary* is perhaps his best. It is an account of a journey from the coast, through China's 'forbidden lands', down to British India in 1935, and it combines his by-then trademark humour with a new maturity of writing. This, too, was a great popular success, and it marked perhaps the apogee of Fleming's fame. Young, handsome, from a wealthy family, and by then married to a movie star, he was set for literary greatness.

The War was a break from literary endeavour, more or less - except for *The Flying Visit*, a strangely prophetic fantasy (given Rudolf Hess' arrival in 1941) of Hitler parachuting into Britain; illustrated by the fantastic war cartoonist David Low.

Fleming's post-War output changed considerably. Occupied with Deception during the War, he shifted to writing books of military history and biography - the most successful of which was *Invasion 1940*, about Nazi Germany's plans for invading Britain, which sold more than any of his other books. But a significant number of others followed, including *Bayonets to Lhasa* and *The Siege at Peking*, about the British invasion of Tibet and an episode in the Boxer rising, respectively. He was also a prolific leader-writer for the *Times* and columnist - under the pen-name Strix - for the *Spectator*.

We are privileged to have an extensive set of his *Fourth Leaders* for The Times. Perhaps less well known - and less fully explored bibliographically - are his contributions to other publications; anthologies, newspapers, journals, and introductions to other people's works. Before the War, Fleming wrote for *Night and Day* and *Life and Letters*. He contributed to anthologies such as *Spectator's Gallery*, (one of his earliest appearances in print), *Contemporary Essays 1933*, *Nine O'clock Stories* and *Variety*. He also wrote introductions for other people's books - for example, *Pirate Junk* by Clifford Johnson, the story of which is actually mentioned in *One's Company*.

Fleming appeared in such compilations as *John Bull's Schooldays*, *Noblesse Oblige* and *The Privileged Classes Then and Now*, and wrote more introductions - including for Heinrich Harrer's *Seven Years in Tibet* (somewhat ironically, Harrer turned out to have been in the SS). He was also a translator, producing the English version of André Miget's *Caravane vers Bouddha* as *Tibetan Marches* in 1955. Much of his time was taken up with writing the official history of Strategic Deception which, however - due to official obfuscation and Fleming's relatively early death - eventually remained unpublished. Other things did, however, appear, such as the anthology *Special Operations*, which brings together a number of military men involved in 'the secret War'.

Fleming, then, had a long and varied literary career, with two distinct halves to it (if you like) and we have tried here to bring together as many of his printed works as it was possible for us to do; we have not achieved totality, but we have taken several steps down

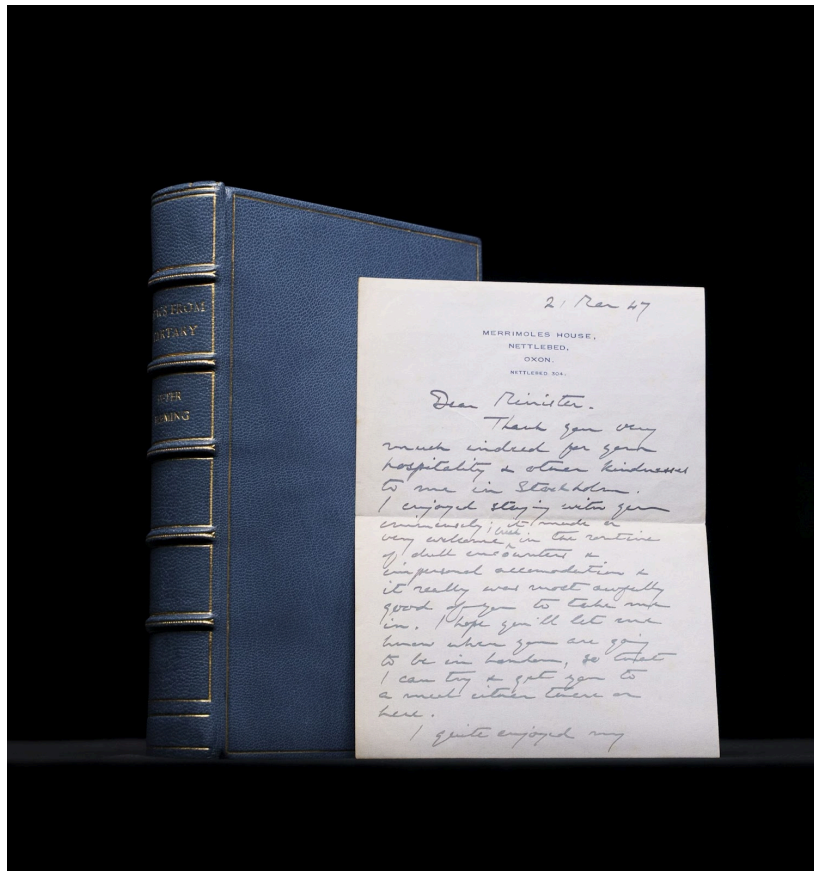
the road marked out for us by John Collins and, perhaps, brought together some things that would have surprised and interested even him.

There are three separate sets of his major works, including first edition copies, signed or inscribed copies, and/or copies in their scarce or rare dust jackets. There is then a set of his 'minor works', books that are rarely found together as a coherent set, and some of which are scarce in themselves. We have a set of his Fourth Leaders for the times, all signed, as well as proof and review copies of some of his later major works; finally, we have smaller, associated items.

In an article in *The Book Collector* in 2023, Mark complained of the difficulty of finding books signed by Fleming - well, here they are!

Rebekah and Mark

March 2025



1. FLEMING, Peter
News from Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1936

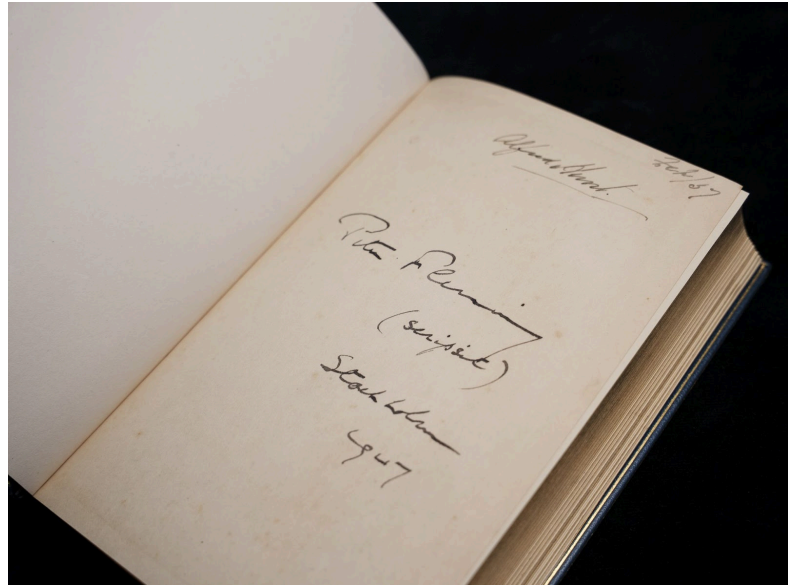
£4500

8vo., Full crushed light blue morocco gilt, gilt border to both boards, lettered and lined in gilt to spine with five raised bands; decorative head- and tail- bands; all edges gilt; handmade marbled endpapers; pp. [viii], 5-384, [ii]; essentially a fine copy, with just the odd spot and previous ownership name and date in ink to p. [iii].

First edition, finely bound. This copy signed by the author to p. [iii] "Peter Fleming / scripsit / Stockholm / 1947". This copy additionally with ALS dated 1947 on Merrimoles House headed notepaper, addressed "Dear Minister" (presumably to the UK's ambassador

to Sweden in 1947, Sir Cecil Bertrand Jerram). "I quite enjoyed my Swedish tour + am glad I did it: though I rather doubt if I would do it again."

News from Tartary is perhaps the apogee of Fleming's travel writing, the account of a journey from Peking (as it was) on the China coast to Srinagar in British India, by way of the deserts of Sinkiang. Fleming travelled together with the Swiss sportswoman and explorer Kini (Ella) Maillart, whom he met by chance when already in China. Sinkiang, home to most of China's Uighur Muslims, was



extremely inaccessible at the time, especially for European travellers - and Fleming expected to be turned back at almost every stage of their journey. The journey was a long one, and adventurous - the duo travelled by turns by train, cramped open-air lorry, in the camel train of a nomad prince, by horse, and occasionally on foot. They camped out and Fleming had to hunt 'for the pot' (a decided change from Brazil, where he had hunted, it seems, purely for sport).

Illustrated with his photographs, the book is a gripping read and laugh-out loud funny. It is the finest of his pre-War travel volumes, in which he achieved his best balance yet between the fineness of his prose and the sharpness of his humour. This copy is INSCRIBED to the then British Minister in Sweden, presumably Sir Bertrand Jerram, who had recently hosted Fleming in Stockholm and comes with an autograph letter signed by Fleming to Jerram in which he thanks him for hosting him and notes that England is "under the weather, both metaphorically + otherwise."

A rare combination.



2. **FLEMING, Peter**
The Major Works [17 Volumes]

Various

£6500

A set of seventeen of Fleming's major works, many signed or inscribed, which include:

Brazilian Adventure

London: Jonathan Cape, 1933

8vo., burnt orange cloth, lettered and decorated in lime green to upper board and spine; upper edge stained red; together in the roughly-clipped printed dustwrapper; frontis and numerous other black and white plates, map; tipped-in advertisement for 'Green Hell' to end; a very good copy in the good dustwrapper which is creased, darkened and chipped to spine ends; some closed tears, the longest extending half way up the spine and half way into the front panel. *Provenance*: Bookplate of Alexander Malcolm Scott to the front free endpaper. First edition, first printing, in the elusive dustwrapper.

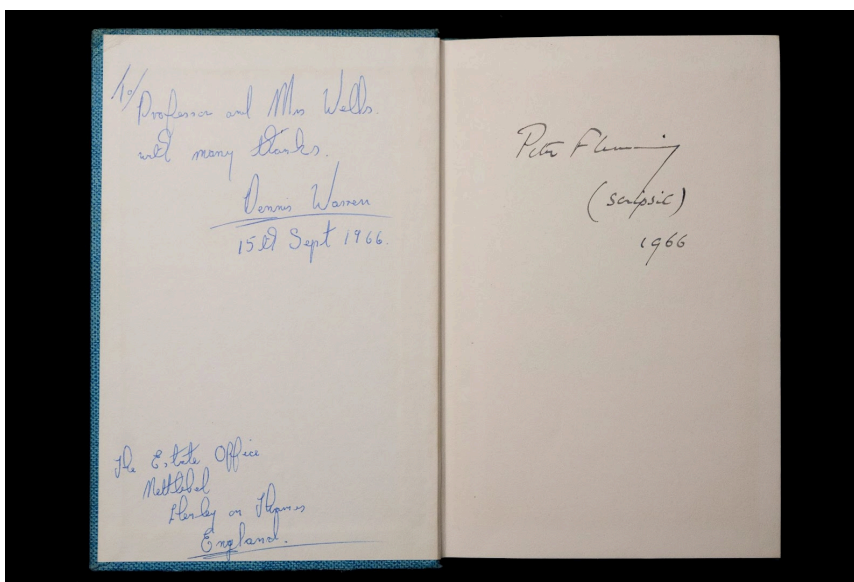
FLEMING'S FIRST BOOK IN DUST JACKET. The original print run for *Brazilian Adventure* was just 2,000 copies. It was so popular that by 1938, it had reached its 17th impression, most impressions running to 1,000 copies. This is the book that made his reputation, with its air of high adventure and its irrepressible sense of fun. Duff Hart-Davis notes that the comedic element to his writing was so effective because it "made use of two different techniques. One was to describe some relatively commonplace object in deliberately ridiculous fashion...the other...[was] that of describing bizarre and outlandish things and creatures in the most ordinary way possible. Thus, the one and only armadillo he saw, he described as cantering along 'with a dégagé air'."

Rare thus.

Brazilian Adventure

London: Chatto & Windus, 1962.

Small 8vo., blue cloth lettered in gilt to upper cover with gilt publisher's device; repeated to spine with contrasting red painted label gilt; with two printed maps to rear; essentially fine, just a couple of small bumps to the upper corners. *Provenance*: Formerly in the Jon Gilbert collection, with his pencil signature to flyleaf verso. First edition thus. One of the author's personal copies, signed by him 'Peter Fleming/ (scripsit) and dated 1966. This copy additionally inscribed by Dennis Warren, general manager of Fleming's Nettlebed estate in Henley-on-Thames.



Inscribed by Fleming, presumably to his Estate Manager Dennis Warren. Warren had risen through the ranks from farm-hand to Estate Manager at the 2,000 acre Nettlebed Estate Fleming had inherited from his uncle and was the brains behind 'The Unit', an intensive milk

production plant with 500 cows that Fleming had built in 1967. The idea had come after a study trip to America funded by a Churchill Fellowship, obtained largely through Fleming's advocacy; his biographer notes that Fleming had "the greatest confidence" in Warren.

From the collection of Jon Gilbert, biographer and bibliographer of Ian Fleming.

One's Company

London: Jonathan Cape, 1934

Dark green cloth blocked in bright orange to upper board and along backstrip; upper edge stained green; in the unclipped black and orange dustwrapper featuring an image by Minns; frontis photograph, and numerous others throughout the text, all taken by the author; along with a folding colour map of China & Manchukuo; near-fine, lightly spotted to the fore-edge; the wrapper very good with some toning, small patches of glue residue to flaps; spine a little sunned; some small nicks and closed tears at edges. First edition, first printing, in the elusive dustwrapper.

FIRST EDITION OF FLEMING'S SECOND BOOK, scarce in dj. Printed in a run of 15,000 copies, there were also 12,600 advertising bands produced, proclaiming 'Chosen by the Book Society' (it was the Book Society's choice for August). By 1946, the book had sold some 90,000 copies. An engaging account of Fleming's relatively early travels in the East - aboard the Trans-Siberian express across the Soviet Union, and into Japanese-occupied China, where he rides out with a Japanese army detachment to 'subdue' Communist rebels (or "bandits") in the hills who, however, refuse to give fight. Includes the memorable quote:

"The Customs House at Niegorloje is decorated with large mural paintings, in which the devotees of agriculture and industry, curiously combining a tubular physique with an air of ecstasy, are portrayed in the discharge of their varied and onerous duties. 'Workers of the World, Unite!' is inscribed in gold letters and four languages round the walls. The second sentence of this now immortal exhortation - 'You have

Nothing to Lose But Your Chains' - is omitted; it would represent, my 1931 diary notes, 'a highly conservative estimate of one's potential losses in that place'."

One's Company

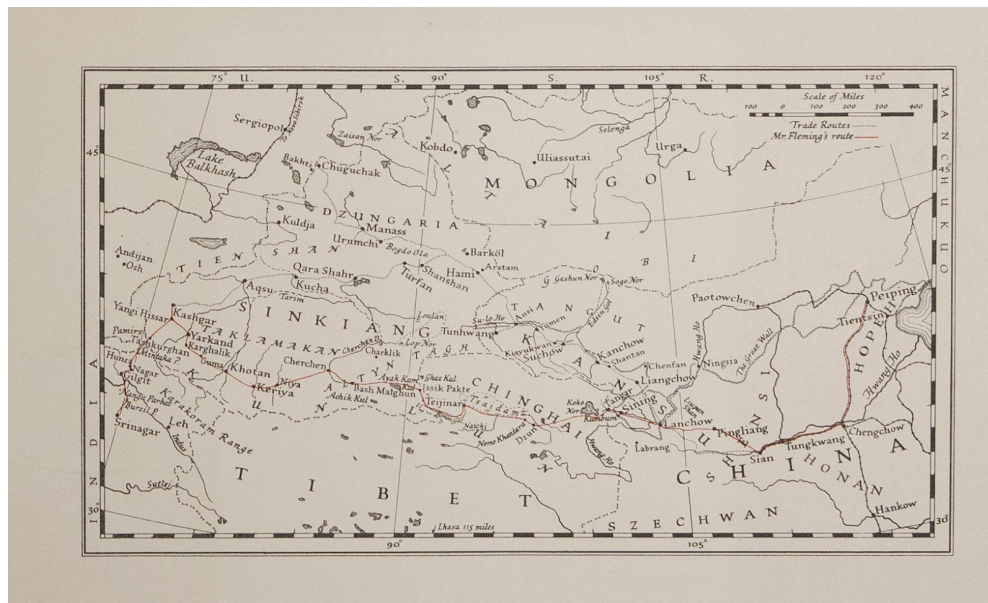
New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1934

8vo., oatmeal-coloured cloth lettered and blocked in red and black to upper board and spine; outer edges untrimmed; in the colourful printed dustwrapper (neatly clipped); frontis photograph and numerous others throughout text, all taken by the author; aside from overall even toning, near-fine, with some pencil markings to ffeep; the near-fine dustwrapper just a little creased, and lightly sunned to spine. First US edition, first printing. THE FIRST AMERICAN EDITION OF FLEMING'S SECOND BOOK.

A Journey Through Central Asia. A paper read at the Evening Meeting of the Society on 30 March 1936 [in] *The Geographical Journal*, Vol LXXXVIII No 2, August 1936

London: The Royal Geographical Society, 1936

Tall 8vo., smartly bound in navy cloth over marbled boards, bordered in gilt; lettered direct to spine; new endpapers; original blue paper wraps bound in at rear; advertisements to first xii pages; several maps and black and white photographs; a couple of small marks and nicks to page edges; near-fine. First appearance of this article, this copy together with seven additional loose copies of the map appearing at p. 134. Scarce.



This is the text of a lecture given by Fleming to the Royal Geographical Society on 30th March 1936, the original manuscript of which is at Eton College Library. It is the kernel out of which *News from Tartary* grew, and was attended by Kini Maillart herself. The last section reproduces the discussion after the lecture, noting Sir Eric Teichman's comment that "I am afraid it is no use whatever Mr. Fleming and Mlle. Maillart telling us that there was nothing in the journey. Those of us...who know those parts of the world realize that theirs was a very remarkable journey, and I think there are only one or two parallels in history of Central Asian travel for such a journey having been undertaken by a lady." This copy comes with a number of the maps featured in the article but never bound in, presumably for one of the two offprints Collins identifies as having been made at the time (which are vanishingly rare).

News from Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1936

8vo., burgundy cloth with Chinese symbols embossed in gilt to upper board; lettered in gilt to backstrip; upper edge stained red; in the clipped orange and black printed dustwrapper; photograph frontis, along with numerous other black and white photographs throughout text; and a folding map; light spotting and offsetting to prelims; Book Society ex libris to front paste-down, near-fine in good wrapper, nicked, chipped and toned, with large triangular portion of loss to the lower panel. A small portion of an original wraparound remains, also clipped. First edition.

"I do not think anybody has ever entered the Sinkiang by the route across the Tsaidam" (Sir Eric Teichman commenting on Fleming and Maillart's trip).

FIRST EDITION of Fleming's third, and arguably most significant book. The original print run was again 15,000 copies, and the book had sold a further 18,000 copies by 1937. It was also translated into a number of languages, including French, German, and Rumanian.

The story of a journey from the coast of China across the length of the country and then down through the Pamir mountains, through the Mintaka Pass, into British India (as it was):

"In about a week we shall assault the Himalayas, once across which I shall board the largest aeroplane procurable and hurry home."

Unusually for Fleming, whose previous book was titled 'One's Company', he travelled with a female companion, the Swiss writer, sportswoman and traveller Ella ("Kini") Maillart, who wrote her own account of the journey under the title *Oasis Interdites* (1937). While the two were in China, they had calling cards made so they could participate in the all-important exchange of cards with local functionaries and potentates. A transliteration of their respective names (Fleming's reproduced on the cover of this edition), Fleming's name in Chinese characters came out as meaning 'Learned Engraver on Stone'. Maillart's was 'The Horse of International Goodwill.'

The Flying Visit

London: Jonathan Cape, 1940

8vo., black cloth lettered in silver to spine with publisher's device to foot; upper edge black; in the unclipped dustwrapper (5s. net); wrapper, frontis, title vignette and a further 16 humorous black and white illustrations by Low, many full-page; a very good copy, slightly rubbed at edges of boards, with some light spotting to the fore-edge and the odd corner crease; some pencil markings to the prelims; the elusive dustwrapper, seldom found at all, here split along spine, but holding, with some chips to edges and tiny hole to front flap crease; larger 2cm chip to head of spine; some overall rubbing, shelfwear, and creasing to edges. First edition, in the rare dustwrapper.

This short satirical novel, published in 10,000 copies and written during a rare bout of illness in March 1940, is an oddly prescient fantasy in which Hitler parachutes into England, throwing the Cabinet into disarray as to what to do with him. Which, in a case of the truth being stranger than fiction, is more or less what happened with Rudolf Hess only about a year later. In the book, Hitler, taking to the skies to gloat over the damage the Luftwaffe

was doing to Britain, is sabotaged by a bomb disguised as a thermos. Escaping by parachute, he lands in the Chilterns and surrenders to a blonde female agent - but the government simply doesn't know what to do with him, eventually settling on the course of sending him back to Germany.

The book was, as Duff Hart-Davis says,

"a soufflé, full of deft humour and containing some splendidly funny scenes, notably one in which Hitler wanders into a village hall where a fancy dress competition is in progress, takes to the stage, makes a speech, brings down the house and is instantly awarded first prize by the delighted revellers, who are convinced that he is an Englishman acting brilliantly"

The illustrations are by the excellent cartoonist David Low, including a cover illustration of Churchill smirking, here visible on the scarce dj.

The Sixth Column

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1951

8vo, red cloth lettered in silver to spine; upper edge stained black; in the unclipped pictorial red and yellow dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster; the book excellent, clean and tight with just the odd spot and bump to spine tips; the very good dustwrapper with some closed tears (longest 2cm) and chips mostly affecting upper edge of front panel; retaining much of its original colour; a little rubbed at edges.

First edition, this copy inscribed in the year of publication "To Tim & Rosaline with love from the author. May 1951"

FLEMING'S FIRST POST-WAR NOVEL INSCRIBED BY HIM IN THE YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

The novel was not Fleming's strongest, as he himself rather harshly summarised in a letter to his publisher:

"The dullest of critics would, I am sure you will agree, be justified in pointing out that

- (a) Nothing happens.**
- (b) The characters scarcely exist.**
- (c) Much time is wasted on reconstructing events which the reader already knows about.**
- (d) It is neither, to put it mildly, the one thing or the other...I nevertheless mean to finish it."**

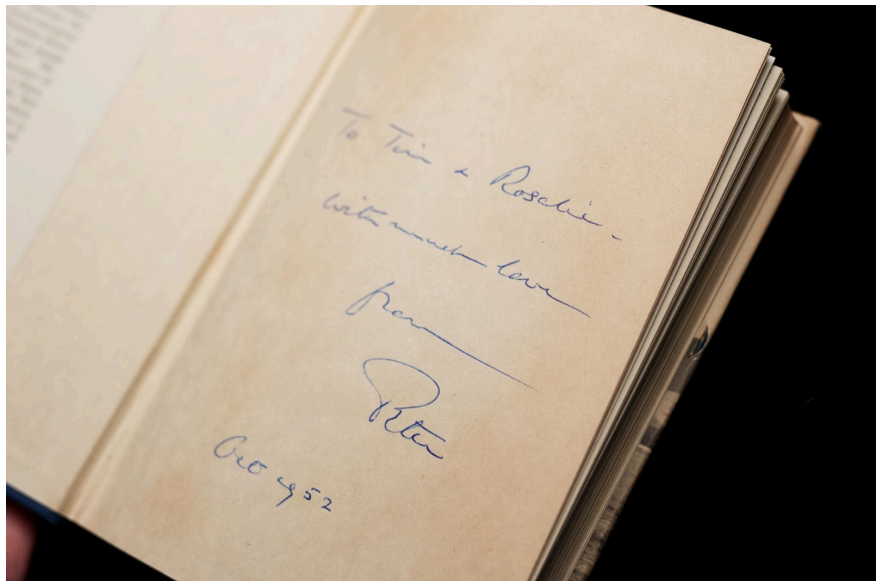
The book is the story of a Soviet plot to bring about the fall of Britain by undermining the national character, already - as Fleming saw it - weakened by the War and its aftermath and convert the English into a group of 'small-minded, mechanical bureaucrats who will cease to play any part in, or have any influence on, international affairs'.

Despite its possible failings, the book had sold 14,000 copies by 1957 and was translated into Italian and German.

A Forgotten Journey

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1952

8vo., navy blue boards lettered in silver to backstrip; in the unclipped photographic dustwrapper (10s. 6d. net); with frontis and a further 28 black and white photographs, along with a double-page map; near-fine, with the odd spot to edges and prelims; mild browning to the endleaves; the near-fine wrapper just a little darkened to spine and folds, with mild associated rubbing and small finger tear to rear flap fold. First edition, inscribed by the author "To Tim + Rosaline with much love from Peter" and dated in the



year of publication. This copy together with an autograph letter signed on headed notepaper from the author's daughter to Fleming's bibliographer, John Collins, in which she writes "my father was always proud of his prose..."

INSCRIBED FIRST EDITION of this account of a hunting trip to the Caucasus written up from his diaries of 1934-5, which had lain forgotten; he had originally toyed with the idea of writing them up and titling them 'Sausages in Samarkand', but the greater urgency of his impressions of his Tartary trip pushed this into the background. Chronologically, the trip came between *One's Company* and *News from Tartary*.

My Aunt's Rhinoceros

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1956

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the roughly clipped pictorial dustwrapper with a photograph of eponymous rhino by Nicholas Fleming (the author's son); a near-fine example, lightly bruised to spine tips with some pencil markings to the ffeps; the very good wrapper rubbed to folds and spine ends; two previous owner's notes in red and blue ink, respectively, to the rear flap. First edition.

This is a collection of pieces Fleming wrote for the *Spectator*, under the pseudonym 'Strix' (Latin for 'screech owl'). His biographer notes that "[a]s Strix he created for readers...the image of an erudite and eccentric country gentleman, with military experience and a keen interest in the theatre, living with his dogs and ever-changing menagerie of wild creatures in the depths of South Loamshire." This became such an established feature in the *Spectator* that Fleming and Rupert Hart-Davis, his publisher, decided it would be worth putting out a small collection.

Invasion 1940. An account of the German preparations and the British counter-measures.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., black cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained purple; in the unclipped pictorial dustwrapper (25s net); frontis map, and numerous black and white photographs and illustrations throughout; light browning to endleaves and spotting to fore-edge; bumped at spine tips, the very good dustwrapper just a little toned along spine and creased to upper

edge. First edition, inscribed in the year of publication "To Tim + Rosaline with love from the author."

FIRST EDITION, INSCRIBED BY FLEMING IN THE YEAR OF PUBLICATION, OF HIS MOST FINANCIALLY SUCCESSFUL BOOK. Originally an idea from his brother-in-law, the literary agent John Johnson, Simon and Schuster paid \$4,000 for the American rights, while The Sunday Times (where his brother Ian was running the Atticus column) bought the serial rights for £5,000 in 1956. It is said that the paper's circulation when they ran the serialisation rose by 40,000 copies. The *Spectator* review said that "the charm of Peter Fleming's book is that it recalls five months in our national history when we all lived as never before, and many of us as never again...a remarkable blend of Strix-like fancy and serious historical writing."

This book spawned a slew of lucrative offers for Fleming and eventually started him off on his second (post-War) career of "amateur historian."

With the Guards to Mexico! And Other Excursions.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., red cloth, spine lettered in silver; the vibrant pictorial dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster (clipped); spotting to prelims and edges, extending to the first few pages; mild compression to spine tips; the wrapper very good, a little dulled along the backstrip, with rubbing, nicking and chipping to edges, mostly at spine head, with a tiny portion of loss to lettering. First edition.

Another collection of short pieces, most of them not written as Strix. The cover design and the drawing are by Osbert Lancaster. The title appears derived from a complicated in-joke. It seems a certain Comte Henri de Turtotz had written "a seriously-intended but inadvertently hilarious study in French called *Peter Fleming: Sa Place dans la Littérature Anglaise*," and the title story is a review of this study, in which Fleming marvels at the accomplishments, and admits he has mislaid the travel book on Mexico, that the Count attributes to him. We can find no trace of the Count or the study - though the title is reproduced by John Collins in his bibliography, and we suspect the whole thing may be an elaborate wind-up concocted by Fleming and his friends.

The Gower Street Poltergeist

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1958

8vo., red boards, spine lettered in silver; unclipped pictorial dustwrapper (16s net); a couple of tiny dark splash marks to boards; mild compression to spine tips; near-fine, otherwise, in the near-fine wrapper just a little darkened to backstrip and folds; some small nicks and closed tears mostly affecting head of spine and upper edge (no more than 1cm in length). First edition.

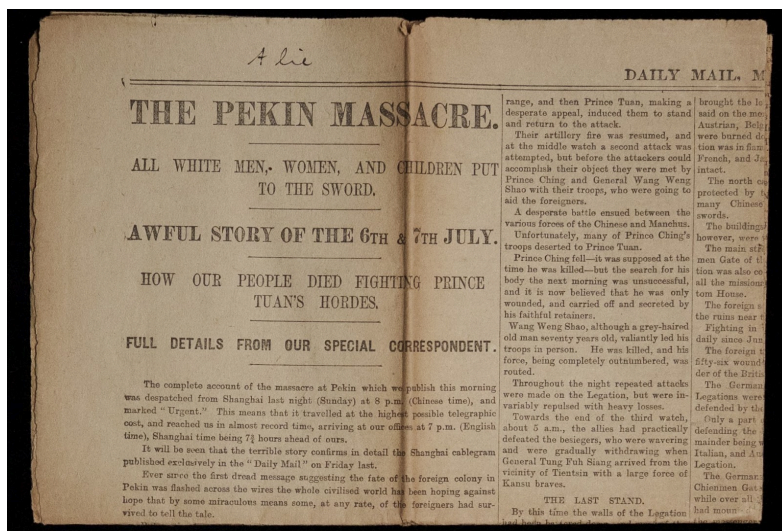
A second collection of Strix articles, written for the *Spectator* from Fleming's imagined home in 'South Loamshire'. Fleming's near-contemporary, the writer John Verney went on to speculate in *The National and English Review* that Strix must in fact be "an endearing and middle-aged combination of the best type of public schoolboy prefect with the best type of undergraduate. A first leader of men in war-time and a Fourth Leader of the Times in peace," before concluding that actually, Strix must not be a man at all, but "Miss Frieda Lemming", the intrepid traveller with whom he spent a week snowbound on the Sino-Siberian frontier in 1931.

The Siege at Peking

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1959

8vo., bright red cloth, spine lettered in gilt, upper edge stained black; in the colourful printed dustwrapper (unclipped, 25s net) reproducing Japanese woodcuts from the British Museum; frontis portrait and numerous other black and white photographs proliferated throughout, along with a further seven printed maps; spotted to the fore-edge, with a

couple of white marks to boards, else a lovely copy; the very good dustwrapper evenly toned along spine, with minor rubbing to folds and some small nicks and chips at extremities; light diagonal crease to front flap; sometime waterstained, but minimally so, with almost imperceptible warping

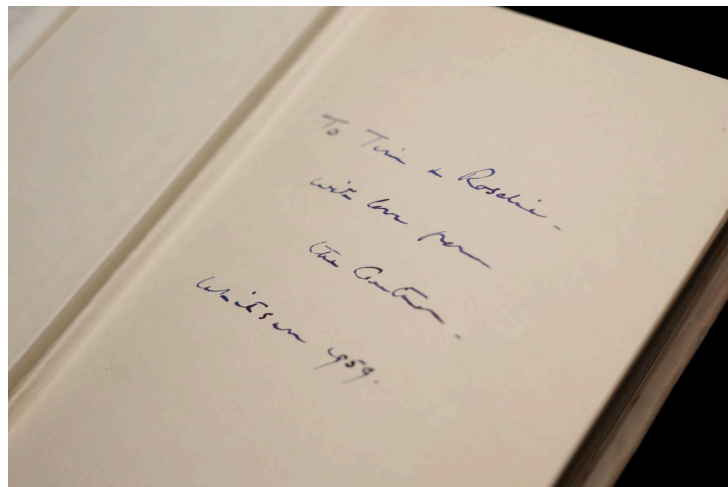


to the rear panel and flap. First edition, inscribed in the year of publication "To Tim + Rosaline - with love from the author." This copy comes additionally with a newspaper clipping from the Daily Mail dated 16th July 1900, with a full page spread describing 'The Pekin Massacre'

FIRST EDITION, INSCRIBED BY FLEMING. Based on a historical episode in the Boxer rising when the foreign legations in Peking were besieged by insurgents incited by the Empress Dowager Tzu Hsi; "the ready-made combination of danger, farce, and excitement and human eccentricity inspired him to produce a narrative which was even more vigorous and attractive than that of his first essay into history."

Fleming was well matched to his subject, with his knowledge of China and vivid sense of the absurd: "[p]ony-meat and rice were the staple diet, washed down by champagne, of which there was a copious supply in two stores."

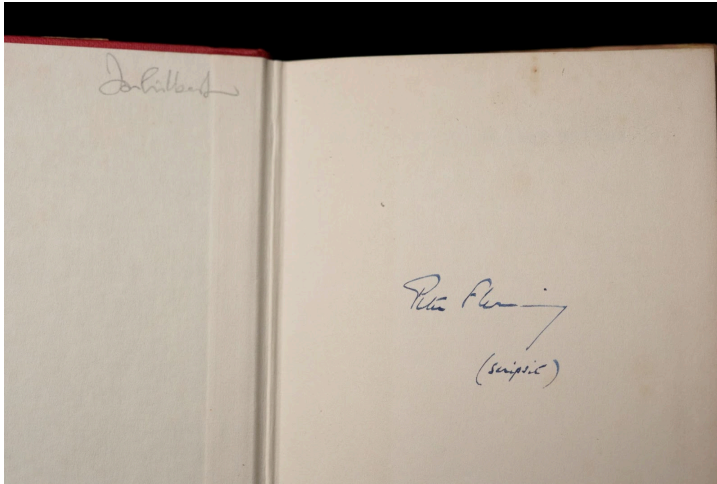
Together with a newspaper clipping from the time of the Siege itself, covering in lurid detail the events in Peking.



Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler

London: Rupert Hart- Davis, 1961

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the pictorial brown and yellow dustwrapper (unclipped, 15s net); near-fine, lightly pushed at spine tips with some spotting to the fore-edge and prelims; some pencil markings to ffeeps; the very good wrapper a little dulled to backstrip; creased and nicked at edges with some overall shelf darkening, particularly to the lower panel; some foxing, mostly evident at flaps and more heavily so to verso; only a little showing through to the recto. First edition, signed by the author "(scripsit)" to the front free endpaper.



FIRST EDITION, SIGNED. Another collection of Strixiana, which was gathering quite a following. As Fleming himself noted, "Strix has, down the years, become a minor, idiosyncratic appendage of the *Spectator*..."

Bayonets to Lhasa. The First Full Account of the British Invasion of Tibet in 1904.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1961

8vo., burgundy cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained red; the black and white photographic dustwrapper showing the Campaign Medal and the British Camp before Phari Fort (unclipped, 30s net); with frontis portrait, numerous other black and white photographs throughout, and five maps, including one double-page; a little spotting to the outer edges of the text block; tiny strip of sunning to foot of spine; the very good dustwrapper a little sunned at backstrip, with some rubbing and the odd mark but otherwise excellent. First edition. This copy with *Readers News* dated March 1962, reviewing 'Our Next Month's Choice Bayonets to Lhasa' loosely inserted.

FIRST EDITION of Fleming's third book of politico-military history, on the British military expedition to Lhasa in 1904, essentially an invasion of Tibet by the British headed by Colonel Francis Younghusband under the auspices of Lord Curzon. Part of the "Great Game" the British and Russian Empires played on the frontiers of India and Afghanistan, the expedition was intended to prevent Tibet from falling under the sway of the Russians by establishing diplomatic relations with the Dalai Lama in the Forbidden City of Lhasa (who fled the city ahead of the British). The *Scotsman* declared it "the best book [Fleming] has yet given us...He has exactly that manner of cool, ironic detachment masking deep and sensitive feeling which is the special gift of certain historians writing in English."

The Fate of Admiral Kolchak

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1963

8vo., navy blue cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained black; unclipped illustrated dustwrapper priced 35s net to front flap; frontis portrait, and numerous other black and white photographs and maps throughout; a lovely copy, a touch pushed at foot and rubbed at corners and edges; faint spotting to edges and prelims; the excellent dustwrapper a touch faded at the backstrip and rubbed along folds, with some creasing, nicking and chipping to ends; light spotting evident to the rear flap and verso. First edition, also issued in pale yellow cloth.

Admiral Aleksandr Vassilievich Kolchak was Commander in Chief of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. In November 1917, he declared allegiance to Britain, feeling that the new Bolshevik government had shamefully abandoned its duties to Russia's ally. He was briefly installed as Supreme Ruler of All the Russias, only to be defeated by the Red Army, meeting his end in Irkutsk. Fleming had heard Kolchak spoken of by White Russians during his travels in Siberia and China in the 1930s. Researching the book, Fleming travelled to Siberia for the first time since the '30s, once more taking the Trans-Siberian express, and talking to survivors of the 1918 experiences of Irkutsk.

THE MAJOR WORKS - ALL FIRST EDITIONS, FIRST ISSUE, SIGNED, INSCRIBED OR IN THEIR DUST JACKETS. Books signed by Fleming are uncommon; first editions of his early works - especially *Brazilian Adventure*, for which the initial print run was small - in dust jackets are scarce; and books inscribed by him even more so. The set includes the 1936 offprint for the Geographical Society that is Fleming's early account of the journey that would become *News from Tartary*.

A rare chance to own a complete and more or less unique collection of all of Fleming's most important writings.



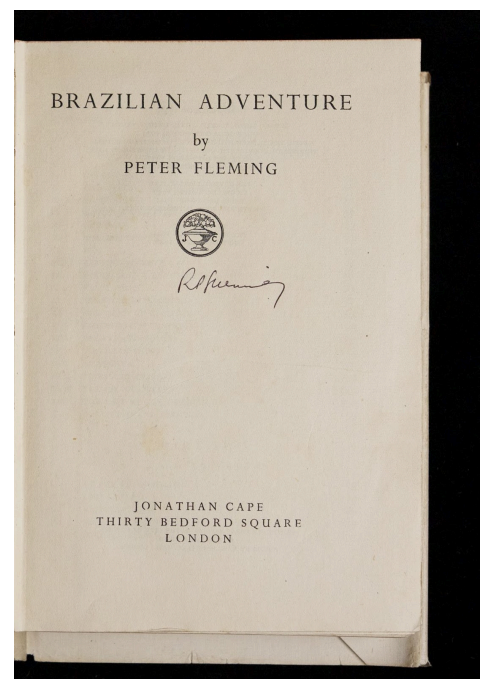
3. **FLEMING, Peter**
The Major Works [18 Volumes]
Various
£4250

A set of eighteen of Fleming's major works, with signed/inscribed copies, two with wraparound bands, and almost all first editions, including:

Brazilian Adventure

London: Jonathan Cape, 1946

8vo., burnt orange cloth embossed with titles and decorative devices in yellow to upper cover and spine; upper edge stained orange; in the matching dustwrapper printed in pink and black (clipped); frontis photograph and a further three in text; a lovely copy, slightly pushed at spine tips; a couple of small spots to the outer edge and prelims; the very good wrapper darkened to spine, with some chipping at ends of folds and more heavily to spine; beginning to split, with a

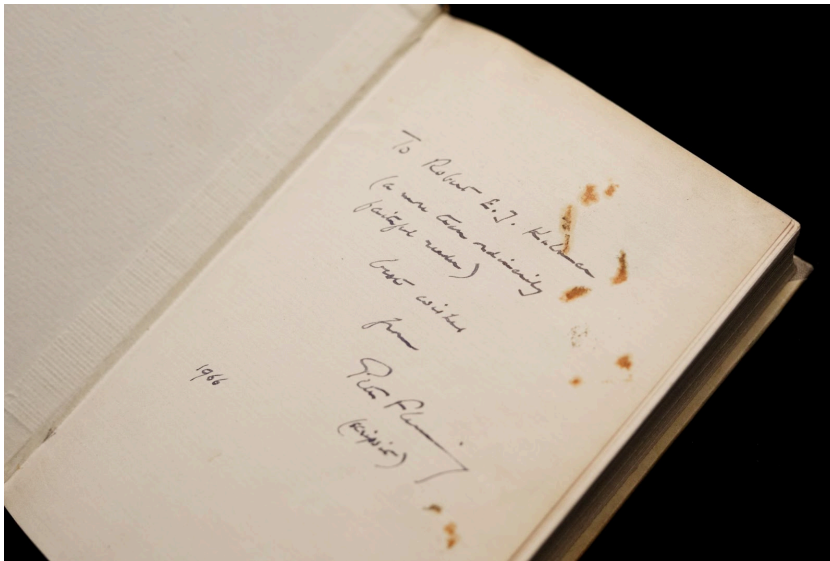


horizontal 3cm tear beneath author's name. Third impression of the 1943 reissue, signed by the author to the title page.

Brasilianisches Abenteuer [Brazilian Adventure]

Berlin: Deutsche Buch-Gemeinschaft, n.d. [but c. 1933]

8vo., textured cream boards, backed in blue leatherette and decorated in green; spine lettered in gilt; cream ribbon marker; upper edge stained black; frontis photograph, along with numerous others throughout text, and several maps; tape residue markings to



endpapers; ribbon marker frayed at one end and stained black to the other; boards bumped at corners and rubbed at spine tips.

An early German edition with a lovely inscription from Fleming to a Robert E. J. Kalman, "a more than ordinarily faithful reader".

One's Company

London: Jonathan Cape, 1934

Dark green cloth blocked in bright orange to upper board and along backstrip; upper edge stained green; together in both the unclipped black and orange dustwrapper featuring an image by Minns; and the elusive Book Society Wraparound Band; frontis photograph, and numerous others throughout the text, all taken by the author; along with a folding colour map of China & Manchukuo; lightly spotted to the fore-edge; pencil markings to prelims, and Book Society Ex Libris with contemporary ownership name in ink to paste-down; the lovely unclipped wrapper with a few spots and creases; lightly sunned along the backstrip with some shelfwear.

First edition, first printing, with the seldom-found wraparound. This copy also comes with an original Jonathan Cape advertisement for a later impression of *Brazilian Adventure*, loosely inserted.



A Journey Through Central Asia. A paper read at the Evening Meeting of the Society on 30 March 1936. [Taken from *The Geographical Journal*, Vol LXXXVIII No 2, August 1936
London: The Royal Geographical Society, 1936]

Tall 8vo., smartly and bound in red cloth with lettering in gilt to upper board; several maps and black and white photographs; a couple of spots to endpapers and edges; else fine.

First appearance of this article, which appeared in the journal from p.128-147. The final page of text has not been bound in. Scarce.

News from Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1936

8vo., burgundy cloth with chinese symbols embossed in gilt to upper board; lettered in gilt to backstrip; upper edge stained red; in both the unclipped orange and black printed dustwrapper, and the Book Society wraparound band; photograph frontis, along with numerous other black and white photographs throughout text; and a folding map; a bright example, a little spotted to the outer edges of the text block and prelims, slightly encroaching onto first few pages; pencil markings and contemporary ownership name in ink to ffe; the excellent dustwrapper with one vertical split along spine; small dampstain at head; the band still affixed with glue, as issued.



First edition, with the rare wraparound band.

Travels in Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1948

8vo., red cloth, spine lettered in silver with publisher's device to foot; upper edge stained red; in the neatly clipped black and red dustwrapper; with two folding maps; very good, spotting to outer edge, prelims, and sometimes slightly encroaching onto margins; very good dustwrapper toned along spine and folds, with some creasing, nicks, and short closed tears to edges (longest 1cm in length).

First of this combined edition, which brings together *One's Company* and *News from Tartary* in one volume.

The Flying Visit

London: Jonathan Cape, 1940

8vo., black cloth lettered in silver to spine with publisher's device to foot; upper edge black; frontis, title vignette and a further 16 humorous black and white illustrations by Low, many full-page; a little rubbed to edges with some fraying to spine tips; light spots to half and full title; some pencil markings to ffeps; Blackwells bookseller sticker to gutter at front paste-down; lacking the elusive dustwrapper.

First edition, this copy signed by the author to the front free endpaper, and dated November 1959. Previously in the collection of Jon Gilbert, with his signature to front paste-down.

The Sixth Column

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1951

8vo, red cloth lettered in silver to spine; upper edge stained black; in the unclipped pictorial red and yellow dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster; the book excellent, clean and tight with just a little bumping and darkening at foot of spine; the very good dustwrapper a little darkened, creased, and with chips, nicks, and closed tears at edges. First edition.

A Forgotten Journey

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1952

8vo., navy blue boards lettered in silver to backstrip; in the roughly clipped photographic dustwrapper; with frontis and a further 28 black and white photographs, along with a double-page map; near-fine, some browning to end leaves and Times Bookshop stamp to rear paste-down; the wrapper a little browned along spine, rubbed to folds and chipped to extremities; 1.5cm closed tear to front panel; repaired with tape to head of spine and verso. First edition.

My Aunt's Rhinoceros

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1956

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the clipped pictorial dustwrapper with a photograph taken by Nicholas Fleming; a near-fine example, just some spotting mostly affecting the upper and outer edge; a touch pushed at spine ends; the very good wrapper rubbed at edges and folds with some overall shelf darkening. First edition.

Invasion 1940. An account of the German preparations and the British counter-measures.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., black cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained purple; in the unclipped pictorial dustwrapper (25s net); frontis map, and numerous black and white photographs and illustrations throughout; slight rubbing to edges of boards and bumping to ends; a touch browned to endleaves; a lovely copy, otherwise; the very good dustwrapper creased, rubbed to folds and nicked/chipped to ends of spine and folds; some closed tears and split along spine discretely repaired internally with archival tape. First edition.

With the Guards to Mexico! And Other Excursions.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., red cloth, spine lettered in silver; the vibrant pictorial dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster (roughly clipped); spine rolled, cracked to gutters but holding firm; with some corner creasing and the odd spot to outer edge; some faint white marks to lower board; the wrapper very good, retaining much of its brightness, with some staining to the lower panel, fading along spine, nicks, chips and short closed tears to edges. First edition.

The Gower Street Poltergeist

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1958

8vo., red boards, spine lettered in silver; clipped pictorial dustwrapper; bruised at foot; contemporary ownership name in ink to ffe; dark spots to edges, encroaching onto margins for first and last few pages; wrapper darkened along folds and sprint, creased, nicked and chipped to edges, most so by way of pushing to spine head, affecting author's name; spotted to the verso. First edition.

The Siege at Peking

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1959

8vo., bright red cloth, spine lettered in gilt, upper edge stained black; in the colourful printed dustwrapper (unclipped, 25s net) reproducing Japanese woodcuts from the British Museum; frontis portrait and numerous other black and white photographs proliferated throughout, along with a further seven printed maps; light vertical crease along spine;

lightly rubbed at corners; pencil marking to front paste-down; else a tight, clean copy in the very good dustwrapper which is evenly toned to the backstrip and folds; creased, nicked and chipped to spine head, a couple of small brown stains to front flap. First edition.

Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler

London: Rupert Hart- Davis, 1961

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the pictorial brown and yellow dustwrapper (unclipped, 15s net); near-fine, evenly sunned along the backstrip with faint offsetting to endpapers and pencil markings to the ffep; the very good wrapper sunned to backstrip, spotted to folds and shelf darkened in patches to the lower panel; evidence of further spotting to the verso. First edition.

Bayonets to Lhasa. The First Full Account of the British Invasion of Tibet in 1904.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1961

8vo., burgundy cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained red; the black and white photographic dustwrapper showing the Campaign Medal and the British Camp before Phari Fort (unclipped, 30s net); with frontis portrait, numerous other black and white photographs throughout, and five maps, including one double-page; spotting, mostly to outer edges but also encroaching onto page margins in places; endpapers faintly offset; light white marks to boards; the very good dustwrapper unfaded to spine (as is common); a couple of small brown stains and overall rubbing, mostly affecting head of spine. First edition. This copy with a magazine clipping featuring an article entitled 'The Murderous March on Lhasa' by the Churchill Biographer Martin Gilbert loosely inserted.

Bayonets to Lhasa. The First Full Account of the British Invasion of Tibet in 1904.

New York: Harper & Brothers, 1961

8vo., rose-coloured cloth, lettered in gilt to spine with author's facsimile signature gilt to upper board; outer edges untrimmed; camel-coloured endpapers; pictorial dustwrapper (\$4.95 unclipped to front flap, but with clipping to lower flap); with numerous black and white photographs and maps; a very clean copy, lightly spotted to the upper edge and

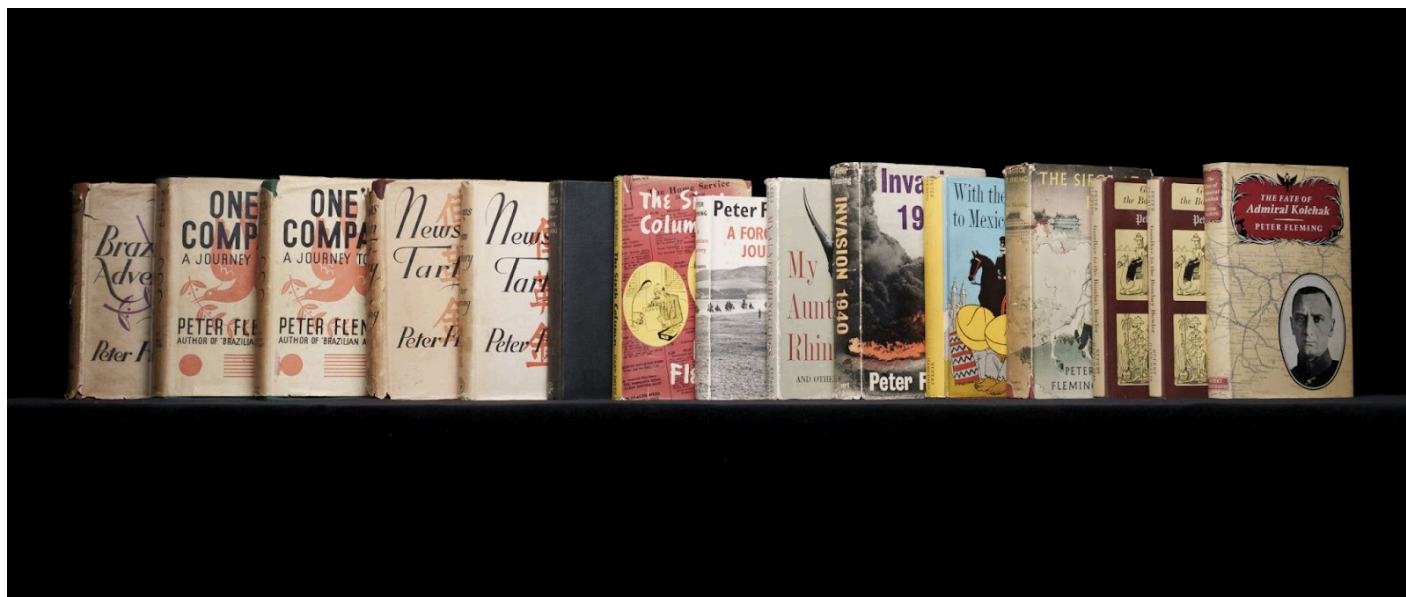
slightly pressed at spine ends; the very good wrapper with just a little rubbing, darkening and spotting; small chips to head of spine and front flap fold.

First US edition, stated.

The Fate of Admiral Kolchak

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1963

8vo., pale yellow cloth, spine lettered in black; illustrated dustwrapper (clipped); frontis portrait, and numerous other black and white photographs and maps throughout; a square copy, spotted to outer edge and faintly to title; endpapers lightly offset; the wrapper very good, just a couple of marks, spotted to the lower panel, lightly rubbed at folds, more evidence of spotting to the verso. First edition, also found in navy blue cloth.



4. FLEMING, Peter
The Major Works [15 Volumes]

Various

£1250

A set of fifteen of Fleming's major works, mostly firsts with a few mixed reissues, three duplicates, all but one in the original dustwrappers, comprising:

Brazilian Adventure

London: Jonathan Cape, 1943

8vo., burnt orange cloth, lettered and decorated in yellow to upper board and spine; upper edge stained red; together in the fragile dustwrapper; frontis and three other black and white illustrations, several maps; a good copy, pushed at foot with spots to outer edges, endpapers, pastedowns and title; previous shelf sticker and ownership stamp to front paste-down; the good jacket unclipped, darkened, rubbed to folds and creased at edges with some scratches, large chips to spine ends and folds; beginning to split along spine, with small holes half way down. 1943 reissue, ten years after the first.

One's Company

London: Jonathan Cape, 1934

Dark green cloth blocked in bright orange to upper board and along backstrip; upper edge stained green; in the clipped black and orange dustwrapper featuring an image by Minns; frontis photograph, and numerous others throughout the text, all taken by the author; along with a folding colour map of China & Manchukuo; a little browned and spotted in places, some pencil markings to the ffep and pastedown but else a lovely copy, the wrapper darkened and shelfworn, with some closed tears and largest chip at head of spine causing some loss to title lettering.

First edition, first printing, in the elusive dustwrapper.

One's Company

London: Jonathan Cape, 1934

Dark green cloth blocked in bright orange to upper board and along backstrip; upper edge stained green; in the clipped black and orange dustwrapper featuring an image by Minns; frontis photograph, and numerous others throughout the text, all taken by the author; along with a folding colour map of China & Manchukuo; edges, prelims and title spotted and toned, map sometime misfolded, the wrapper toned to folds and spine, spotted, with nicks and chips to ends of folds; large chip at head of spine causing loss to title lettering; previous owner's pencil markings to front flap.

First edition, first printing, in the elusive dustwrapper. A clipping showing a photograph of the author is loosely inserted.

News from Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1936

8vo., burgundy cloth with chinese symbols embossed in gilt to upper board; lettered in gilt to backstrip; upper edge stained red; in the unclipped orange and black printed dustwrapper; photograph frontis, along with numerous other black and white photographs throughout text; and a folding map; slight shelf-lean, a few marks to boards; Book Society Ex Libris to the front paste-down and ownership sticker of James S. Boulton; pencil markings to ffep; light offsetting and spotting; the wrapper, though present and unclipped,

fair only, split and now in two pieces, browned, particularly along the spine, with large chips, tears and holes.

First edition.

News from Tartary

London: Jonathan Cape, 1951

8vo., red cloth with chinese symbols embossed in gilt to upper board; lettered in silver to backstrip with publisher's device to foot; upper edge stained red; in the clipped orange and black printed dustwrapper; photograph frontis, along with numerous other black and white photographs throughout text; and a folding map; spine sunned; endpapers offset; some light diagonal creasing to pages; previous ownership inscription in ink to ffep; a very nice copy in a very good jacket, evenly toned along spine, some light creasing and rubbing at edges; a little chipping to foot of spine. Seventeenth impression, originally published in 1936.

The Flying Visit

London: Jonathan Cape, 1940

8vo., black cloth lettered in silver to spine with publisher's device to foot; upper edge black; frontis, title vignette and a further 16 humorous black and white illustrations by Low, many full-page; slight shelf-lean, with some rubbing and bumping to edges; outer edges spotted; otherwise very good internally.

Second impression, lacking the elusive dustwrapper. This copy donated 'To The Services Everywhere. This Book comes from The CITIZENS OF EDINBURGH with every Good Wish' with the Lord Provost's wartime ink stamp to the front free endpaper.

The Sixth Column

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1951

8vo, red cloth lettered in silver to spine; upper edge stained black; in the unclipped pictorial red and yellow dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster; the book excellent, clean and tight with just a near-contemporary owner's name in ink to ffep, Times Bookshop stamp to rear paste-down; the very good wrapper with a little shelfwear, rubbed at edges

with some nicks, chips and short closed tears; a little fading to the front flap fold; light spotting to verso.

First edition.

A Forgotten Journey

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1952

8vo., navy blue boards lettered in silver to backstrip; in the unclipped photographic dustwrapper; with frontis and a further 28 black and white photographs, along with a double-page map; very good, a little mottling to boards and spotting to outer edges, once or twice encroaching onto pages; the very good wrapper a little spotted, although most evidently to verso; rubbed at folds, with a couple of small nicks and chips to the outer edges.

First edition.

My Aunt's Rhinoceros

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1956

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; the pictorial dustwrapper with a photograph taken by Nicholas Fleming; a very good copy, spotted at edges and prelims with some pencil markings and a black felt marker scribble to front pastedown; small pin hole to first few leaves; the wrapper good, but rubbed all over with some loss at spine ends and ends of folds; unclipped, though price roughly scribbled out in black felt pen to the front flap.

First edition, with some clippings loosely inserted, including one with a short comment 'It Doesn't Suit Us' by Fleming.

Invasion 1940. An account of the German preparations and the British counter-measures.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., black cloth, spine lettered in gilt; upper edge stained purple; in the unclipped pictorial dustwrapper (25s net); frontis map, and numerous black and white photographs and illustrations throughout; white marks to boards; spots to edges, prelims and title; slight shelf-lean; wrapper spotted to flaps and verso; rubbed along spine with some chipping at

spine ends; small splits to head; creased at head of spine extending onto upper edge of panels.

First edition.

With the Guards to Mexico! And Other Excursions.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957

8vo., red cloth, spine lettered in silver; the vibrant pictorial dustwrapper designed by Osbert Lancaster (neatly clipped); slight shelf lean; spotting to outer edges, most heavily so to upper, as well as endpapers, prelims and titles; the wrapper mostly bright, although titles a little dulled to spine; some closed tears; chipped to spine ends with a little loss to author's name at head.

First edition.

The Siege at Peking

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1959

8vo., bright red cloth, spine lettered in gilt, upper edge stained black; in the colourful printed dustwrapper (clipped) reproducing Japanese woodcuts from the British Museum; frontis portrait and numerous other black and white photographs proliferated throughout, along with a further seven printed maps; spotting to edges and sporadically throughout text; some pencil markings to ffe; slight lean; wrapper very good, with spine a little dulled, some small brown marks; nicked and chipped at edges with larger chip to foot of spine, resulting in some loss to the publisher's name.

First edition.

Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler

London: Rupert Hart- Davis, 1961

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the pictorial brown and yellow dustwrapper (unclipped, 15s net); spotted to the outer edges and prelims, with a couple of pencil markings, else very good, the wrapper also very good with some darkening to rear flap folds, a couple of tiny nicks, and some light spotting, mostly affecting the verso.

First edition.

Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler

London: Rupert Hart- Davis, 1961

8vo., red boards, backstrip lettered in silver; in the pictorial brown and yellow dustwrapper (unclipped, 15s net); spotted to the outer edges and prelims, with a couple of pencil markings, else very good, the wrapper also very good with some darkening to the lower panel, a couple of tiny nicks, and some light spotting, mostly affecting the verso.

First edition.

The Fate of Admiral Kolchak

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1963

8vo., pale yellow cloth, spine lettered in black; illustrated dustwrapper (unclipped, 35s net); frontis portrait, and numerous other black and white photographs and maps throughout; all edges foxed, with previous pencil price to ffep, else a very good copy; the wrapper a little sunned to the backstrip with some diagonal creases to the lower panel; a touch rubbed in places.

First edition, also found in navy blue cloth.



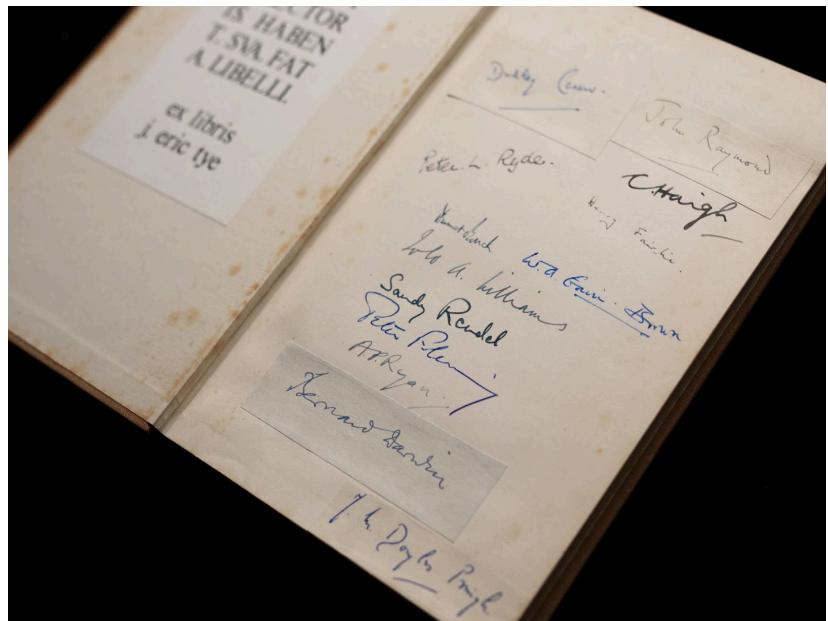
5. [VARIOUS]

Fourth Leaders. A run of seven volumes between 1949 and 1955

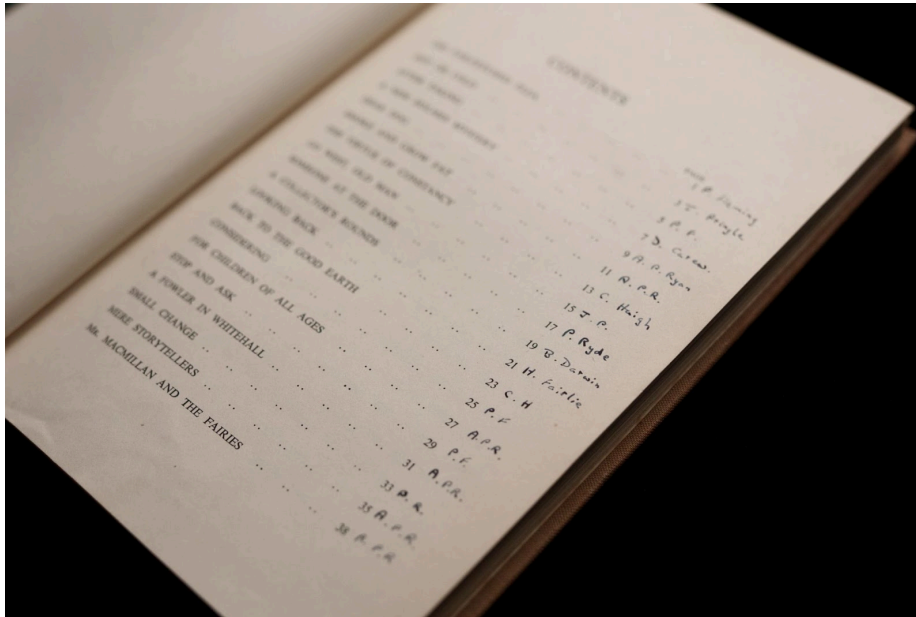
London: The Times Publishing Company Limited, 1949-55

£1500

7 Vols, 8vo; various coloured cloth with contrasting painted label lettered in gilt to both upper board and spine; dates gilt to foot; each volume bar one (1952) with the front panel from the original dustwrapper loosely inserted; some brown staining and rubbing to the boards; occasional water marking; final volume with some white marks to boards; spines darkened; all



volumes with some level of spotting/foxing, mostly affecting endpapers, and the text for the most part clean; a fascinating set. Provenance: Ex Libris of J. Eric Tye to all volumes. J. Eric Tye was an executive of Shell Oil Company who lived at Lymington.



A seven-year run of selected Fourth Leader articles from the Times, printed as a collection for each given year. Each copy signed by a number of contributors including Peter Fleming, A. P. Ryan, Derek Hudson, Cyril Falls, Peter L.

Ryde, Bernard Darwin,

Dudley Carew, John Raymond, T. E. Utley, Colin Watson, C. Haigh, and many others. A previous owner, likely Tye, has meticulously added the contributor's names/initials next to the various articles in each volume, in both pen and pencil. It is unknown when the volumes were signed, and over what period of time, though it is clear that some have been added at a later date, with signatures both provided directly to the front free endpaper, and others later tipped-in, glued alongside their fellows.

Likely a unique set.



6. [VARIOUS]

Fourth Leaders. A collection of nine volumes.

London: The Times Publishing Company Limited, 1949-56, 1959.

£250

9 vols, 8vo., various coloured cloth with contrasting painted labels lettered in gilt to both upper boards and spine; date to foot; upper edges stained in the matching colours; with decorative headbands; all in the pictorial dustwrappers (all bar one, 1952, unclipped) with illustrations, many by Osbert Lancaster; very good examples, with some pencil markings and previous owner's inscriptions to ffeeps; some darkening, offsetting, and spotting, mostly affecting the edges and prelims; internally for the most part clean; wrappers toned, nicked, and chipped, particularly to spine ends; with a little loss, sporadically spotted and with some closed tears; Times Bookshop stamp to rear paste-down of Vol II; Vol VIII with some water staining to the outer edges of boards; a lovely run.

First editions of this post-war publication, with essays on a wide variety of subjects.



7. FLEMING, Peter

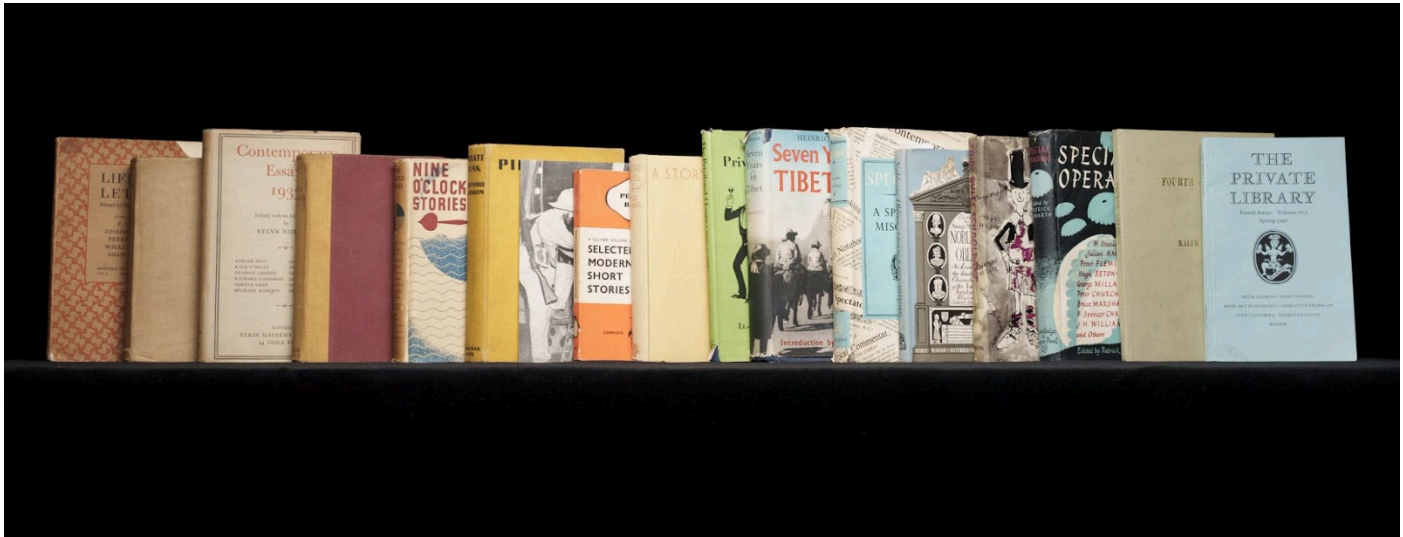
A set of four proofs comprising *Invasion 1940*; *The Siege at Peking*; *Bayonets to Lhasa* [and] *Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler*.

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1957-1961

£500

8vo., 4 vols; in blue/cream wraps, *Invasion 1940* printed directly to upper cover, and containing numerous black and white photographs, illustrations and diagrams; the other volumes with white printed label and with no additional plates; very good copies all, some light spotting, particularly to outer edges and prelims, and previous owner's pencil marks to first few pages; *Invasion 1940* with the title later written in ink along spine; *The Siege at Peking* a little creased at edges, with tape reinforcement along spine and some symbols in blue biro to lower cover. Provenance: *Goodbye to the Bombay Bowler* and *Invasion 1940* from the archive of Ian Fleming bibliographer Jon Gilbert, with his pencil name to the half title.

Pre-publication proof copies of four important Peter Fleming titles.



8. FLEMING, Peter
The Minor Works [17 Volumes]

Various

£1200

A collection of minor works, contributions, and short articles by Peter Fleming, many not in Collins, comprising:

MCCARTHY, Desmond [Ed.]

Life and Letters. Vol VII. No. 38. July 1931

[n.p]: [n.p]: 1931

8vo., brown paper glued wraps decorated with a tessellating design in red; lettered in black; pp. [iii], 2-78; large corner chip to upper cover; chipping, closed tears, and browning along the backstrip; with Welsh library stamp to upper cover; some pencil annotations to upper edge; glue loosened at backstrip, but holding; some overall marginal browning, particularly to the inside covers; small pencil mark to the contents page. Fleming contributes 'Under the Bandstand' from p. 26 to 45. Not in Collins.

FLEMING, Peter; Derek VERSCHOYLE [Ed.]

Spectator's Gallery. Essays, Sketches, Short Stories & Poems from The Spectator 1932.

London: Jonathan Cape, 1933

8vo., pale yellow cloth lettered in red to spine with publisher's device centrally to lower cover; pp. [vi], 7-412, [iv]; slight shelf-lean; covers grubbied with some light scratches; lettering faded to spine, and pushed to ends; some pencil markings and evidence of small sticker removal from front paste-down; outer edges lightly spotted with some splash marks to the upper; a couple of contributor's names underlined in red at contents; lacking the dustwrapper.

First edition, edited by Fleming who also contributes 'High Tide' from p. 128 to 133. Other featured names include Blunden, Galsworthy, Forster, Yeats, Sackville-West, Greene, and more.

NORMAN, Sylvia [Ed.]

Contemporary Essays 1933

London: Elkin Mathews & Marrot, Ltd, 1933

8vo., blue cloth lettered in black to backstrip; in the original dustwrapper bordered and lettered in black and red; clipped at the front flap in two places; pp. [xi], x-xxv, [iv], 4-203, [i]; a lovely copy, spine a touch rolled and pressed at tips; a couple of light creases to pages, else fine in near-fine wrapper, a little toned to spine and folds with some small nicks and chips at ends; some unobtrusive marks; a lovely copy. First edition.

Fleming contributes 'The Returned Traveller', in the 'Sketches from Experience' category, from p. 175 to 186. .

FLEMING, Peter

Variety. Essays, Sketches and Stories.

London: Jonathan Cape, 1933

8vo., red and yellow cloth, spine lettered in red; publisher's device embossed to lower board; pp. [iv], 5-336; numerous black and white sketches throughout; slight shelf lean; boards a little grubby; spine lightly pushed at tips; outer edges and prelims spotted; with

pencil markings to endleaves; Times Book Club sticker to rear paste-down; lacking the front free endpaper. Provenance: Ex Libris of John Cole to the front paste-down.

[VARIOUS]

Nine O'Clock Stories

London: G. Bell & Sons Ltd, 1934

8vo., yellow cloth, lettered with device in green to spine; decorative dustwrapper (unclipped, 6s. net), printed with text and a clock design in blue and red; pp. [x], 11-240; slight pushing and marking to spine; a touch darkened to the upper edge; endpapers lightly browned with a few marks and previous owner's name in ink to ffep; internally clean; the wrapper very good, browned at backstrip and folds with some associated rubbing and nicking to the spine tips; small pencil marking to front flap.

First edition. Rare, especially so in the wrapper. Fleming contributes 'Ace High' at pages 41-55.

JOHNSON, Clifford; Peter FLEMING [Intro.]

Pirate Junk

London: Jonathan Cape, 1934

8vo., yellow cloth titled in black to upper board and spine with publisher's device to lower cover; pp. [vi], 5-238; with captioned frontis photograph and a further 7 throughout, as well as a map; boards a little grubby and darkened; upper edge spotted; slight shelf-lean; previous owner's signature and date to ffep (partially erased) and annotation 'T/H' to margin; light spots throughout, otherwise very good.

First edition, lacking the dustwrapper. Fleming wrote the introduction. The story of Captain Johnson's captivity is mentioned in *One's Company*.

CALVERT, Lieut.-Col. J. M.; Peter FLEMING [Intro.]

Prisoners of Hope

London: Jonathan Cape [n.d.]

8vo., single folded sheet (12 x 19cm) with black and white photograph to upper cover, followed by pp.3 of text; the odd spot and crease, else fine.

Original publisher's order form for the upcoming publication of this book, which featured an introduction by Peter Fleming.

STEELE, Alan

Second Volume of Selected Modern Short Stories

Harmondsworth: Penguin Books Limited, 1938

8vo., penguin orange, black and white wraps with device to upper cover and spine; remnants of dustwrapper front flap loosely inserted; pp. [x], 11-213, [xi]; covers a little rubbed, chipped and browned, particularly along the spine; text block now come away from the spine, with just the front page holding; even browning, as is common.

First Penguin Paperback edition, in which Fleming contributes 'The Face' (p. 11-20), originally published in *The London Mercury* (November 1932).

FLEMING, Peter

A Story to Tell and other tales.

London: Jonathan Cape, 1942

8vo., yellow cloth, titled in red to upper cover and spine, with publisher's device to foot; green ribbon marker; pp. [vi], 7-223, [i]; slight pushing and bumping to spine tips and corners; previous bookseller's price in pencil to ffe; very good, lacking the wrapper.

First edition.

WILSON, Lt.-Col. Frank; Peter FLEMING [Foreword]

The Privileged Classes then and now

London: Constable, 1952

8vo., navy publisher's boards lettered vertically in silver to spine with publisher's device to foot; in the original clipped green dustwrapper featuring one gentleman with a glass of [port?] the other donning a pinny and dusting a plate; pp. [viii], ix-x, [unpaginated]; illustrated with numerous, humorous, sketches throughout; a little bumped, the odd patch of toning to endleaves; else fine in very good wrapper, lightly marked with some nicks, creases, and closed tears, the longest 4cm extending from the front flap into the upper panel; untaped or restored.

First edition.

HARRER, Heinrich; Richard GRAVES [Trans.]; Peter FLEMING [Intro.]

Seven Years in Tibet

London: Rupert Hart-Davis, 1953

8vo., navy blue publisher's boards, lettered in gilt to spine; upper edge stained red; together in the unclipped photographic dustwrapper (16s net); pp. [iv], v-xiii, [iii]; 288; with full-colour frontis, and numerous other black and white photographic plates throughout, as well as a double-page map; a good only copy; the boards with some water damage and mottling, the upper cover bubbled; white markings to boards; shelf-lean; pushing to spine ends; all edges spotted; internally mostly lean, some pencil markings to the ffep; and some patches of browning to the lower endleaves; the wrapper good to very good, retaining most of its colour, with some creasing, browning and spotting, mostly to folds; some abrasions, creases and nicks to edges, and some heavier chipping to the spine tips, particularly at head, with a little loss to the author's name.

Third impression. Spawning a successful movie with Brad Pitt many years later, Harrer turned out to have been in the S.S.

[VARIOUS]

Spectrum. A Spectator Miscellany

London: Longmans, Green and Co, 1956

8vo., grey boards with contrasting blue painted label to spine, lettered in gilt; in the clipped blue, black and white dustwrapper featuring reproduced newspaper clippings; pp. [ix], viii-x, 250, [ii]; a very good copy, lightly pressed at spine ends with a couple of brown spots to boards and prelims; and a couple of pencil markings to endleaves; otherwise clean, in good wrapper with some creasing, chipping and shelf wear; a couple of brown stains to the rear fold; one tiny hole to head of spine.

First edition. Fleming contributes several articles as 'Strix' including 'Pouffes don't count' (p.16-19), 'The Man in the Fort' (p.86-88), 'Thunder in the Thirties' (p.208-210), 'Under Two Flags' (p.239-242), as well as one under his own name, 'Country Fashions' (p.25-27).

MITFORD, Nancy [Ed.]; Osbert LANCASTER [Illus.]

Noblesse Oblige. An Enquiry into the Identifiable Characteristics of the English Aristocracy.

London: Hamish Hamilton, 1956

Small 8vo., red cloth boards, lettered vertically in silver to spine with publisher's device to foot; in the decorative blue, black and white printed dustwrapper (unclipped, 10s. 6d. net) featuring a design by Osbert Lancaster; pp. [x], 11-114; a very good copy, slight bruise at spine head; spotting to outer edges, endleaves, and to gutter of half title; endpapers lightly offset; the wrapper with some spotting and browning, particularly to the lower panel, folds and edges, but most evident to verso; also very good.

First edition. Fleming contributes 'Posh Lingo' as 'Strix' (p.85-93).

INGLIS, Brian [Ed.]

John Bull's Schooldays

London: Hutchinson & Co., 1961

8vo., red boards embossed in white with figure design to upper cover, and in white to spine with publisher's device to foot; decorative endpapers and pictorial dustwrapper (unclipped, 18s net), all designed by Quentin Blake; upper edge stained red; pp. [vi], 7-160; an excellent, square copy, slight spotting/offsetting to final endpaper and some small pencil marks, but otherwise near-fine; the wrapper very good to near-fine, with some minor wear, nicks, creases and a small split to head of spine.

First edition. Fleming contributes 'The Man we Killed' from p. 133 to 136.. Not in Collins.

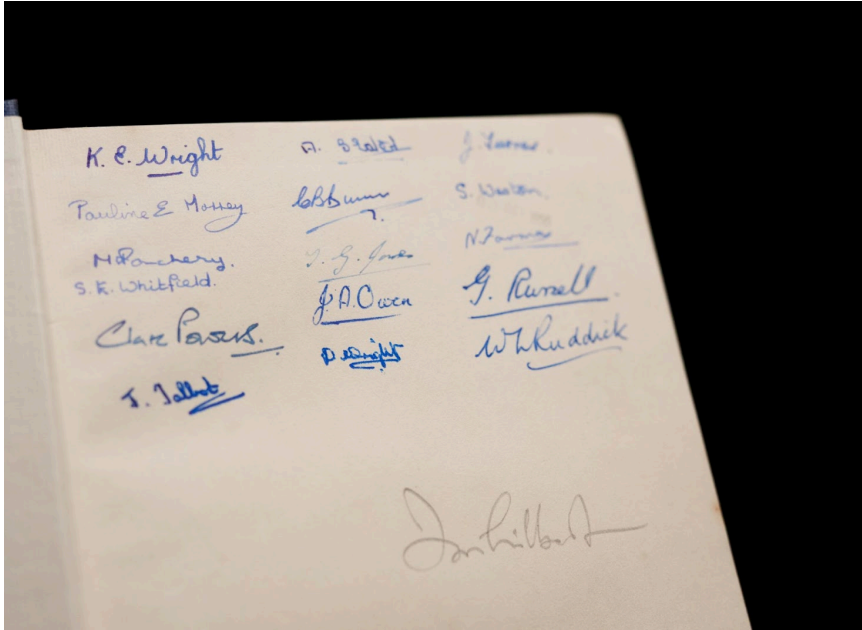
HOWARTH, Patrick

Special Operations

London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1955

8vo., navy boards, spine lettered in silver; publisher's pictorial dustwrapper showing parachuters (clipped); pp. [vi], v-xiv, 239, [i]; illustrated throughout with several black and white photographic plates; slight lean, a couple of pale marks to boards and some bumps to corners; internally clean, save for the odd spot; the dustwrapper very good, though a little spotted and browned at the lower panel, slightly nicked and chipped to upper edge, and particularly to head of spine; though internally reinforced in several places with tape,

including along the spine and to the upper edge; and a 3cm closed tear to the front flap fold.



First edition, with sixteen manuscript autographs to the front free endpaper (not of contributors, one possibly of a D-Day veteran) along with a small stamp, dated Oct 1955. A collection of accounts from SOE operatives, including Peter Fleming ('An Ammunition Train in Greece', p.1-7), Captain Peter Churchill, Christopher Sykes, W. Stanley Moss, and others. From the archive of Jon Gilbert, with his

signature to the front free endpaper.

ARNOLD, Ralph

Fourth Leaders

London: Printed and bound by Waterloo Printing Co Ltd., [1971]

Square 8vo., grey cloth lettered in gilt to upper cover and spine; pp. [iii], 4-64, with a frontispiece sketch of 'Ralph' by John Ward; some dirt markings to boards, and a small red stain to the lower edge of the rear cover; previous ownership inscription to ffep, else very good.

First edition, with an introduction by Fleming.

[COLLINS, John] et al.

Almost a Bibliography. A partial account of Peter Fleming in Print [in] *The Private Library*.

Fourth Series. Volume 10:1, Spring 1997

The Private Libraries Association, 1997

8vo., blue card covers, sewn and glued, printed in black; pp. 48; light spotting to lower edge of covers; just beginning to pull at the front gutter with a little glue and binding string showing; ever-so-slightly splayed; near-fine, still.



9. **FLEMING, Peter**
Brazilian Adventure; One's Company; News from Tartary
London: Jonathan Cape, 1933-1936

£150

8vo., 3 vols; each in the original publisher's cloth, Vol I in orange, lettered and embossed in lime green to upper cover and spine, with publisher's device in blind to lower board; upper edge stained a matching orange; Vol II in dark green lettered and embossed in orange to upper board and spine, publisher's device in blind to lower, and upper edge stained a matching green; Vol III in burgundy cloth with Chinese symbols in gilt to upper board; backstrip lettered in gilt with publisher's device to foot; pp. [iv], 5-414, [ii]; [vi], 7-319, [i]; [iv], 5-384; with numerous black and white photographs, maps and folding maps; very good copies, *Brazilian Adventure* a little rubbed with some darkening to the backstrip, some light spotting to outer edges with some pencil markings and a previous owner's name in ink to the front paste-down; *One's Company* also a little darkened at backstrip, with evidence of bookplate sometime removed from the ffep; map misfolded with some creasing and nicking

to protruding outer edge; *News from Tartary* with previous owner's name crossed out to ffep and some pencil markings (some erased) from prelims; corners a touch bumped.

A first edition set of Peter Fleming's three most famous works. *Brazilian Adventure* is a second impression, published the same year as the first. This set in the lovely decorated publisher's cloth, and comes together with two large folding sheets with a series of original handpainted designs for the dustwrapper of 'Brazilian Adventure', presumably an examination piece from an unidentified graphic design course sometime in the 1960s or 70s.

10. [FLEMING, Peter, and JOHNSON, Celia]
A Collection of Biographical Material

Various

£75

A collection of two books, a quire from 'The Second Cuckoo', clippings, a letter, a notecard and several publicity photographs:

HART-DAVIS, Duff

Peter Fleming. A Biography

London: Jonathan Cape, 1974

8vo., burgundy boards, lettered and decorated in gilt

to spine with publisher's device to foot; clipped

photographic dustwrapper designed by M. Mohan,

blue endpapers; upper edge stained black; pp. [xii],

13-419, [i]; with numerous photographs and four maps; bumped at corners and spine; a

couple of small spots to the outer edge; near fine in very good wrapper a little crushed at extremities with some light brown spots.

First edition, with disbound pages from Graham Watson's contribution to 'Book Society' (A. Deutsch, 1980), loosely inserted, along with a photocopied DNB article on Woodruff. Also inserted is a headed notecard showing publisher Duff Hart-Davis's address, with the following penned note: "Very many thanks for the P.F. issue. I enjoyed it enormously, and couldn't find a single error! How you must have ferreted! Best wishes, Duff." The volume is dedicated to Celia, Fleming's wife, 'and the children'.



FLEMING, Kate

Celia Johnson. A Biography.

London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1991

8vo., burgundy boards, spine lettered in silver; photographic dustwrapper; pp. [v], vi-xi, [ii], 2-244, with 16 pages of illustrations; fine in near-fine jacket, one tiny nick to spine; yellow 'serialised on Woman's Hour' sticker to rear flap.

First edition, with newspaper clipping on the subject of Celia Johnson loosely inserted.

An A4 letter from Duff Hart-Davis on his headed notepaper dated 8. VII. 98 'Dear John [Collins]...'.

Disbound quire of 'The Second Cuckoo', featuring a printed letter from Mrs Peter Fleming.

Newspaper clipping 'Wrong Mrs Fleming identified in story'

Black and white photograph of Celia Johnson in Noel Coward's 'This Happy Breed', with printed article from Two Cities Films Ltd, compliments of Margaret Marshall Denham

The same article with a portrait photograph of Celia Johnson

A clipped photograph by Andre Deutsch.