



## **DOWNTOWN BROWN BOOKS**

Every book holds a clue

## List 24 Crews v. Steadman

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### **Downtown Brown Books, ABAA**

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### **Terms**

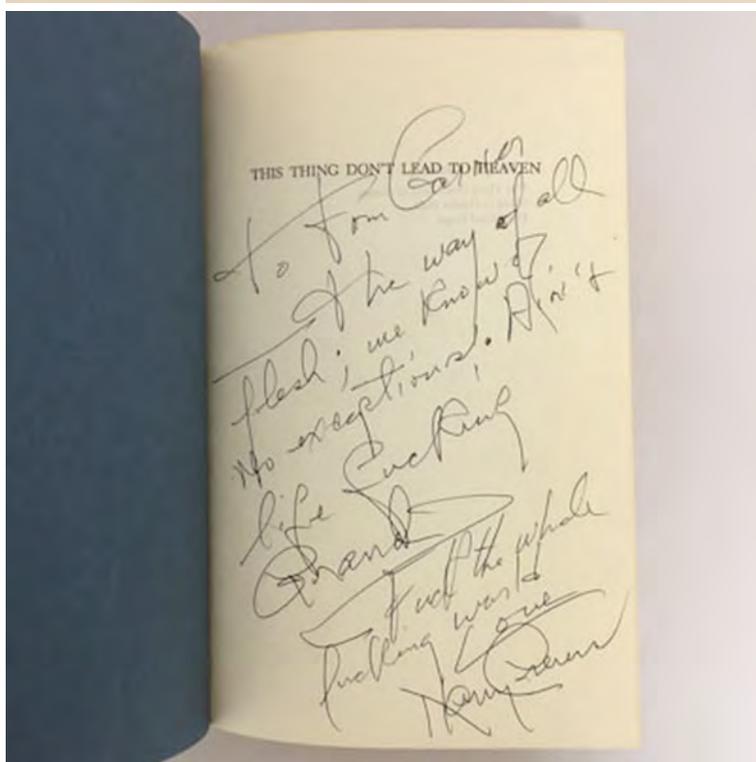
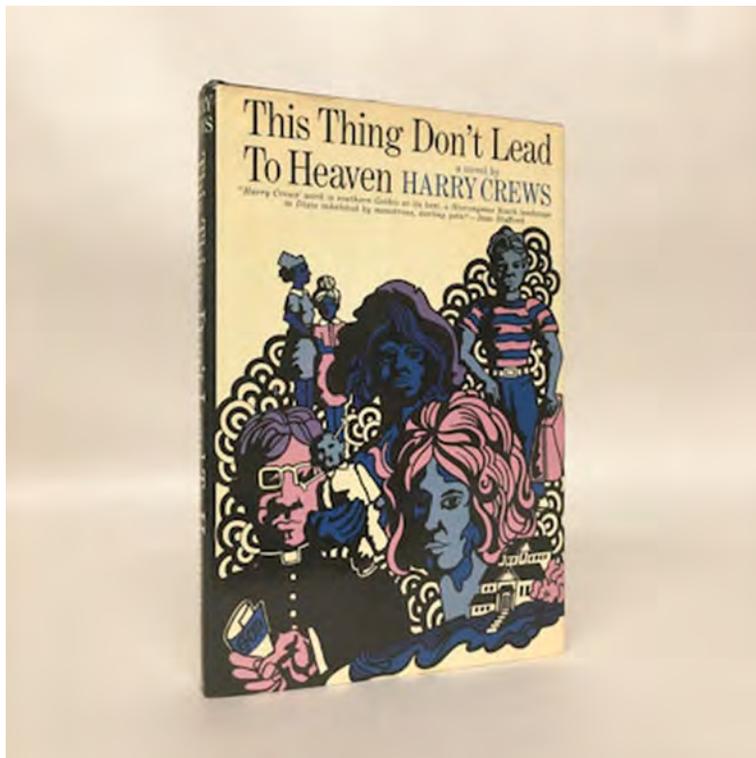
All items subject to prior sale. Shipping is \$5 per order in the US. International shipping is often expensive but will be charged at cost. Standard courtesies are extended to booksellers and institutions.

All items are guaranteed and may be returned within 30 days.

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Due to Covid-19, occupancy is limited. Face masks are required.



## Ain't Life Fucking Grand?

1 Crews, Harry

THIS THING DON'T LEAD TO HEAVEN

First Edition

New York: William Morrow and Company, 1970

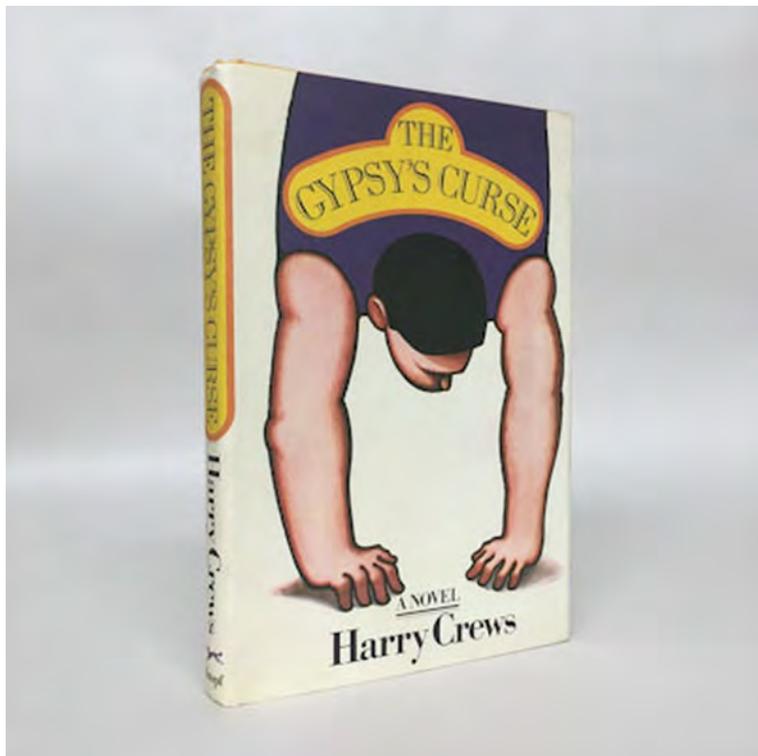
186 pages.

Crews's third novel, "the story of the struggle between life (a woman) and death (another woman) for the small body and large soul of a midget masseur named Jefferson Davis Munroe"—the dust jacket.

The dedication of this novel reads, "To the memory of my boy Patrick Scott Crews, 1960–1964." Patrick drowned in a neighbor's pool.

First edition (first printing, with no additional printings noted). A fine copy in a fine dust jacket with minute wear at the spine ends of the jacket and what may be a faded remainder mark on the top edge. This copy has a terrific inscription, written, apparently, on a very bad day: "To Tom Garner, the way of all flesh; we know of no exceptions. Ain't life fucking grand? Fuck the whole fucking world. Love Harry Crews." The recipient was a Texas attorney and friend of Crews. (306943)

\$sold



2 Crews, Harry

**THE GYPSY'S CURSE**

**First Edition**

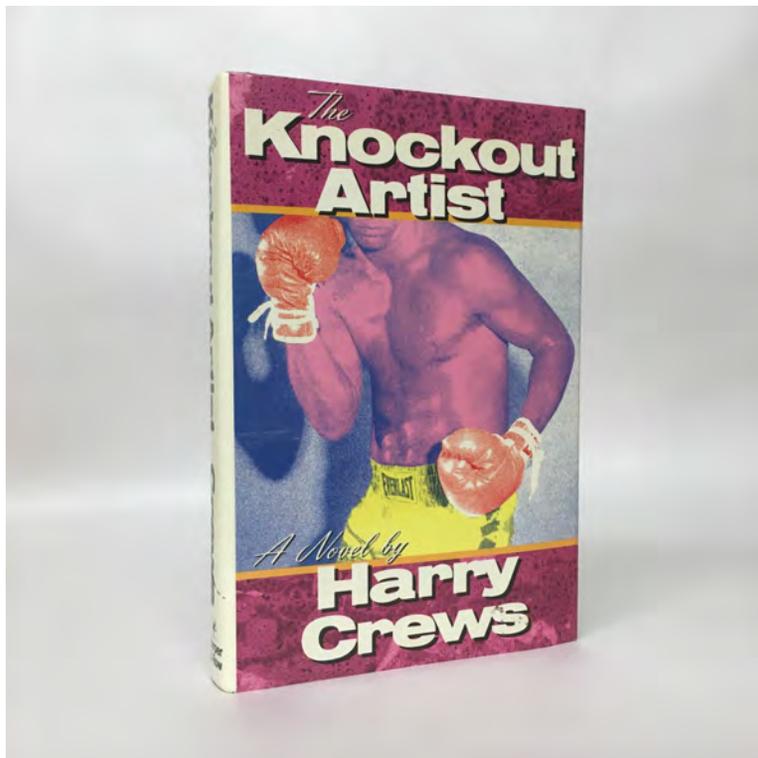
**New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1974**

208 pages.

One of Crews' hard-to-summarize novels, stuffed with weirdness and humanity.

First edition (stated). A fine copy in a fine dust jacket. (306942)

\$75



### Profanely Inscribed to a Defense Attorney

3 Crews, Harry

THE KNOCKOUT ARTIST

First Edition

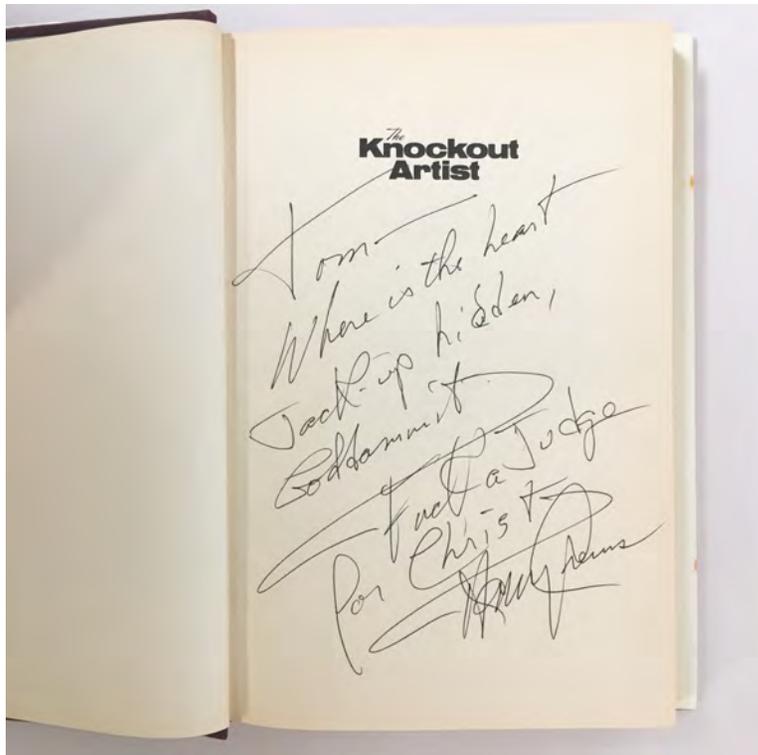
New York: Harper & Row, 1988

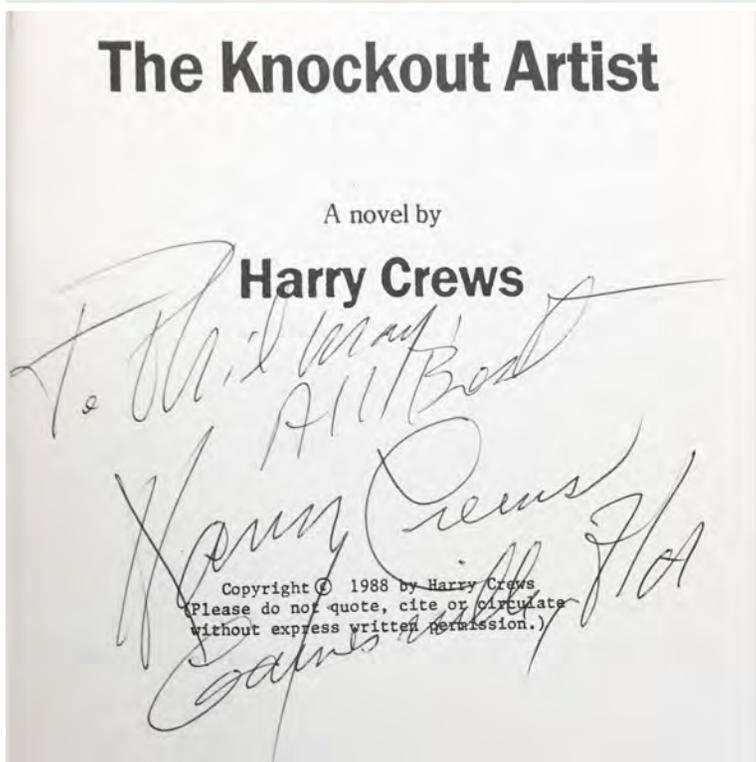
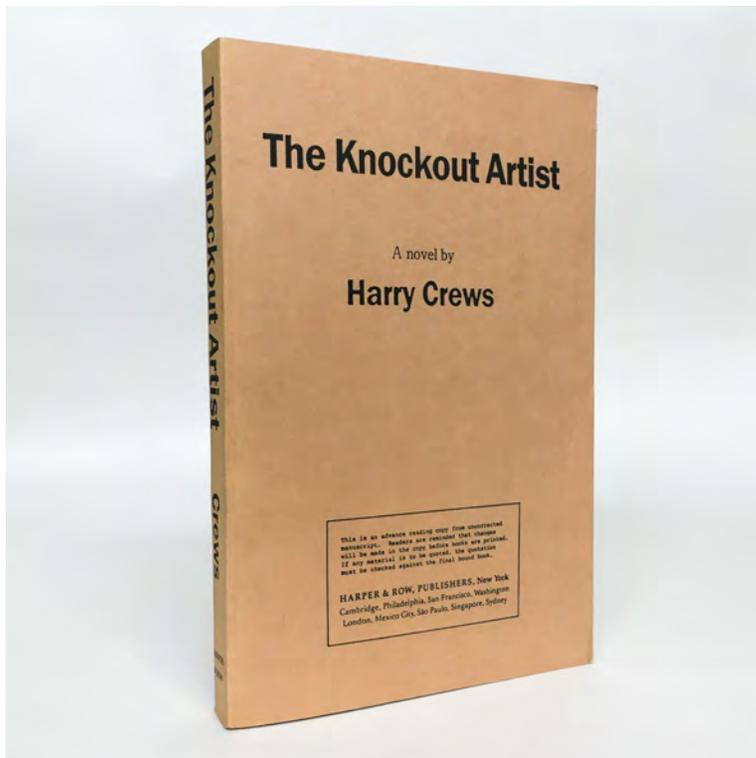
269 pages.

A boxing novel.

First edition (first printing). A near fine copy in a near fine dust jacket. This copy has a great, if slightly hard to parse, inscription to a friend. The reference to a judge likely refers to the recipient's profession (criminal defense attorney). "Tom, Where is the heart jack-up hidden, Goddammit. Fuck a judge for Christ. Harry Crews." (1731)

\$300





## Uncommon Signed Proof

4 Crews, Harry

THE KNOCKOUT ARTIST [UNCORRECTED PROOF]

First Edition

New York: Harper & Row, 1988

368 pages.

Reproduced from a clean typescript.

A fine copy in printed brown wrappers. Uncommon in this format. Inscribed by Crews, "To Phil May, all best, Harry Crews. Gainesville, Flor." The recipient is probably the TV producer and film historian of that name. (17625)

\$150



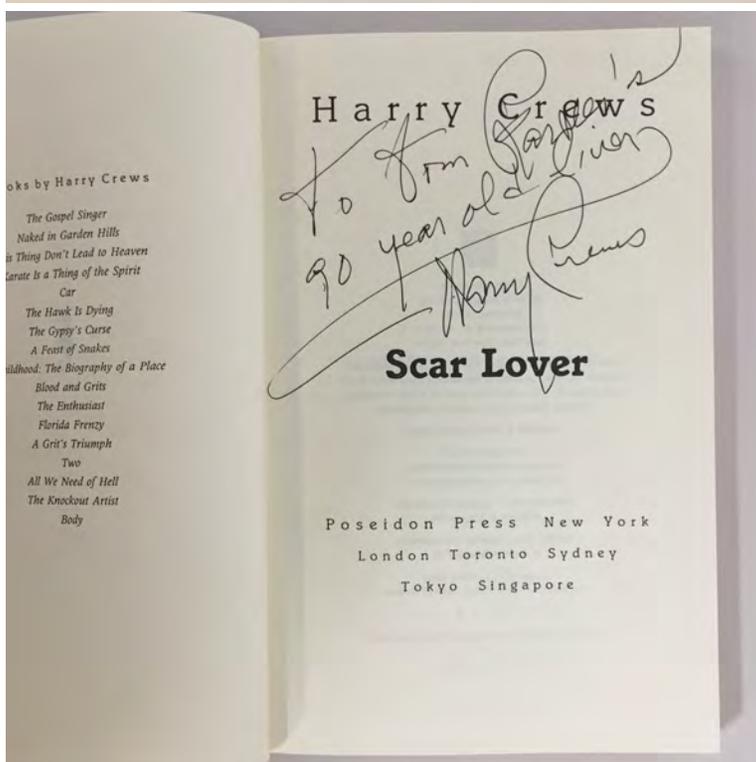
Inscribed to a friend's liver

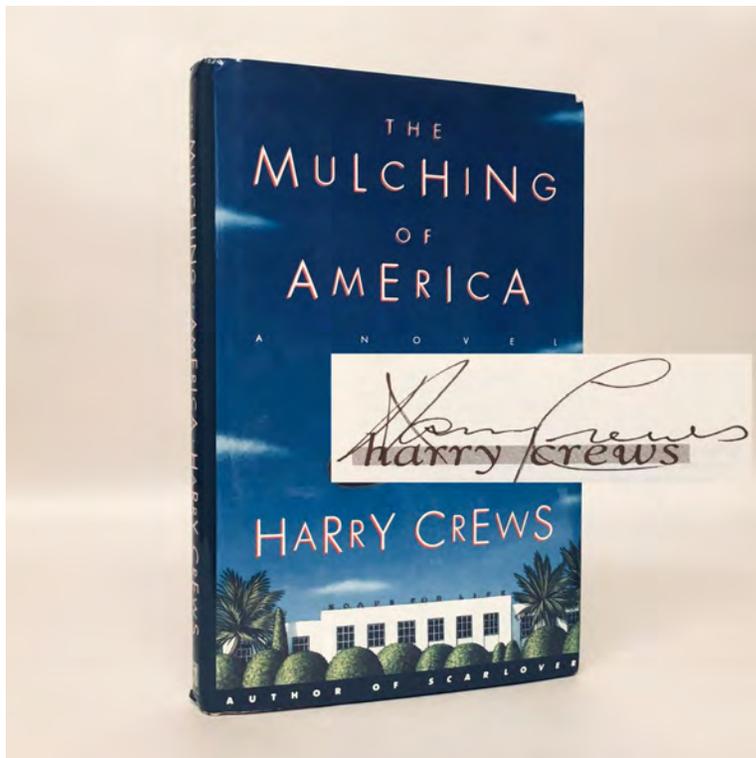
- 5 Crews, Harry  
SCAR LOVER [PROOF]  
New York: Poseidon Press, 1992

284 pages. An advance copy of a novel by the author of *The Gospel Singer*  
Singer.

A fine copy in printed blue wrappers (paperback). Nicely inscribed to a friend, "To Tom Garner's 90 year old liver. Harry Crews." (1726)

\$75





**Signed by Crews**

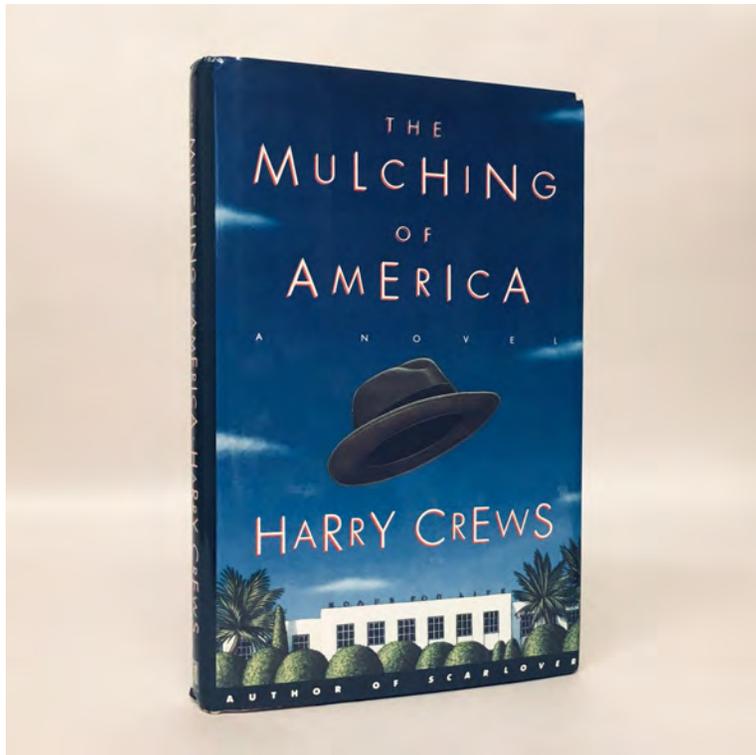
- 6 Crews, Harry  
THE MULCHING OF AMERICA: A NOVEL  
First Edition  
New York: Simon & Schuster, 1995

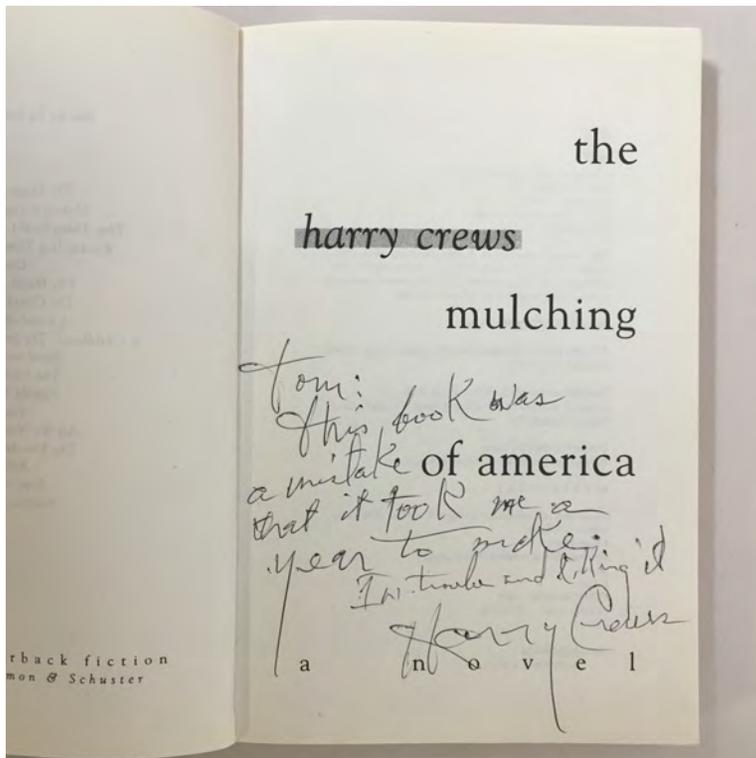
268 pages.

A dark comedy about a door-to-door salesman's quest to win the annual sales contest and achieve the American Dream.

First edition (first printing with a numberline ending in 1). Corners lightly bumped, else near fine in a like dust jacket. Signed by the author on the title page. (306948)

\$40





A mistake it took me a year to make

7 Crews, Harry

THE MULCHING OF AMERICA: A NOVEL

First Edition

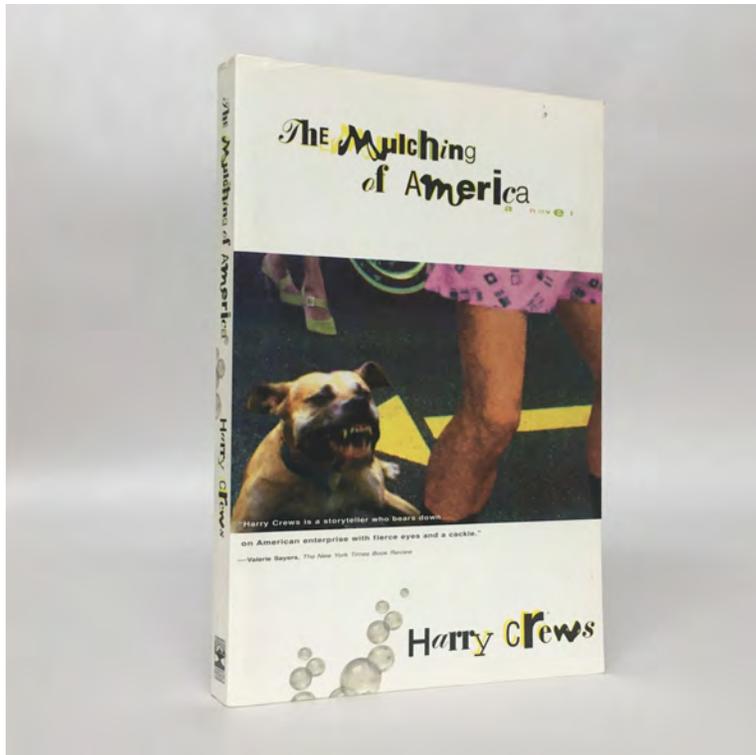
New York: Scribner Paperback Fiction, 1996

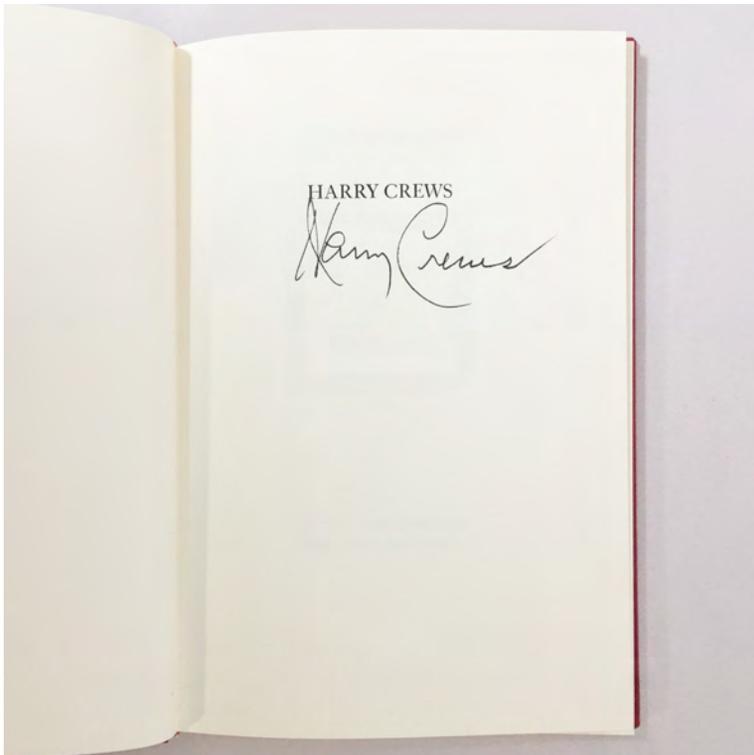
268 pages.

A dark comedy about a door-to-door salesman's quest to win the annual sales contest and achieve the American Dream.

First paperback printing (numberline ending in 1). Remainder mark on top edge, else a very good copy. With a wonderful inscription, "Tom: This book was a mistake it took me a year to make. In trouble and liking it. Harry Crews." (306954)

\$60





## Presentation Copy of Crews's Essays

8 Crews, Harry

**MADONNA AT RINGSIDE [PRESENTATION COPY]**

**First Edition**

**Northridge, CA: Lord John Press, 1991**

65 pages.

Four non-fiction pieces:

"Madonna at Ringside", an account of an evening Crews spent with Madonna and Sean Penn at the Trump Hotel to watch the Mike Tyson-Michael Spinks fight;

"Fathers, Sons, Blood", a meditation on fatherhood and Crews's son's death by drowning;

"Knowledge and the Language of the Groin", thoughts on the male sex urge;

"Carny", about carnival people.

Published in an edition of 301 copies plus extras for the participants. This is one of the extras with "Presentation Copy" printed on the title page rather than a number.

A fine copy in a plum-red cloth binding. Signed by Crews on the half-title page, as issued. (306949)

\$100



## Uncommon Signed Crews

9 Crews, Harry

SCAR LOVER

First Edition

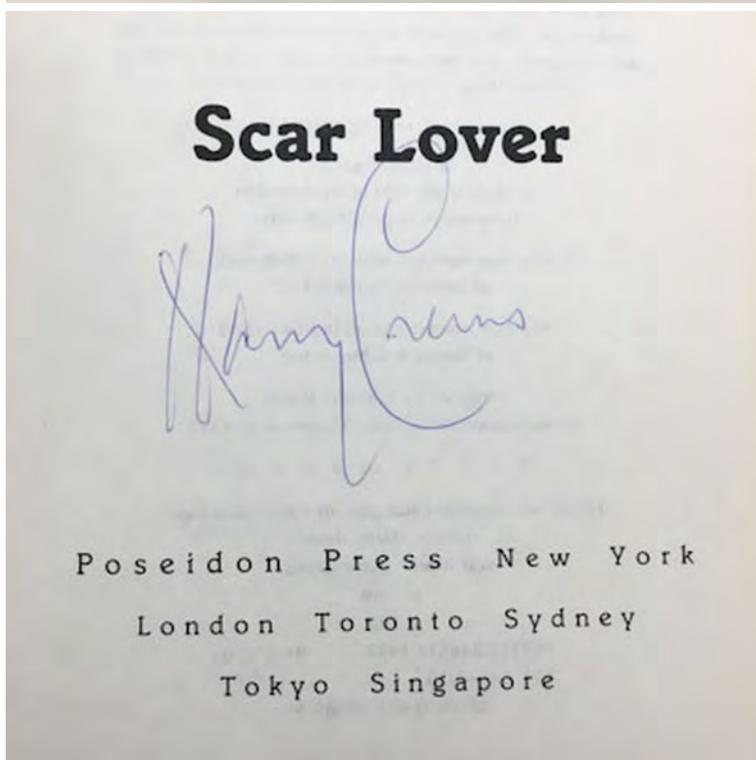
New York: Poseidon Press, 1992

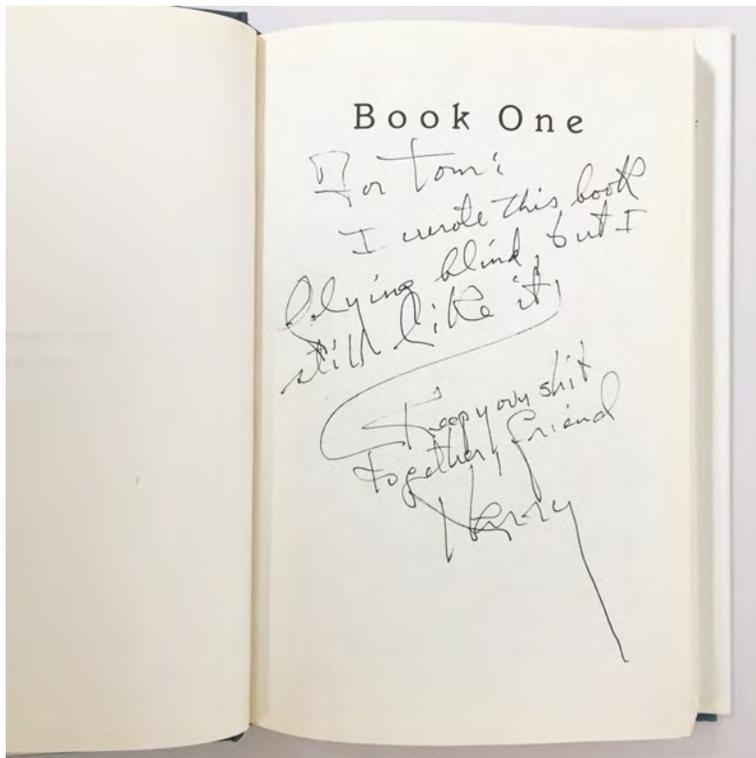
284 pages.

A novel by the author of *The Gospel Singer*.

First edition (first printing). Near fine in a near fine dust jacket. A couple of pages with a narrow crease at the outer edge. Signed by Crews on the title page. (306940)

\$75





## I wrote this book flying blind

10 Crews, Harry

SCAR LOVER

First Edition

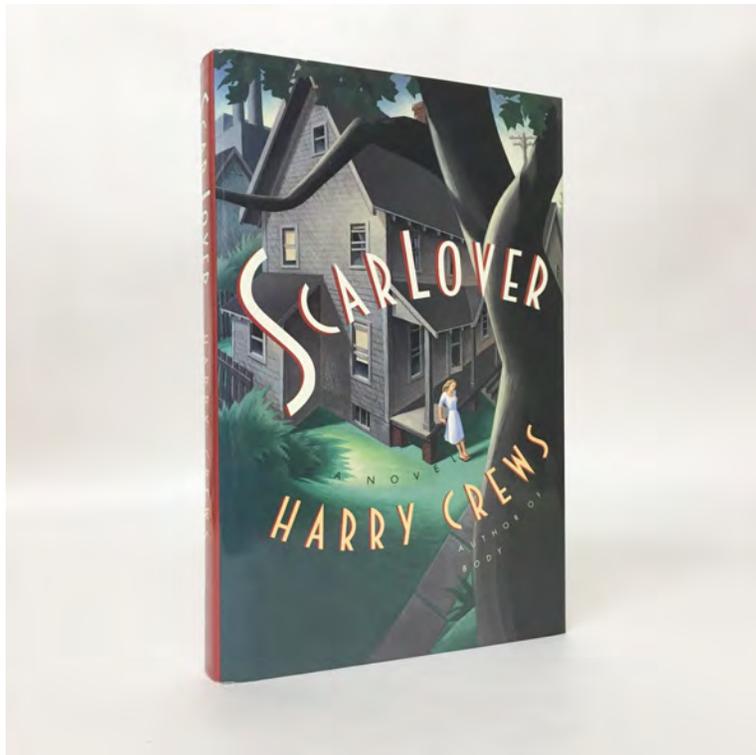
New York: Poseidon Press, 1992

284 pages.

A novel of love and life in Jacksonville, Florida.

First edition (first printing with a numberline ending in 1). Near fine in a near fine dust jacket. With a terrific inscription by Crews at the beginning of Book One: "For Tom: I wrote this book flying blind, but I still like it. Keep your shit together, friend. Harry." (306953)

\$200



With inscriptions explaining the dedication and the epigraph

11 Crews, Harry

SCAR LOVER [TWO REMARKABLE INSCRIBED COPIES]

First Edition

New York: Poseidon Press, 1992

284 pages.

A novel of love and life in Jacksonville, Florida.

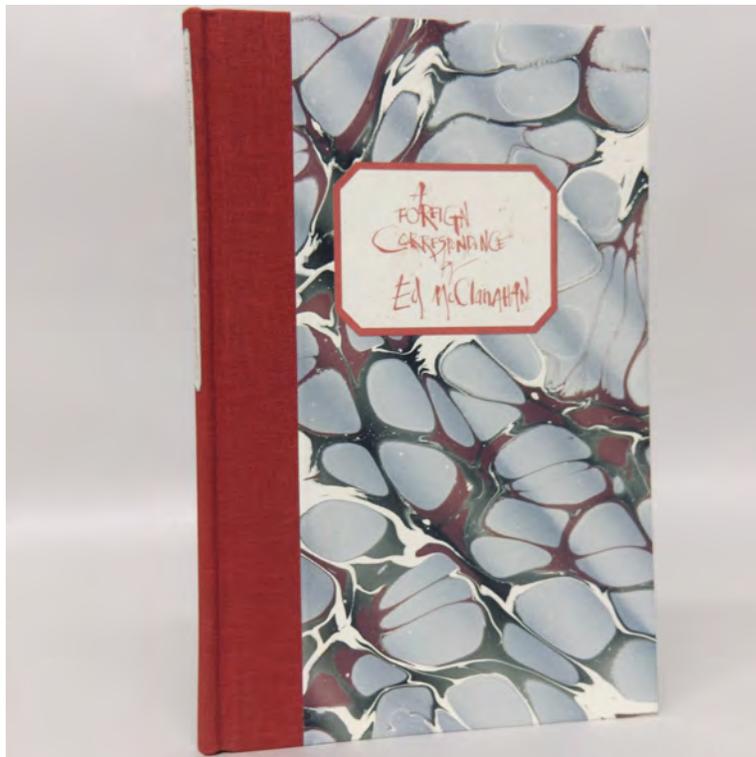
First editions (first printings with a numberlines ending in 1). Both copies with publisher's review slips laid in; one with the publisher's press release. Both copies are near fine in near fine dust jackets.

The long inscriptions in these two books explain Crews' dedication of the book to the actor Sean Penn and his admiration of James Dickey, a quote from whom is the epigraph for the book. The inscriptions, both to Crews's friend, Tom Garner, of Texas, incorporate Penn and Dickey's printed name into the inscription. The first inscription reads (in part): "[Sean Penn] a tough fucking guy you'd love. Our kind of people. If he can't do it, it can't be done..." The second reads in part, "[James Dickey] –the toughest and most honest man I've known. A night fighter pilot in two wars. At 70, still a quart-of-vodka-a-day man."

Easily two of the best and most revealing inscriptions I've seen in a Harry Crews book (and Tom Garner's collection had a lot of them). (306966)

\$850





## Lettered Edition from a Merry Prankster

12 McClanahan, Ed

A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

First Edition

Tucson, AZ: Sylph Publications, 2002

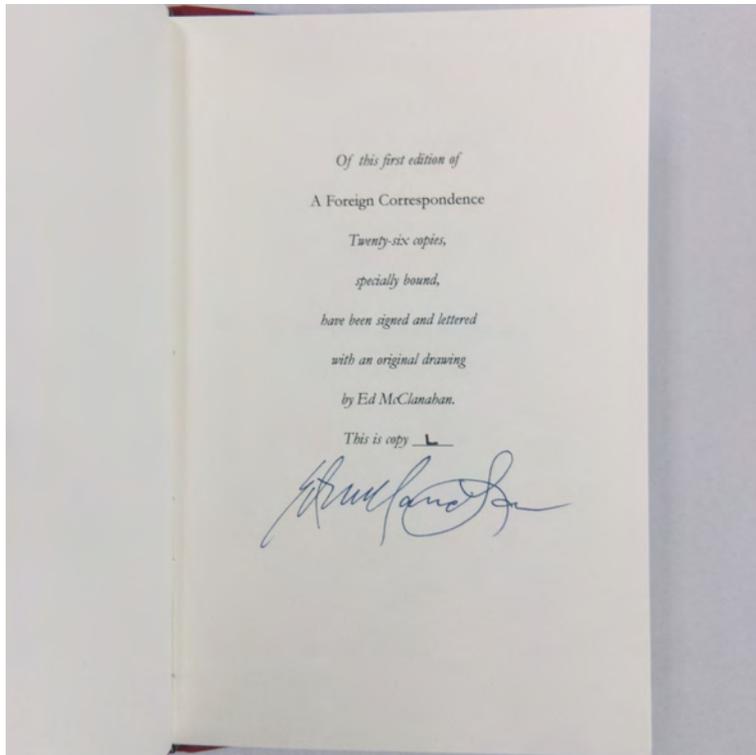
19 pages. Sylph Chapbook no. 1.

A brief account of a minor traffic accident in England in 1984 and the bureaucratic response from the insurance company. Title-page and cover label lettering by Ralph Steadman. McClanahan was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, where he met Ken Kesey and became a Merry Prankster.

The edition seems to have been just 26 copies, all lettered and signed by McClanahan, with an original drawing recreating the diagram of the accident, which he was asked to supply by the insurance company.

A fine copy in marbled-paper and cloth-covered boards. This is copy L of 26. (306965)

\$sold





**One of 100 Signed by Steadman & Palmer**

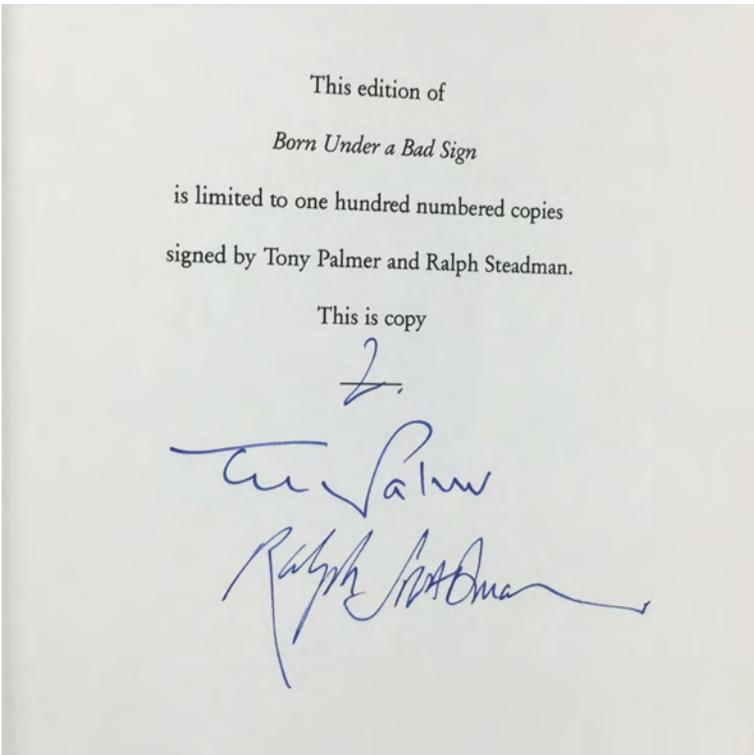
13 Palmer, Tony; illustrated by Ralph Steadman

**BORN UNDER A BAD SIGN [SIGNED, LIMITED]**

[London / Maidstone], Lexington, KY and Tucson, AZ: Isolde Films / Steam Press with Petro III Graphics and Sylph Publications, 2004

192 pages. Introduction by John Lennon.

A new edition of Palmer's 1970 book about the rock music scene in the late 1960s. That edition, like this, was illustrated by Ralph Steadman with a dozen portraits of musicians, each incorporating a photographic element. This is one of 100 copies (out of 126) of the new edition signed by Palmer and Steadman.



A fine copy in a fine printed acetate dust jacket. This is copy 2 of 100 signed by Steadman and Palmer. (306932)

\$150



**One of 50 Signed by Ralph Steadman**

14 Steadman, Anna; introduction by Ralph Steadman

**THE PRINTS OF RALPH [SIGNED, NUMBERED]**

**First Edition**

Tucson, AZ and Lexington, KY: Sylph Publications / Petro III Graphics, 2003

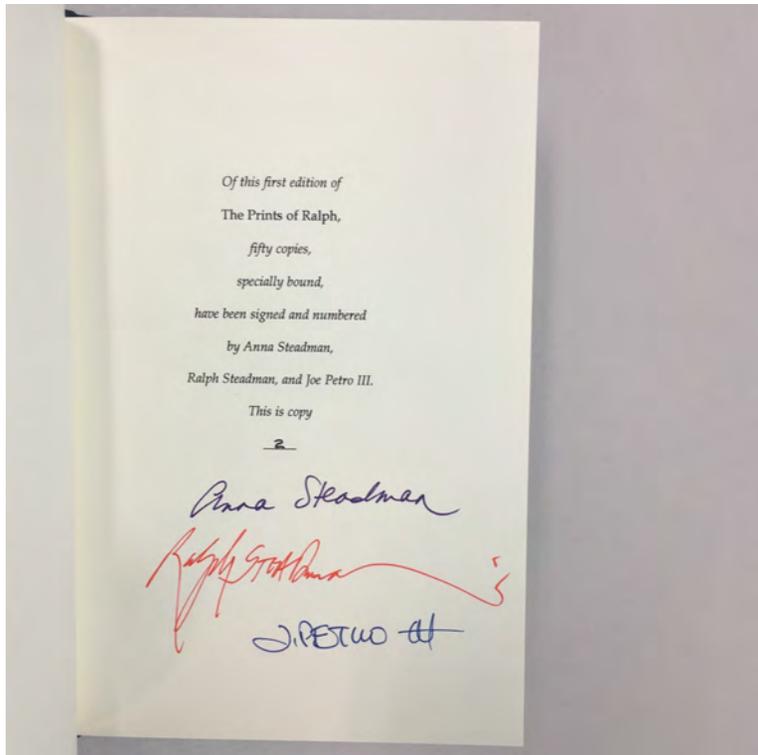
29 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches. Sylph Chapbook no. 4.

A diary of Ralph and Anna Steadman visits with Joe Petro III, a screenprinter, and an account of their serigraph collaborations between 1994 and 2000. The book is illustrated with drawings by Ralph and photographs by Anna.

Published in an edition of 64 copies, this is one of 50 numbered copies signed by Ralph Steadman, Anna Steadman, and Joe Petro III. The book is bound in blue cloth with a printed paper cover decoration.

First edition (first printing). A fine copy (no jacket, as issued). This is copy of 2 of 50. (306955)

\$300





**Endpapers Hand-decorated by Steadman, with a Handwritten Poem**

15 Steadman, Anna; introduction by Ralph Steadman

**THE PRINTS OF RALPH [DELUXE ISSUE]**

**First Edition**

**Tucson, AZ and Lexington, KY: Sylph Publications / Petro III Graphics, 2003**

29 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches. Sylph Chapbook no. 4.

A diary of Ralph and Anna Steadman visits with Joe Petro III, a screenprinter, and an account of their serigraph collaborations between 1994 and 2000. The book is illustrated with drawings by Ralph and photographs by Anna.

Published in an edition of 64 copies, this is one of 10 deluxe copies with original Ralph Steadman art for endpapers. This edition is also signed by Ralph Steadman, Anna Steadman, and Joe Petro III and lays into a folding clamshell box. The endpapers are described on the colophon as "original pieces of Ralph Steadman's drawing board backing paper." These look like abstract art.

First edition (first printing). A fine copy (no jacket, as issued) in a fine clamshell box. This is copy of VIII of X. The front endpaper of this copy has a four-line doggerel poem by Steadman. (306959)

\$1250





## With an Original Ralph Steadman Drawing

16 Steadman, Ralph

JOE MEETS THE ALIENS [DELUXE ISSUE]

First Edition

Tucson, AZ: Sylph Publications, 2002

21 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches.

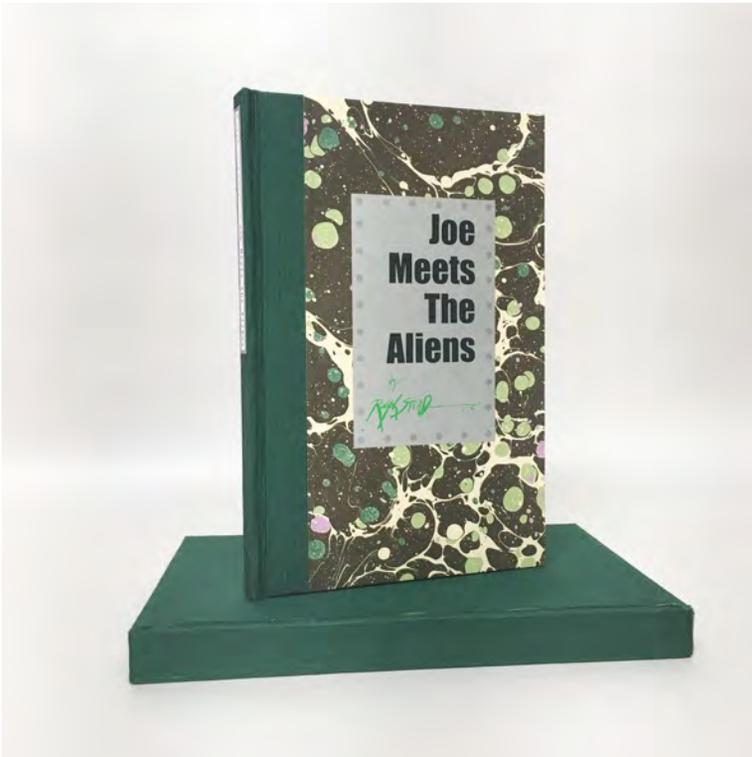
A short account of Steadman's trip to Area 51 with his friend and screenprinter, Joe Petro III. The text appeared in different form in *Hooked on the Outdoors* (vol. 3, no. 5). Here it has a new introduction as well as color photographs and reproductions of drawings by Steadman.

Out of a total edition of 60 copies, this is one of ten deluxe copies, signed by Ralph Steadman, his wife Anna Steadman (who also went on the journey), and Joe Petro III. This copy is illustrated with an original drawing by Steadman. The book is laid into a folding cloth-covered clamshell box.

First edition. A fine copy in a fine clamshell box. This is copy III of X with the original drawing. (306957)

\$950





## With an Original Ralph Steadman Drawing

17 Steadman, Ralph

**JOE MEETS THE ALIENS [NUMBERED WITH A DRAWING]**

**First Edition**

**Tucson, AZ: Sylph Publications, 2002**

21 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches.

A short account of Steadman's trip to Area 51 with his friend and screenprinter, Joe Petro III. The text appeared in different form in *Hooked on the Outdoors* (vol. 3, no. 5). Here it has a new introduction as well as color photographs and reproductions of drawings by Steadman.

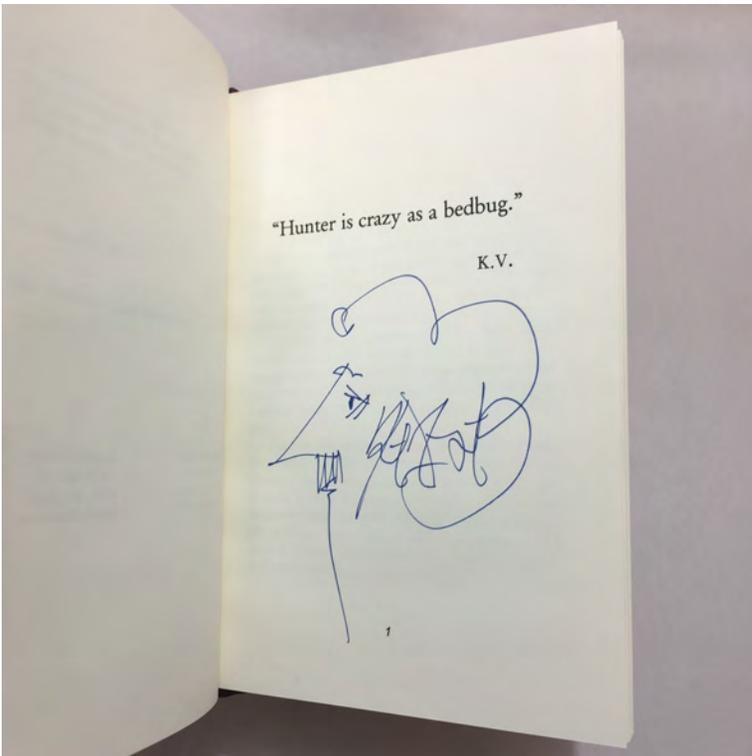
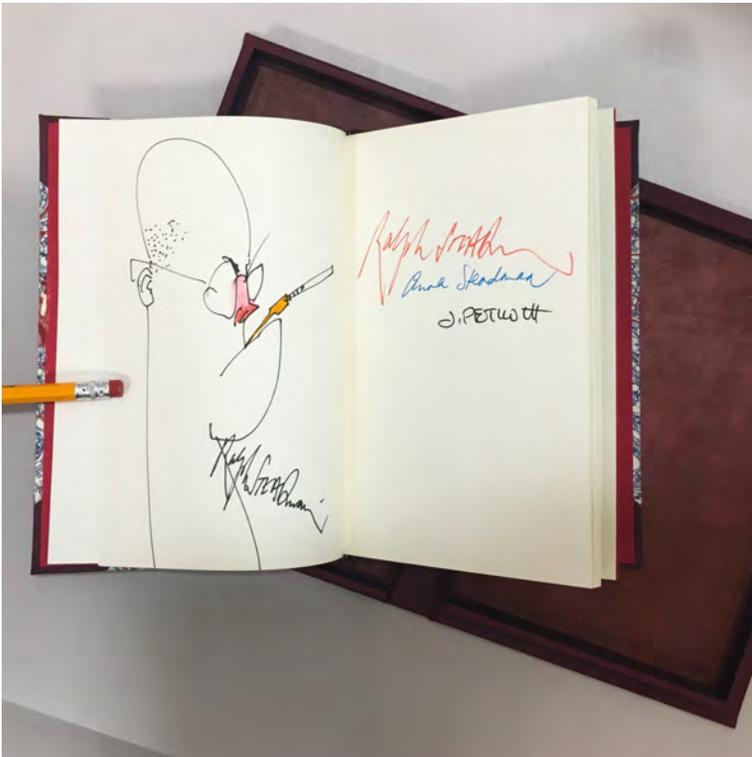
Out of a total edition of 60 copies, this is one of seven copies, not mentioned on the colophon, that include an original Steadman drawing and are housed in a cloth slipcase. These copies are also signed by Ralph Steadman, his wife Anna Steadman (who also went on the journey), and Joe Petro III. See Burns, *Ralph Steadman: A Comprehensive Guide for Collectors*, 2nd ed. for information on this issue of the book.

One of the smallest Steadman limitations.

First edition. A fine copy. Numbered 6 of 50 and signed by both Steadmans and Petro, unlike the regular numbered issue, in a cloth slipcase. It also has an original Steadman drawing inserted at the front, like the deluxe issue of 10 copies. (306960)

\$650





**With a Steadman portrait of Hunter S. Thompson and a Vonnegut self portrait**

18 Steadman, Ralph

**RED SHARK [DELUXE ISSUE]**

**First Edition**

**Tucson, AZ and Lexington, KY: Sylph Publications and Petro III Graphics, 2003**

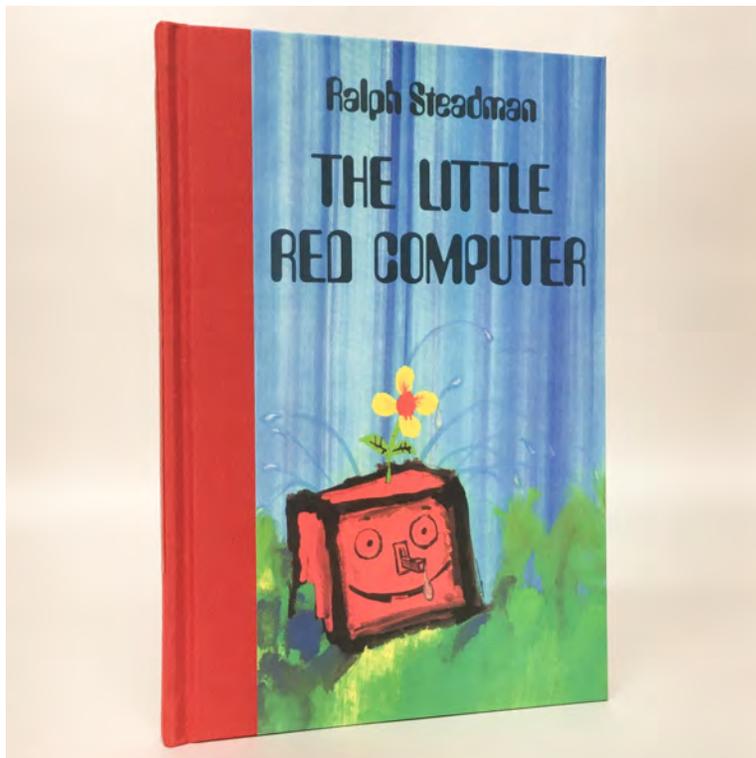
29 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches. Sylph Chapbook no. 3.

A short account of Hunter S. Thompson's "Red Shark", his 1970s Camaro Z-28. Illustrated from color photographs and drawings by Steadman. Kurt Vonnegut contributes a one-sentence introduction.

The edition was 140 copies. This is one of 26 lettered copies laid into a folding clamshell box. A full-page original Steadman drawing of HST is bound in. The book is signed by Ralph Steadman, Anna Steadman, and Joe Petro III on the colophon and by Kurt Vonnegut on the introduction page.

A fine copy in a fine slipcase. This is copy H of 26, signed by the Steadmans, Petro, and Vonnegut. This is one of 11 copies (letters A to K), in which Vonnegut signed with a self-portrait. The prospectus for the edition is laid in. (306963)

\$sold



**Reissue of Early Children's Computer Book, Signed by Ralph Steadman**

19 Steadman, Ralph

THE LITTLE RED COMPUTER [SIGNED, NUMBERED]

[Maidstone], Lexington, KY and Tucson, AZ: Steam Press, Petro III Graphics, and Sylph Publications, 2004

[48] pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches. Sylph Chapbook no. 5.

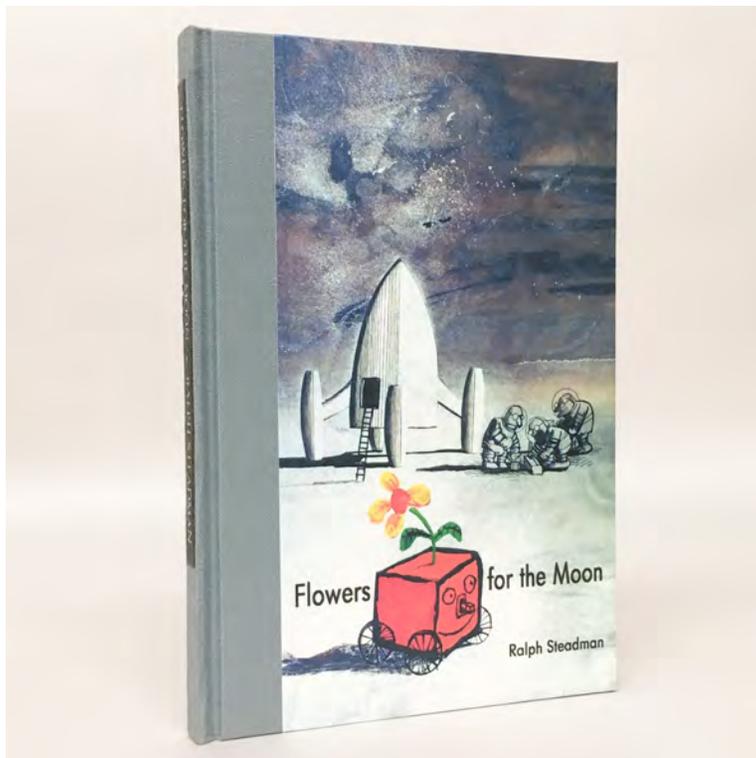
A new edition of Steadman's 1969 children's book about a personal computer. With a new introduction by Steadman, who writes that when he wrote the book, he had never actually seen a computer. The illustration style is typical of children's books of the late 1960s and early 1970s, with moments of Steadman's trademark abandon.

Published in an edition of 66 copies, this is one of 50 numbered copies signed by Steadman.

A fine copy in paper-covered boards, as issued. This is copy 2 of 100, signed by Steadman. (306961)

\$150





**Picture book reissue, signed by Ralph Steadman**

20 Steadman, Ralph

**FLOWERS FOR THE MOON [SIGNED, NUMBERED]**

[Maidstone], Lexington, KY and Tucson, AZ: Steam Press, Petro III Graphics, and Sylph Publications, 2004

[44] pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches. Sylph Chapbook no. 6.

A new edition of Steadman's 1974 sequel to his children's book *The Little Red Computer*. With a new introduction by Steadman. This book was published first in German translation, with a UK edition appearing in 1983. The illustration style is typical of children's books of the late 1960s and early 1970s, with moments of Steadman's trademark abandon.

Published in an edition of 66 copies, this is one of 50 numbered copies signed by Steadman.

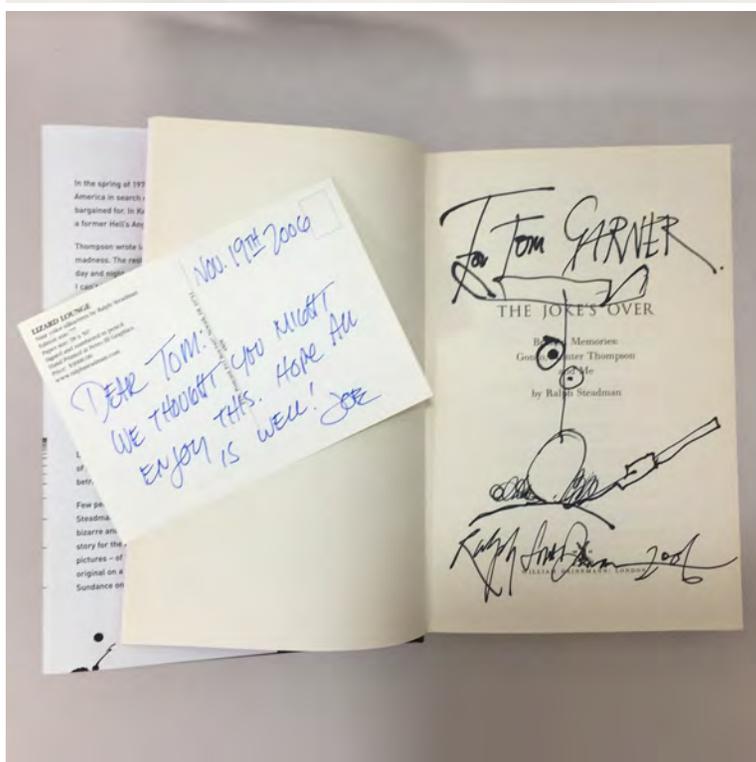
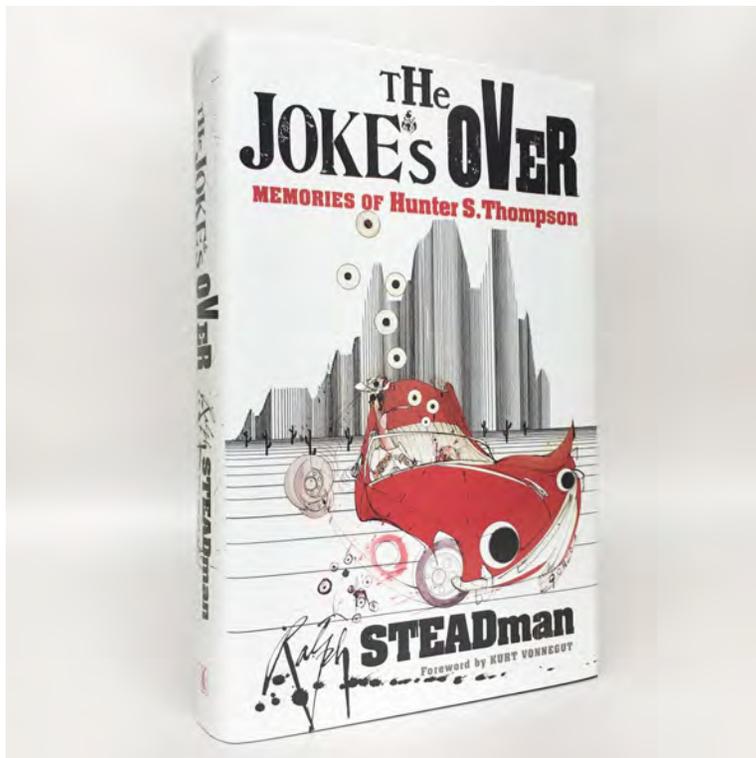
A fine copy in paper-covered boards, as issued. This is copy 2 of 100, signed by Steadman. (306962)

\$150

*Of this edition of  
Flowers for the Moon,  
fifty numbered copies,  
specially bound,  
have been signed by  
Ralph Steadman.*

*This is copy*

*2*  
*Ralph Steadman*



## Inscribed with a Drawing

21 Steadman, Ralph

THE JOKE'S OVER: BRUISED MEMORIES: GONZO, HUNTER THOMPSON, AND ME

First U.K. Edition

London: William Heinemann, 2006

396 pages. Foreword by Kurt Vonnegut.

The artist of Gonzo writes about his experiences with Hunter S. Thompson. The book is illustrated with many Steadman drawings, some of which appear here in print for the first time.

This is the British edition, published two days after the US version appeared.

First UK edition (with a numberline ending in 1). A fine copy in a fine dust jacket. This copy is inscribed with an abstract drawing of what might be HST with a gun. Draw your own conclusions. Laid into this copy is a note from Joe Petro III to the book's recipient. Petro is Steadman's screenprinter and the publisher of many Steadman chapbooks. (306964)

\$sold

**One of 10 with a Ralph Steadman Screenprint**

22 **Steadman, Ralph (illustrations); poems by Gordon Kerr**

**YOU CAN'T GET TO KILBRIDE FROM HERE: POEMS 1968–2003  
[DELUXE ISSUE]**

**First Edition**

**(N.-pl. but Great Britain): Steam Press, 2003**

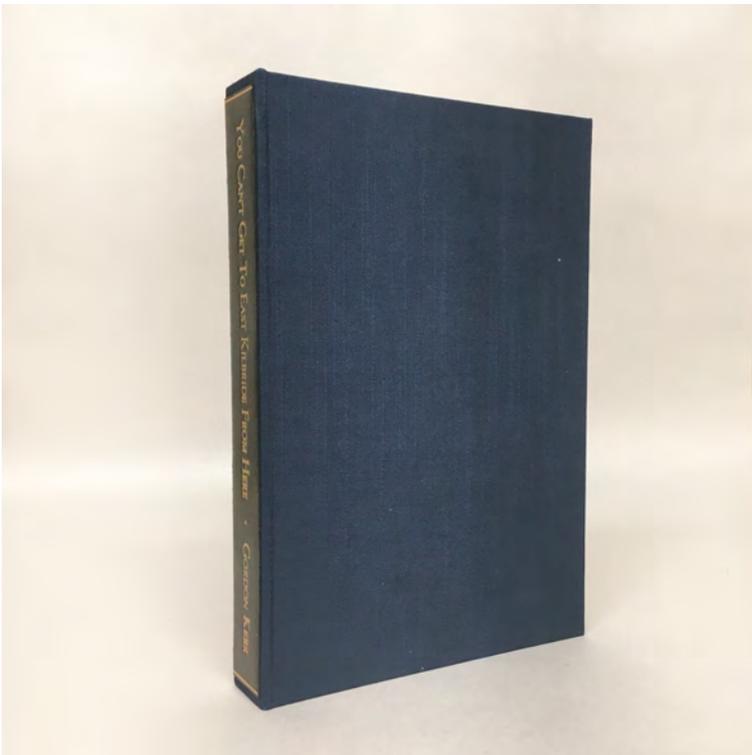
113 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches.

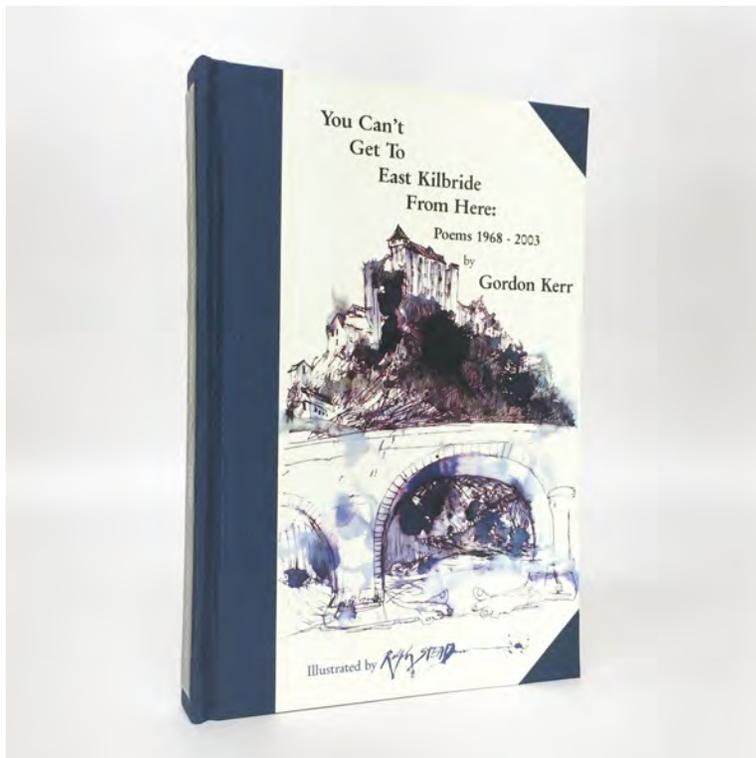
Ralph Steadman published this collection of poems—written by Kerr, a close friend—under his Steam Press imprint. Steadman illustrates each poem with a line drawing. The total edition was 68 copies.

This is one of ten deluxe copies, signed by Kerr and Steadman, with a clamshell case, and an original screenprint by Steadman. The print, "An Evening with Ted Hughes", is inspired by the poem in the book. It measures 5 by 7-1/2 inches and is numbered and signed by Steadman.

First edition. A fine copy in a fine clamshell box and with a fine example of the Steadman print. This is copy 2 of 10 with the screenprint. Three sheets of tissue paper laid in to protect the print and its paper sleeve are present, as issued. (306956)

\$750





**One of 50 Signed by Ralph Steadman**

**23 Steadman, Ralph (illustrations); poems by Gordon Kerr**

**YOU CAN'T GET TO KILBRIDE FROM HERE: POEMS 1968–2003  
[SIGNED, NUMBERED]**

**First Edition**

**(N.-pl. but Great Britain]: Steam Press, 2003**

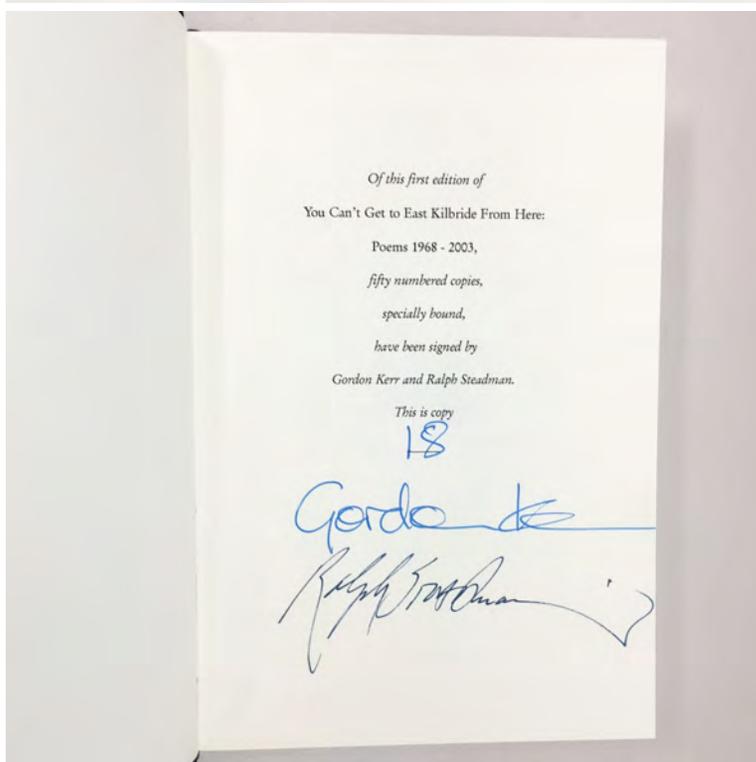
113 pages. 5-1/4 by 7-3/4 inches.

Ralph Steadman published this collection of poems—written by Kerr, a close friend—under his Steam Press imprint. Steadman illustrates each poem with a line drawing. The total edition was 68 copies.

This is one of 50 numbered copies, signed by Kerr and Steadman.

First edition. A fine copy (no jacket, as issued). (306958)

\$250



One of 26 Signed by Hunter S. Thompson and Ralph Steadman

24 Thompson, Hunter S. and Ralph Steadman

FIRE IN THE NUTS [LETTERED ISSUE]

First Edition

Woody Creek; Loose Valley; BlueGrass; and High Desert: Gonzo International; Steam Press; Petro III Graphics; and Sylph Publications,

51 pages. One of 176 copies of an early and previously unpublished short story by Thompson, written when he was living in New York about a struggling writer in Greenwich Village. Illustrated in typically exuberant style by Steadman.

This is one of 26 lettered copies, bound in black and red cloth, with a leather spine label stamped in gilt. Each of the lettered copies is accompanied by a small 5-by-7-1/2 inch two-color silkscreen of a red-eyed Dr. Gonzo. The silkscreen is signed and lettered by Steadman and laid into folded paper covers. The book and silkscreen are laid into a folding clamshell box with a leather label.

First edition (first printing). A fine hardcover copy; no dust jacket, as issued. The silkscreen and its folded cover is also fine. This is copy B of 26. Signed by both Thompson and Steadman, with the silkscreen also signed by Steadman. The slipcase is fine; the leather label has minute scuffing. (5647)

\$3000

