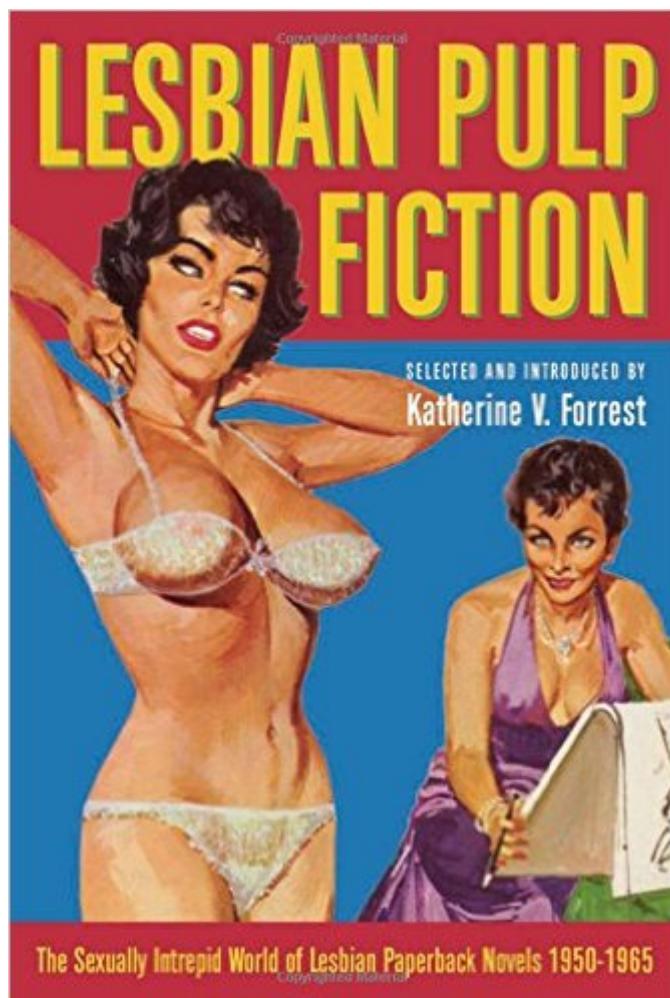


The book was found

# Lesbian Pulp Fiction: The Sexually Intrepid World Of Lesbian Paperback Novels 1950-1965



## Synopsis

Long before the rise of the modern gay movement, an unnoticed literary revolution was occurring between the covers of the cheaply produced lesbian pulp paperbacks of the post-World War II era. In 1950, publisher Fawcett Books founded its Gold Medal imprint, inaugurating the reign of lesbian pulp fiction. These were the books that small-town lesbians and prurient men bought by the millions; cheap, easy to find in drugstores, and immediately recognizable by their lurid covers. For women leading straight lives, here was confirmation that they were not alone and that darkly glamorous, "gay" places like Greenwich Village existed. Some; especially those written by lesbians; offered sympathetic and realistic depictions of "life in the shadows," while others (no less fun to read now) were smutty, sensational tales of innocent girls led astray. In the overheated prose typical of the genre, this collection documents the emergence of a lesbian subculture in postwar America.

## Book Information

Paperback: 440 pages

Publisher: Cleis Press; 1St Edition edition (May 10, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1573442100

ISBN-13: 978-1573442107

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #674,024 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #98 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > Literature & Fiction > Literary Criticism #464 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Erotica > Collections & Anthologies #1034 in Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Anthologies

## Customer Reviews

Once upon a time, the multitude of lesbians lived closeted, secret lives, isolated from others and often from their own true feelings and aspirations. There was no Internet, no gay radio, no magazine or journal or organization to turn to for affirmation. Until the 1950s, precious few books reflected anything at all about the lesbian experience. This changed in 1950 when Fawcett Publications inaugurated the Gold Medal imprint and kicked off a wave of pulp fiction publishing that included both gay and lesbian novels. For the first time in history, women could find cheap paperbacks featuring lesbians, and the books sold in the millions. Pulp novels constituted one of the first steps

toward lesbians having a written presence in any kind of literature. As Katherine V. Forrest writes in the introduction to *LESBIAN PULP FICTION*: "The importance of all our pulp fiction novels cannot possibly be overstated. Whatever their negative images or messages, they told us we were not alone. Because they told us about each other, they led us to look for and find each other, they led us to the end of the isolation that had divided and conquered us. And once we found each other, once we began to question the judgments made of us, our civil rights movement was born" (p. xviii). In moving style, Forrest also writes of finding in 1957 a copy of Ann Bannon's *ODD GIRL OUT*, "a book as necessary to me as air" (p. ix). How fitting that Forrest should edit this wonderful homage to these early writers when her own works are frequently cited as having the same effect upon other women as Bannon's work had upon her. *CURIOS WINE* (1983) is frequently cited by lesbians as a book that saved their lives.

I recently went on a lesbian 50's pulp novel binge, reading Ann Bannon's six books and two others that were mentioned in a couple wikipedia articles (Women's Barracks and Spring Fire). So I was delighted when it was pointed out to me on the Kindle forum that *Lesbian Pulp Fiction* edited by Katherine V. Forrest is available for the Kindle. (I'd heard of this book before, but hadn't ever bothered buying or reading it.) But I was a bit disappointed in the content. Reading the excerpts is fun. I'm doing one or two in between reading other books and it's a good way to decide what other titles I might want to track down for my collection. But information about lesbian pulps in general is what I was most interested in as a lesbian literature history lesson. The introduction gave a decent overview, but it left me wanting a bit more. I also noticed that there were a couple errors in the intro, which I would never have realized had I not already read the pulps I already mentioned. The information about the start of pulps, including lesbian pulps, was good. But most of the info was about specific titles and authors. Why did the pulp trend end? Why was there a lull in publishing lesbian books? Between the end of the pulp period and feminist and lesbian publishers finally getting a solid foothold in the 80's, not much was happening it seems. Or at least I'm not aware of what was going on (other than a couple authors) and I think exploring why and how things changed again would have been really informative and still tied in with the topic. I suppose that's of particular interest to me because I was a teen in the 70's and there weren't any lesbian books on the drugstore racks for me to stumble over!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Lesbian Pulp Fiction: The Sexually Intrepid World of Lesbian Paperback Novels 1950-1965 Pure Pulp: FANTASTIC ADVENTURES VOL. 1: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL PULP MAGAZINE

ISSUES FROM THE 1939 & 1940 - 250 PAGES OF PURE PULP SCIENCE FICTION (PURE PULP - COMPLETE ORIGINAL MAGAZINES) Pure Pulp: TRUE DETECTIVE MYSTERIES VOL. 1: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL PULP MAGAZINE ISSUES FROM THE 1926 & 1930 - OVER 240 PAGES OF STORIES OF DETECTIVE MYSTERIES ... (PURE PULP - COMPLETE ORIGINAL MAGAZINES) Pure Pulp: WEIRD TALES 1: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL PULP MAGAZINES FROM THE 1930s (PURE PULP - COMPLETE ORIGINAL MAGAZINES) Lesbian: 8 Steamy Erotica Lesbian Stories (Lesbian Erotica, Lesbian Menage, First Time Lesbian) LESBIAN: A Sex Story (Lesbian Romance, Lesbian Fiction, Lesbian Erotica) LESBIAN EROTICA: Ride Me (Lesbian Fiction, Lesbian Romance, First Time Lesbian) LESBIAN EROTICA: Naughty Maid (Lesbian Fiction, Lesbian Romance, First Time Lesbian) LESBIAN: ROMANCE: PRIVATE DELIGHTS (First Time Lesbian, Hot Lesbian Romance, Lesbian Fiction) IT RHYMES WITH LUST: THE CLASSIC 1950 NOIR PULP FICTION GRAPHIC NOVEL Written By: Arnold Drake and Leslie Waller Lesbian: Cop Licked (First time Lesbian, Lesbian romance, Lesbian love) Pure Pulp: WEIRD TALES 2: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL PULP MAGAZINES FROM THE 1930s - OVER 260 PAGES Pure Pulp: RAILROAD STORIES VOL. 1: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL ISSUES FROM THE 1935 & 1936 - OVER 300 PAGES OF STORIES OF THE IRON PIKE (PURE PULP - COMPLETE ORIGINAL MAGAZINES) The SHADOW: Vintage Pulp Magazine Covers: OVER 185 Classic Pulp Magazine Covers From The 1930s & 1940s Pure Pulp: THE SHADOW And BLACK MASK - 2 COMPLETE CLASSIC PULP MAGAZINES FROM THE 1930s AND 1940s: OVER 230 PAGES OF MYSTERY, MURDER AND INTRIGUE Pure Pulp: WEIRD TALES 3: TWO COMPLETE ORIGINAL PULP MAGAZINES FROM THE 1920s & 1930s - OVER 260 PAGES She Tried to Be Good: Sirens and Vamps from the Pulp Classics (Pulp Postcard series) Modern African Wars (1): Rhodesia 1965-80: Rhodesia, 1965-80 No. 1 (Men-at-Arms) Outsystem: A Military Science Fiction Space Opera Epic: Aeon 14 (The Intrepid Saga) A Path in the Darkness: A Military Science Fiction Space Opera Epic: Aeon 14 (The Intrepid Saga Book 2)

[Dmca](#)