

## A RECOMMENDED LIST OF 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY NOVELS FEATURING JOURNALISTS

### Columnists and Critics

Rebecca Harding Davis, *Earthen Pitchers* (1874)

Columnist Jane Derby of Philadelphia pens a successful woman's column and letters from Paris and Rome, written from Philadelphia. Her main motives, however, are to marry the man she loves and have his children.

Rhoda Broughton, *A Beginner* (1894)

Critic Edgar Hatcheson and Miss Greenway, a reviewer and the publisher's niece work for *Porch*, a literary journal.

### Critics

Charles Dickens, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* (1838)

Drama critic Mr. Curdle who wrote a 64-page pamphlet on the deceased husband of the nurse in "Romeo and Juliet."

Honore Balzac, *Beatrice* (1839)

Critic Claude Vignon.

William H. Mallock, *The New Republic; or, Culture, Faith and Philosophy in an English Country House* (1877)

Critic Mr. Luke is an apostle of culture, a fictional portrait of Matthew Arnold, the great Victorian writer-critic. Critic Mr. Rose is a fictional portrait of Walter Pater, the celebrated scholar, critic and aesthete.

Emile Zola, *Nana* (1880)

Drama Critic M. Fauchery is a second-rate journalist who writes about Nana in the press, at first favorably and later adversely. He's a hanger-on in the theater and society and he spends most of his time seducing other men's wives.

Ella Hepworth Dixon, *The Story of a Modern Woman* (1894)

Mary Earle writes for the *Comet* as an art critic.

## Cub Reporters

Junius Henry Nott, *Biographical Sketch of Thomas Singularity* (1834)

The adventures of a wandering printer, Tommy, is the first novel to deal with any other class of journalist but the editor.

Richard Harding Davis, *Gallegher and Other Stories* (1891)

Cub Reporter Gallegher learns how to be a journalist at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Jessie E. Wright, *As Queer As She Could Be* (1895)

Aspiring Reporter Miss Hilary Barlow tries her hand at newspaper work.

Adelaide Louise Rouse, *The Deane Girls: A Home Story* (1895)

Helen Deane wants to study journalism and gets a job on the Eagle.

Howard R. Garis, the Larry Dexter series (1907)

Cub Reporter Larry Dexter is a reporter who worked his way up from an office boy to a foreign correspondent covering crime and solving several cases as well as having adventures overseas and at the front during World War One.

*From Office Boy to Reporter Or the First Step in Journalism* (1907)

*Larry Dexter, Reporter* (1907)

*Larry Dexter's Great Search or The Hunt for the Missing Millionaire* (1909)

## Editors

James K. Paulding, *Diverting History of John Bull and Brother Jonathan* (1812)

Editor Peter Porcupine satirized for making improper use of his freedom.

John Poole, *Paul Pry* (1825)

Journalist Paul Pry modeled on Tom Hill of the Monthly Mirror, a real journalist.

James K. Paulding, *Westward Ho!* (1832)

Editor Zeno Paddock of the Westward Sun, a slimy demagogue and pretentious blackmailer.

William Makepeace Thackeray, *The Newcomes* (1833)

Portraits of a trio of editors: Editor Arthur Pendennis, editor of the Pall Mall Gazette. George Warrington, co-editor of the Pall Mall Gazette. Tom Pots, editor of the Newcome Independent News.

Charles Dickens, *Pickwick Papers* (1837)

Editor Mr. Pott of The Eatanswill Gazette, a pompous, self-important editor, is the rival of Mr. Slurk, editor of The Eatanswill Independent.

James Fenimore Cooper, *Home as Found and Homeward Bound* (1838)

Journalist Steadfast Dodge of the Active Inquirer, is a Yankee journalist of questionable character. "Dodge was a vulgar, corrupted journalist without decency, who cared only about himself and believed that anyone or anything said in public or in private was fair game for his columns." (*Heroes and Scoundrels*).

Honore Balzac, *The Wild Ass's Skin* (aka *La Peau de Chagrin*) (1838)

Journalist Emile acquired "more reputation by doing nothing than others from a successful productive career."

John Pendleton Kennedy, *Quodlibet* (1840)

Pre-Civil War Editors August Postlethwaite Tompkinson, Eliphalet Fox and Virgil Philpot.

William Makepeace Thackeray, *Character Sketches: The Fashionable Authoress* (1841)

Editor Lady Fanny Flummery, a fashionable authoress, who edited 27 new magazines. Editor Timson Augustus of a famous evening paper whose favorable notices Lady Fanny Flummery buys. M'Lather, a journalist who is an immense pudgy man who wears a ruby breast-pin.

William Makepeace Thackeray, *Reading a Poem* (1841)

Editor Mr. Bludyer of the Weekly Bravo. Mr. Bogle is a celebrated publisher of Castalian Magazine. Fogle is the rival publisher. Editor Percy Dishwash is an English gentleman of the press and editor of Castalian Magazine.

Henri Balzac, *Lost Illusions* (1843)

Printer David Sechard is a victim of knavery throughout his life. Journalist Lucien Charden lives a dissolute life at David's expense.

William Makepeace Thackeray, *Lovel, the Widower* (1860)

Editor Slumley, editor of the Swell.

George Eliot, *Middlemarch* (1871)

Editor Will Ladislaw. Editor Keck of the Middlemarch Trumpet.

Hjorth Hjalmar Boyesen, *Falconberg* (1879)

Editor Einar Finnson Falconberg is made editor of the *Hardanger Citizen*, a weekly Republican newspaper. Editor George Washington Bingham runs the *Democratic Banner*.

David Ross Locke, *The Demagogue* (1881)

Editor Rhoads of the *Clarion*. Newpaperman Caleb Mason of *The Gazette*, a rival newspaper. Mr. Gamal Incubus, editor of *The Shield* and the *Banner*.

Mrs. J. Pantaletta Wood, *A Romance of Sheheland* (1882)

Editor Icarus Byron Gullible, proprietor of a new journal in “our western metropolis.”

Edgar Watson Howe, *The Story of a Country Town* (1882)

Editor Abram Nedrow “Ned” Weslock goes from being an apprentice in journalism to a successful editor of the paper his father leaves him.

William Dean Howells, *A Hazard of New Fortunes* (1890)

Editor Basil March accepts editorship of a literary magazine in New York.

William Dean Howells, *A Modern Instance* (1890)

Editor Bartley Hubbard, talented, coolly arrogant, self-seeking journalist edits the weekly *Free Press* in the Maine village of Equity. Eventually works for Boston newspapers, abandons his wife and daughter and ends up in Arizona where he publishes a scandalous Sunday paper. Only novel that deals with women as printers.

William Dean Howells, *The Shadow of a Dream* (1890)

Editor Douglas Faulkner of the party organ in his city, writes caustic articles. The narrator is a writer on the opposition newspaper in his city.

Kirk Munroe, *Under Orders: The Story of a Young Reporter* (1890)

City Editor Joe Haxall, modeled after real-life John Bogart, city editor of the *New York Sun*, defends his staff against unfair criticism. First novel devoted to big-city reporting.

George Carey Eggleston, *Juggernaut: A Veiled Record* (1891)

Two editors in a small Western city.

George G. Gissing, *New Grub Street* (1891)

Editors and their writers try to win over the public by giving the readers what they want. Two, a literary hack named Alfred Yule and a selfish egotist and money-hungry opportunist take center stage.

Julien Gordon, *Poppaea*, 1895

Journalist Montgomery Craven becomes city editor, then managing editor of *The Messenger*.

Edward Sims Van Zile, *The Manhattaners* (1895)

Newspaper life including editors, reporters and female writers.

Eleanor Stuart, *Averages* (1899)

Chief Editor Jane Dupuis of The Daily Star, a journal devoted to ethical emotion and miasmatic mysticism.

William Dean Howells, *Their Silver Wedding Journey* (1899)

Tom March is a capable assistant editor of Every Other Week and runs the paper while his parents are in Europe. Journalism L.J. Burnamy is a handsome young newspaperman. Mr. Stoller is the vulgar viper of a newspaper owner.

Brander Matthews, *A Confident Tomorrow* (1900)

Various editors and newspapers.

Booth Tarkington, *The Gentleman From Indiana* (1900)

Journalist John Harkless of the Carlow County Herald believes in printing the truth. His policy is dangerous in a town terrorized by bandits who attack the journalist and leave him for dead. It is up to his girlfriend, Helen Fisbee, to run the paper and find out what really happened to Harkless so she replaces him as editor.

Adelaide Louise Rouse, *Under My Own Roof* (1902)

Editor Honor Sharpe is fat and forty and edits the woman's pages. He uses the name Cincinnatus to sign his newspaper articles, musical and dramatic reviews. Rosalind Keith is a newspaperman.

Ellen Warner Kirk, *Good-bye, Proud World* (1903)

Editor Alonzo Grainger, proprietor and chief editor of the great Dawn newspaper. The best writer on the staff is Lawrence Snow. Milicent Waldo works in the Hearth and Home department.

J.K. Jerome, *Tommy & Co.* (1904)

Tommy (Jane) becomes sub-editor of a new publication, Good Humour, owned by Mr. William Glodd. The editor and part owner is a hack journalist Peter Hope.

## Female Journalists

Sara Payson Willis Parton (Fanny Fern), *Ruth Hall: A Domestic Tale for the Present Time* (1855)  
Freelancer Ruth Hall lives in a world of malevolent males. Male editors reject her work or pay only 50 cents an article. Her writing brings her fame and makes her newspaper editor wealthy but when she asks for a raise, the editor says, smiling, "There it is. Women are never satisfied. The more they get, the more gasping they become."

Harriet Beecher Stowe, *My Wife and I* (1871)  
Journalist Audacia Dangyereyes is modeled after the most notorious female journalists of the time – Victoria C. Woodhull and her sister Tennessee (Tennie) C. Claflin. Mr. Goldstick is the publisher.

David Ross Locke, *A Paper City* (1879)  
Editor Myra Mold, the dedicated editor, faces the charge that because of her work she has neglected her husband, children and home.

Henry James, *The Portrait of a Lady* (1881)  
Correspondent Henrietta Stackpole is a traveling correspondent for various American newspapers and is described as having bustling curiosity, an alliterative prose style and is known for the extremes to which she goes in flouting European conventions.

Elizabeth Wetmore, *A Flying Trip Around the World* (1891)  
Reporter Miss Bisland is sent by a prominent magazine to make a tour around the world to beat Nelly Bly's record.

F. Bailey Millard, *The Girl Reporter* (1892)  
Gertrude Savage is "that singular anomaly, the lady journalist" who quits at the end of the story because of the way she is treated.

Rowland Grey, *The Story of Chris* (1892)  
A girl journalist can't marry the man she loves so her life "must either end or be soiled."

Beatrice Harraden, *Ships That Pass in the Night* (1894)  
Journalist Bernardine Holme writes articles for the newspapers, travels, teaches, is politically active and is a photographer until she is hit by a wagon and dies.

Jennie M. Drinkwater, *Three-And-Twenty* (1895)  
Journalist Leah Ritchie works for a religious paper and takes over the editorship of *The Homemaker* before getting married and fighting to stay in her job as a married woman.

Octavia Norma Lorimer, *A Sweet Disorder* (1896)

Freelance Journalist Molly Collister becomes a prolific newspaper writer finally discovering that true love is almost as good as being an independent woman.

Noel Ainslie, *Among Thorns* (1898)

Newspaperwoman Lesbia Meynell goes to work for The Decade.

Elizabeth Garver Jordan, *Tales of the City Room* (1898)

“Miss Van Dyke’s Best Story”

23-year-old, single Miss Van Dyke is a hard working, level-headed newsroom reporter who eventually quits her job to get married.

“Mrs. Oglivie’s Local Color”

Female Journalist Mrs. Ogilvie is married, alert, indefatigable, enthusiastic, absolutely reliable and a sensitive reporter. Her husband’s accidental death makes her a more sensitive and better writer.

“A Point of Ethics”

Reporter Alice Bertram is a young, single, competent reporter. Once she proves she is as good as any man, she quits her job.

“Ruth Herrick’s Assignment”

Reporter Ruth Herrick wants to find out whether a man murdered her husband.

Elizabeth Kingsbury, *Tale of an Amateur Adventuress: Autobiography of Esther Gray* (1898)

Reporter Esther Gray’s father is an editor and her first job is as an assistant office clerk. She becomes a successful reporter and then is fired.

Robert Barr, *Jennie Baxter, Journalist* (1899)

Journalist Jennie Baxter is an American girl who writes very readable articles on the latest fashionable gowns.

Maud W. Ormerod, *Madam Paradox* (1899)

Freelancer Katherine Randolph – “freelance at your service” – writes for The Scorpion.

Alice Muriel Williamson, *The Newspaper Girl* (1899)

Journalist Joan Ames is a needy journalist who changes places with a young American heiress Lucille Chandler who gets completely involved in her work by disguising herself in different ways to get stories. She eventually buys the newspaper.

David Graham Phillips, *A Woman Ventures* (1902)

Newspaperwoman Emily Bromfield falls in love with Marlowe, another reporter. Emily covers all stories including a coal mining strike.

Mary Julia Lagen and Cally Thomas Ryland, *Daphne and Her Lad* (1904)  
Editor Daphne of The Globe edit the Woman's Page.

Miriam Michelson, *A Yellow Journalist* (1905)  
Reporter Rhoda Massey for the San Francisco News has to overcome being treated like a newswoman freak. This is the first novel by an American woman about a female journalist.

William Allen White, *Bolton Girl's Position* (1906)  
Maybelle Bolton is a persistent but incompetent reporter, a silly woman who got her job by knowing the right people. She finally marries and quits her job.

Winifred James, *Bachelor Betty* (1907)  
Freelance Elizabeth "Betty" Beresford writes articles for newspapers.

## Illustrators

Rudyard Kipling, *The Light That Failed* (1891)  
British Illustrator Dick Helder goes to India to cover the war, gets hit in the head and gradually goes blind.

## Publishers and Media Owners

William Makepeace Thackeray, *The Adventures of Philip* (1862)  
Newspaper Owner Frederick Mugford, owner of Pall Mall Gazette and a self-made man. Mr. Bickerton, editor of the Pall Mail Gazette is a snobbish, supercilious man ashamed of his humble origin.

William Dean Howells, *The Quality of Mercy* (1892)  
Newspaper Owner Mr. Witherby owns a journal without principles and without convictions. He employs sensationalistic journalists Maxwell Pinney, Hubbard-Ricker and Maxwell Brice, a genteel reporter who wants to be a dramatist.

Marie Leighton, *A Napoleon of the Press* (1900)  
Newspaper Owner Alfred Chantrey starts a newspaper called The Champion, "a weekly rag...full of rubbish and vulgarity and calculated to do more harm to the rising generation of the common people...."

## Real-Life Journalists

John Esten Cooke, *Mohun, Or, The Last Days of Lee and His Paladins* (1869)

Editor John M. Daniel, a real-life editor, one of the most picturesque and powerful of southern editors.

Irving Bacheller, *Eben Holden: A Tale of the North Country* (1900)

Editor Horace Greeley and the New York Tribune in 1860.

Emily Lafayette McLaws, *The Welding* (1907)

Editor Horace Greeley and other journalists in the Civil War are featured in this novel.

## Reporters

Anthony Trollope, *The Warden* (1855)

Reporter Tom Towers for the Jupiter attacks the church.

Rebecca Harding Davis, *John Andross* (1874)

Reporter Julius Ware is a thoroughly unscrupulous, coarse fellow who works for the New York Daily Critic and is a blackmailer.

Anthony Trollope, *Phineas Redux* (1874)

Journalist Quintus Slide is a scandal-mongering journalist who makes public the false accusation of adultery against Phineas Finn.

Guy de Maupassant, *Bel Ami* (1895)

Journalist Georges Duroy is an amoral young man who starts out as a soldier and ends up being a journalist rising to power in Paris because of his manipulation of the city's most influential and wealthy women.

Henry James, *The Wings of the Dove* (1902)

Reporter Merton Densher works for a London newspaper.

Gaston Leroux, the six Joseph Rouletabille Mysteries (1907)

French Reporter Joseph Rouletabille is a handsome, energetic young reporter who solves cases using pure logic and deductive reasoning.

*The Mystery of the Yellow Room* (1907)

*The Scent of the Lady in Black* (1908)

Arthur B. Reeve, the Craig Kennedy series of novels (1910)

Reporter Walter Jameson of the Star is Craig Kennedy's Dr. Watson, a quick-fisted partner who is a first-rate newspaperman. He is Kennedy's roommate and chronicles his adventures.

*The Silent Bullet* (1910)

*The Poisoned Pen* (1911)

A.J. Dawson, *The Message* (1907)

Reporter Dick Mordan goes from newspaper to newspaper.

## War and Foreign Correspondents

William Makepeace Thackeray, *The Tremendous Adventures of Major Gahagan* (1838)

Irish Newspaper Correspondent Toone O'Connor Emmett Fitzgerald Sheeny reports from Spain.

Charles Dickens, *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1843)

War Correspondent Brick Jefferson of the New York Rowdy Journal is a very self-important young man. Colonel Diver is editor of the newspaper.

Henry James, *The Reverberator* (1889)

Correspondent George M. Flack, American society paper's European correspondent and a sleazy American newspaper reporter. Miss Topping is a lady journalist who aids George Flack.

Jules Verne, *Claudius Bombarnac: The Adventures of a Special Correspondent* (1892)

Reporter Claudius Bombarnac is assigned by the Twentieth Century to cover the travels of a railway that runs in China.

Annie Thomas, *Utterly Mistaken* (1893)

War Correspondent Guy St. Austle sees a lot of war as a correspondent.

Stephen Crane, *Active Service* (1899)

War Correspondent Rufus Coleman of the New York Eclipse pursues his true love to Greece as he covers the Greco-Turkish campaign of 1897.