Inscribed to Rachel MacKenzie

Before joining The New Yorker, MacKenzie taught literature at the College of Wooster in Ohio, at Radcliffe College and Tufts University in Massachusetts, and at the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference in Vermont. As a fiction editor, MacKenzie nurtured the careers of such literary giants as Isaac Bashevis Singer and Saul Bellow, both Nobel laureates, and encouraged authors Philip Roth, Bernard Malamud, Penelope Mortimer, and Noel Perrin in their literary pursuits. MacKenzie was an accomplished author in her own right. Her writings include Risk (1971), a novella adapted from an autobiographical story published in The New Yorker the previous year, and her sole novel, The Wine of Astonishment (1974), a tale of two unmarried sisters in upstate New York.

*Herzog* is a 1964 novel by Saul Bellow, composed in large part of letters from the protagonist Moses E. Herzog. It won the U.S. National Book Award for Fiction and the Prix International. In 2005, *Time* magazine named it one of the 100 best novels in the English language since *Time*'s founding in 1923.
Humboldt's Gift is a 1975 novel by Saul Bellow. It won the 1976 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and contributed to Bellow's winning the Nobel Prize in Literature the same year. The novel, which Bellow initially intended to be a short story, is a roman à clef about Bellow's friendship with the poet Delmore Schwartz.
Bellow goes to Israel in 1975—not to see the sights, but to talk, listen, and learn—and returns drenched in issues ("the facts are coming out of my ears") and keen on sharing his radar-oven exposure to the crossed wires (Israeli, Arab, Russian, American) that keep the Middle East just this side of all-out conflagration. The journey itself supplies only a feathery structure and relatively little in the way of travelogue commonplaces: a planeful of wildly willful Hasidim, communings with Mount Zion and the Dead Sea ("here you die and mingle"), a wander through the Old City in search of ancient baths. Two poets, a barber, a masseur, and a child violinist offer charming cameos, but politicians and professors are the main attractions . . .

— Kirkus Reviews

Bellow, Saul
TO JERUSALEM AND BACK - A PERSONAL ACCOUNT [SIGNED]
First Edition, First Printing  9-17-1328432  $600
The Heat of the Day revolves around the relationship between Stella Rodney and her lover Robert Kelway, with the interfering presence of Harrison in the tense years following the Blitz in London. Harrison, a British intelligence agent who is convinced that Robert is a German spy, uses this knowledge to get between the two lovers and ultimately neutralise Robert. Stella finds herself caught between spy and counterspy. The narrative reveals the “inextricable knitting together of the individual and the national, the personal and the political”.

Harold Pinter wrote a television film based on the novel directed by Christopher Morahan in 1989, starring Patricia Hodge as Stella, Michael York as Robert and Michael Gambon as Harrison.

Bowen, Elizabeth
THE HEAT OF THE DAY [SIGNED]
First US Edition, First Printing 9-3-1328468  $600
"She [Fisher] had come to new terms with the place [France] during her time in Provence, and she wanted to put her thoughts in writing. The natural starting point was the diary she had kept in Arles and Avignon. She showed it to Norah, who encouraged her to send it to Rachel MacKenzie, M.F.’s editor at the *New Yorker*. MacKenzie, one of the few women editors at the magazine, was brilliant, dry, and affectionate, all at the same time. Her advice was that it might work as part of a book, and to send it to Judith Jones at Knopf. And thus began a conversation about a new Provence book...Maybe it would center on Marseille..."

Luke Barr, Provence, 1970

*M.F.K. Fisher, Julia Child, James Beard, and the Reinvention of American Taste*
“By June 1965, only three of Mary Frances's stories and “The Full-Orbed Dinner” had been published in *The New Yorker*, however, and Rachel MacKenzie had rejected more than three stories. In a letter to Eleanor [Friede], Mary Frances confessed to being completely at sea with the magazine. “She [Rachel MacKenzie] liked the things but they didn't get past the boys...too far out, too vague, perhaps a tiny-winy [sic] bit sentimental”. ”

Joan Reardon

*Poet of the Appetites: The Lives and Loves of M.F.K. Fisher*

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Fisher, M.F.K.

**WITH BOLD KNIFE & FORK [SIGNED]**


First Edition, First Printing 9-9-1328458

$800
Robert Frost was honored frequently during his lifetime and is the only poet to receive four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry. He became one of America's rare "public" literary figures, almost an artistic institution. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1960 for his poetic works. On July 22, 1961, Frost was named poet laureate of Vermont.

Frost and Rachel MacKenzie both taught at the Bread Loaf School of English and were friends.
Joseph Mitchell was an American writer best known for his works of creative nonfiction he published in *The New Yorker*. His work primarily consists of character studies, where he used detailed portraits of people and events to highlight the commonplace of the world, especially in and around New York City.
Lore Segal is an American novelist, translator, teacher, short story writer and author of children's books, City. Her book *Shakespeare's Kitchen* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2008. *Other People's Houses* collects her refugee stories from *The New Yorker* as well as a few new ones. Segal fictionalized her experience growing up in five different English households, from the wealthy Orthodox Jewish Levines to the working-class.

"...I sent *The New Yorker* my ur-story about the Children's Transport that had brought me and some five hundred children from Nazi-occupied Vienna to England. I enclosed, along with the SASE, a note saying, “Is there any anybody there, beside the pencil which writes ‘Sorry’ at the bottom of the rejections?”...[after receiving an acceptance letter] I phoned *The New Yorker* and was summoned to Rachel M[a]cKenzie's office. Rachel, a woman - a lady - in her forties, hair nicely coiffed, wore some dark and quiet that insisted on drawing no attention to itself...

*Lore Segal: A (Complicated) Love Letter to Editors*, 2019

Segal, Lore

**OTHER PEOPLE'S HOUSES [SIGNED]**
First Edition, First Printing $500
This collection contains 24 stories, 14 of which first appeared in *The New Yorker*, including the title story. It shared the 1974 National Book Award for Fiction with Thomas Pynchon, and Singer went on to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1978.
“This essay will try to relate the experiences of one who considers himself a bit of a mystic,” and in the light of Singer's introductory exegesis, one who is also a bit of a seeker, one with a nodding acquaintance with demons and the better angels. Singer returns to his childhood and youth in Poland to chronicle the religious recognitions of a boyhood in which “Jewishness. . . contained all the flavors, all the vitamins, the entire mysticism of faith.”

– Kirkus Reviews

Singer, Isaac Bashevis; Moskowitz, Ira
A LITTLE BOY IN SEARCH OF GOD - MYSTICISM IN A PERSONAL LIGHT [SIGNED]
First Edition, First Printing 9-17-1328427

$250
Rachel MacKenzie encouraged Muriel Spark to submit to the *New Yorker* as early as 1957. In August of 1961 Spark sent MacKenzie her sixth novel, and MacKenzie promptly telegrammed her, “I love this book.” The entirety of the October issue was devoted to *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, similar to what had been done in 1946 for John Hersey's *Hiroshima*.

Spark moved to New York at the request of the *New Yorker*, and her relationship with MacKenzie soon soured. It is unknown exactly why, but reasons put forward have included MacKenzie's overbearing attitude and a romantic element, but the true cause is unknown. Spark did continue publishing with the *New Yorker* through 2003, though under different editors.

*The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* was listed on the Modern Library's list of the 100 greatest novels of the 20th century, as well as having been adapted for stage, film and television. Vanessa Redgrave starred in the original 1966 London stage version, Zoe Caldwell won the Tony Award for Best Actress in a Play in the 1968 Broadway production. The 1969 film starred Maggie Smith, and she won the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance.

**Spark, Muriel**

**THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE [SIGNED]**
First Edition, First Printing  9-3-1328416  
$5,000
E. B. White, along with his fame from his children's books *Stuart Little* (1945), *Charlotte's Web* (1952), and *The Trumpet of the Swan* (1970), was known for his contributions to *The New Yorker* for almost six decades. His wife, Katharine Sergeant Angell White, was a writer and the fiction editor for *The New Yorker* magazine from 1925 to 1960.

White, E. B.

**THE POINTS OF MY COMPASS [SIGNED]**


First Edition, First Printing  9-26-1328471  $1,000
INSCRIBED TO RACHEL MACKENZIE

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