

## Post Office Charles Bukowski

Opening with the exotic Lady Death entering the gumshoe-writer's seedy office in pursuit of a writer named Celine, this novel demonstrates Bukowski's own brand of humour and realism, opening up a landscape of seamy Los Angeles.

Thomas Bernhard was one of the most original writers of the twentieth century. His formal innovation ranks with Beckett and Kafka, his outrageously cantankerous voice recalls Dostoevsky, but his gift for lacerating, lyrical, provocative prose is incomparably his own. One of Bernhard's most acclaimed novels, *The Loser* centers on a fictional relationship between piano virtuoso Glenn Gould and two of his fellow students who feel compelled to renounce their musical ambitions in the face of Gould's incomparable genius. One commits suicide, while the other-- the obsessive, witty, and self-mocking narrator-- has retreated into obscurity. Written as a monologue in one remarkable unbroken paragraph, *The Loser* is a brilliant meditation on success, failure, genius, and fame.

Literary Criticism. *Reach for the Sun* is the third volume of Bukowski's letters from Black Sparrow Press, selected by Seamus Cooney.

The best of Bukowski's novels, stories, and poems, this collection reads like an autobiography, relating the extraordinary story of his life and offering a sometimes harrowing, invariably exhilarating reading experience. A must for this counterculture idol's legion of fans.

American Prophet

The Elephant Tree

Poetry

Post Office

The First Third

Henry Chinaski is a low life loser with a hand-to-mouth existence. His menial Post Office day job supports a life of beer, one-night stands and racetracks. Lurid, uncompromising and hilarious, *Post Office* is a landmark in American literature.

In a sprawling estate Morgan Fletcher, the disfigured heir to a fortune of mysterious origins, spends his days in quiet study, avoiding his reflection in mirrors and the lake at the end of his garden. Two children, Moira and David, appear, and Morgan gives them free reign of the mansion he shares with his housekeeper Engel. Then more children begin to show up. They make bizarre discoveries in the mansion attics, and seem to disappear into the hidden rooms of the estate-- and perhaps into the hidden corners of Morgan's mind.

Poems deal with writing, death and immortality, literature, city life, illness, war, and the past.

A jagged series of events written with gritty realism. *The Elephant Tree* transcends stereotypes and challenges the reader's sense of morality, with shocking plot twists and vivid characters.

Hot Water Music

The Children's Home

On Cats

Notes of a Dirty Old Man

## Run With The Hunted

"A lively portrait of American literature's 'Dirty Old Man'."  
—Library Journal A former postman and long-term alcoholic who did not become a full-time writer until middle age, Charles Bukowski was the author of autobiographical novels that captured the low life—including *Post Office*, *Factotum*, and *Women*—and made him a literary celebrity, with a major Hollywood film (*Barfly*) based on his life. Drawing on new interviews with virtually all of Bukowski's friends, family, and many lovers; unprecedented access to his private letters and unpublished writing; and commentary from Norman Mailer, Allen Ginsberg, Sean Penn, Mickey Rourke, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, R. Crumb, and Harry Dean Stanton, Howard Sounes has uncovered the extraordinary true story of the Dirty Old Man of American literature. Illustrated with drawings by Bukowski and over sixty photographs, *Charles Bukowski* is a must for Bukowski devotees and new readers alike. "Bukowski is one of those writers people remember more for the legend than for the work . . . but, as Howard Sounes shows in this exhaustively researched biography, it wasn't the whole story."  
—Los Angeles Times "Engaging . . . Adroit . . . revealing." —The New York Times Book Review "A must-read for anybody who is a fan of Bukowski's writing." —The Globe and Mail (Toronto)

With Bukowski, the votes are still coming in. There seems to be no middle ground—people seem either to love him or hate him. Tales of his own life and doings are as wild and weird as the very stories he writes. In a sense, Bukowski was a legend in his time . . . a madman, a recluse, a lover . . . tender, vicious . . . never the same . . . these are exceptional stories that come pounding out of his violent and depraved life . . . horrible and holy, you cannot read them and ever come away the same again. Bukowski . . . "a professional disturber of the peace . . . laureate of Los Angeles netherworld [writes with] crazy romantic insistence that losers are less phony than winners, and with an angry compassion for the lost." —Jack Kroll, Newsweek

"Bukowski's poems are extraordinarily vivid and often bitterly funny observations of people living on the very edge of oblivion. His poetry, in all its glorious simplicity, was accessible the way poetry seldom is — a testament to his genius." —Nick Burton, PIF Magazine

Charles Bukowski (1920-1994) published his first story when he was twenty-four and began writing poetry at the age of thirty-five. His first book of poetry was published in 1959; he went on to publish more than forty-five books of poetry and prose, including books published by City Lights Publishers such as *Notes of a Dirty Old Man*, *More Notes of a Dirty Old Man*, *The Most Beautiful Woman in Town*, *Tales of Ordinary Madness*, *Portions from a Wine-Stained*

*Notebook, Absence of the Hero and The Bell Tolls for No One.* A raw and tenderly funny look at the human-cat relationship, from one of our most treasured and transgressive writers. "The cat is the beautiful devil." Felines touched a vulnerable spot in Charles Bukowski's crusty soul. For the writer, there was something majestic and elemental about these inscrutable creatures he admired, sentient beings whose searing gaze could penetrate deep into our being. Bukowski considered cats to be unique forces of nature, elusive emissaries of beauty and love. *On Cats* offers Bukowski's musings on these beloved animals and their toughness and resiliency. He honors them as fighters, hunters, survivors who command awe and respect as they grip tightly onto the world around them: "A cat is only ITSELF, representative of the strong forces of life that won't let go." Funny, moving, tough, and caring, *On Cats* brings together the acclaimed writer's reflections on these animals he so admired. Bukowski's cats are fierce and demanding—he captures them stalking their prey; crawling across his typewritten pages; waking him up with claws across the face. But they are also affectionate and giving, sources of inspiration and gentle, insistent care. Poignant yet free of treacle, *On Cats* is an illuminating portrait of this one-of-a-kind artist and his unique view of the world, witnessed through his relationship with the animals he considered his most profound teachers. A fascinating look at the stories behind the dedications of 50 literary classics. Mary Shelley dedicated *Frankenstein* to her father, her greatest champion. Charlotte Brönte dedicated *Jane Eyre* to William Makepeace Thackeray for his enthusiastic review of the book's first edition. Dostoyevsky dedicated *The Brothers Karamazov* to his typist-turned-lover Anna Grigoyevna. And, as this collection's title indicates, F. Scott Fitzgerald dedicated his masterpiece *The Great Gatsby* to his wife Zelda. Often overlooked, a novel's dedication can say much about an author and his or her relationship to the person for whom the book was consecrated. *Once Again to Zelda* explores the dedications in fifty iconic books that are an intrinsic part of both literary and pop culture, shedding light on the author's psyche, as well as the social and historic context in which the book was first published.

*Betting on the Muse*

*On Drinking*

*The Loser*

*Charles Bukowski*

*A Charles Bukowski Reader*

**This critical study of the literary magazines, underground newspapers, and small press publications that had an impact**

**on Charles Bukowski's early career, draws on archives, privately held unpublished Bukowski work, and interviews to shed new light on the ways in which Bukowski became an icon in the alternative literary scene in the 1960s.**

**Post Office A Novel Harper Collins**

**One of Charles Bukowski's best, this beer-soaked, deliciously degenerate novel follows the wanderings of aspiring writer Henry Chinaski across World War II-era America. Deferred from military service, Chinaski travels from city to city, moving listlessly from one odd job to another, always needing money but never badly enough to keep a job. His day-to-day existence spirals into an endless litany of pathetic whores, sordid rooms, dreary embraces, and drunken brawls, as he makes his bitter, brilliant way from one drink to the next. Charles Bukowski's posthumous legend continues to grow. Factotum is a masterfully vivid evocation of slow-paced, low-life urbanity and alcoholism, and an excellent introduction to the fictional world of Charles Bukowski.**

**Charles Bukowski was one of America's best-known writers and one of its most influential and imitated poets. Although he published over 45 books of poetry, hundreds of his poems were kept by him and his publisher for posthumous publication, This is the first collection of these unique poems.**

**Locked in the Arms of a Crazy Life**

**Supermarket**

**The Last Night of the Earth Poems**

**On Writing**

**Ghost Money**

*Cambodia, 1996, the long-running Khmer Rouge insurgency is fragmenting, competing factions of the unstable government scrambling to gain the upper hand. Missing in the chaos is businessmen Charles Avery. Hired to find him is Vietnamese Australian ex-cop Max Quinlan. But Avery has made dangerous enemies and Quinlan is not the only one looking. Teaming up a Cambodian journalist, Quinlan's search takes him from the freewheeling capital Phnom Penh to the battle scarred western borderlands. As the political temperature soars, he is slowly drawn into a mystery that plunges him into the heart of Cambodia's bloody past. Ghost Money is a crime novel, but it's also about Cambodia in the mid-nineties, a broken country, what happens to those trapped between two periods of history, the choices they make, what they do to survive."*

*"A fascinating portrait of activism deepened and sustained by Herculean labors of research and investigation."—The Nation*

**Historian Kevin Starr described Carey McWilliams as "the finest nonfiction writer on California—ever" and "the state's most astute political observer." But as Peter Richardson argues, McWilliams was also one of the nation's most versatile and productive public intellectuals of his time. Richardson's absorbing and elegant biography traces McWilliams's extraordinary life and career. Drawing from a wide range of sources, it explores his childhood on a Colorado cattle ranch, his early literary journalism in Los Angeles, his remarkable legal and political activism, his stint in state government, the explosion of first-rate books between 1939 and 1950, and his editorial leadership at *The Nation*. Along the way, it also documents McWilliams's influence on a wide range of key figures, including Cesar Chavez, Hunter S. Thompson, Mike Davis, screenwriter Robert Towne, playwright Luis Valdez, and historian Patricia Limerick.**

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER The stunning debut novel from one of the most creative artists of our generation, Bobby Hall, a.k.a. Logic. "Bobby Hall has crafted a mind-bending first novel, with prose that is just as fierce and moving as his lyrics. Supermarket is like *Naked Lunch* meets *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*—if they met at *Fight Club*."—Ernest Cline, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Ready Player One* Flynn is stuck—depressed, recently dumped, and living at his mom's house. The supermarket was supposed to change all that. An ordinary job and a steady check. Work isn't work when it's saving you from yourself. But things aren't quite as they seem in these aisles. Arriving to work one day to a crime scene, Flynn's world collapses as the secrets of his tortured mind are revealed. And Flynn doesn't want to go looking for answers at the supermarket. Because something there seems to be looking for him. A darkly funny psychological thriller, *Supermarket* is a gripping exploration into madness and creativity. Who knew you could find sex, drugs, and murder all in aisle nine?**

**Reissued in an edition newly offset from the authoritative *Complete Poems 1904-1962*, edited by George James Firmage. E. E. Cummings, along with Pound, Eliot, and Williams, helped bring about the twentieth-century revolution in literary expression. He is recognized as the author of some of the most beautiful lyric poems written in the English language and also as one of the most inventive American poets of his time. Fresh and candid, by turns earthy, tender, defiant, and romantic, Cummings's poems celebrate the uniqueness of each individual, the need to protest the dehumanizing force of organizations, and the exuberant power of love. *No Thanks* was first published in 1935; although Cummings was by then in mid-career, he had still not achieved**

*recognition, and the title refers ironically to publishers' rejections. No Thanks contains some of Cummings's most daring literary experiments, and it represents most fully his view of life—romantic individualism. The poems celebrate an openly felt response to the beauties of the natural world, and they give first place to love, especially sexual love, in all its manifestations. The volume includes such favorites as "sonnet entitled how to run the world)," "may I feel said he," "Jehovah buried. Satan dead," "be of love (a little)," and the now-famous grasshopper poem.*

*Star*

*Ham On Rye*

*Burning in Water, Drowning in Flame*

*Factotum*

*Spider-Ham Little Golden Book (Marvel Spider-man)*

"It began as a mistake." By middle age, Henry Chinaski has lost more than twelve years of his life to the U.S. Postal Service. In a world where his three true, bitter pleasures are women, booze, and racetrack betting, he somehow drags his hangover out of bed every dawn to lug waterlogged mailbags up mud-soaked mountains, outsmart vicious guard dogs, and pray to survive the day-to-day trials of sadistic bosses and certifiable coworkers. This classic 1971 novel—the one that catapulted its author to national fame—is the perfect introduction to the grimly hysterical world of legendary writer, poet, and Dirty Old Man Charles Bukowski and his fictional alter ego, Chinaski. *Burning in Water, Drowning in Flame* is poetry full of gambling, drinking and women. Charles Bukowski writes realistically about the seedy underbelly of life.

Examines the effects of alcohol on the life and work of Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and O'Neill, tracing how the initial positive benefits of the drug were lost as drink eventually took its toll on the writers

Low life writer and alcoholic Henry Chinaski was born to survive. Now, at the age of fifty, he is living the life of a rock star, running three hundred hangovers a year and a sex life that would cripple Casanova. *Women* is a riotous and uncompromisingly vivid account of life on the edge.

*Reach for the Sun Vol. 3*

*Women*

*In the Shadow of the Rose*

*You Get So Alone at Times*

*Hollywood*

For the first time in English, a glittering novella about stardom from "one of the greatest avant-garde Japanese writers of the twentieth century" (Judith Thurman, *The New Yorker*) All eyes are on Rikio. And he likes it, mostly. His fans cheer,

screaming and yelling to attract his attention—they would kill for a moment alone with him. Finally the director sets up the shot, the camera begins to roll, someone yells “action”; Rikio, for a moment, transforms into another being, a hardened young yakuza, but as soon as the shot is finished, he slumps back into his own anxieties and obsessions. Being a star, constantly performing, being watched and scrutinized as if under a microscope, is often a drag. But so is life. Written shortly after Yukio Mishima himself had acted in the film “Afraid to Die,” this novella is a rich and unflinching psychological portrait of a celebrity coming apart at the seams. With exquisite, vivid prose, Star begs the question: is there any escape from how we are seen by others?

“Wordsworth, Whitman, William Carlos Williams, and the Beats in their respective generations moved poetry toward a more natural language. Bukowski moved it a little farther.” —Los Angeles Times Book Review In what is widely hailed as the best of his many novels, Charles Bukowski details the long, lonely years of his own hardscrabble youth in the raw voice of alter ego Henry Chinaski. From a harrowingly cheerless childhood in Germany through acne-riddled high school years and his adolescent discoveries of alcohol, woman, and the Los Angeles Public Library's collection of D.H. Lawrence, *Ham on Rye* offers a crude, brutal, and savagely funny portrait of an outcast's coming-of-age during the desperate days of the Great Depression.

*Betting on the Muse* is a combination of hilarious poetry and stories. Charles Bukowski writes about the real life of a working man and all that comes with it. Fifteen pages of story and illustrations.

From Obscurity to Literary Icon

Bring Me Your Love

A Biography of Charles Bukowski

The Stories Behind Literature's Most Intriguing Dedications

The Hunchback of East Hollywood

Edited by Abel Debritto, the definitive collection of poems from an influential writer whose transgressive legacy and raw, funny, and acutely observant writing has left an enduring mark on modern culture. Few writers have so brilliantly and poignantly conjured the desperation and absurdity of ordinary life as Charles Bukowski. Resonant with his powerful, perceptive voice, his visceral, hilarious, and transcendent poetry speaks to us as forcefully today as when it was written. Encompassing a wide range of subjects—from love to death and sex to writing—Bukowski's unvarnished and self-deprecating verse illuminates the deepest and most enduring concerns of the human condition while remaining sharply aware of the day to day. With his acute eye for the ridiculous and the troubled, Bukowski speaks to the deepest longings and strangest predilections of the human experience. Gloomy yet hopeful, this is tough, unrelenting poetry touched by grace. This is *Essential Bukowski*.

From iconic tortured artist/everyman Charles Bukowski, Hollywood is the fictionalization of his experience adapting his novel *Barfly* into a movie by the same name. Henry Chinaski, Bukowski's alter-ego, is pushed to translate a semi-

autobiographical book into a screenplay for John Pinchot. He reluctantly agrees, and is thrust into the otherworld called Hollywood, with its parade of eccentric and maddening characters: producers, artists, actors and actresses, film executives and journalists. In this world, the artistry of books and film is lost to the dollar, and Chinaski struggles to keep his footing in the tangle of cons that comprise movie making. Hollywood is Dirty Old Man Bukowski at his most lucid. It overflows with curses, sex, and alcohol. And through it all, or from it all, Bukowski finds flashes of truth about the human condition. Stories deal with human sexuality, grief, the relationship between men and women, writers, death, drifters, and family relations.

A compilation of Charles Bukowski's underground articles from his column "Notes of a Dirty Old Man" appears here in book form. Bukowski's reasoning for self-describing himself as a 'dirty old man' rings true in this book. "People come to my door—too many of them really—and knock to tell me Notes of a Dirty Old Man turns them on. A bum off the road brings in a gypsy and his wife and we talk . . . drink half the night. A long distance operator from Newburgh, N.Y. sends me money. She wants me to give up drinking beer and to eat well. I hear from a madman who calls himself 'King Arthur' and lives on Vine Street in Hollywood and wants to help me write my column. A doctor comes to my door: 'I read your column and think I can help you. I used to be a psychiatrist.' I send him away . . ." "Bukowski writes like a latter-day Celine, a wise fool talking straight from the gut about the futility and beauty of life . . ." —Publishers Weekly "These disjointed stories gives us a glimpse into the brilliant and highly disturbed mind of a man who will drink anything, hump anything and say anything without the slightest tinge of embarrassment, shame or remorse. It's actually pretty hard not to like the guy after reading a few of these semi-ranting short stories." —Greg Davidson, curriculummag.com Charles Bukowski was born in Andernach, Germany on August 16, 1920, the only child of an American soldier and a German mother. Bukowski published his first story when he was twenty-four and began writing poetry at the age of thirty-five. His first book of poetry was published in 1959; he went on to publish more than forty-five books of poetry and prose, including *Pulp* (Black Sparrow, 1994), *Screams from the Balcony: Selected Letters 1960-1970* (1993), and *The Last Night of the Earth Poems* (1992). Other Bukowski books published by City Lights Publishers include *More Notes of a Dirty Old Man*, *The Most Beautiful Woman in Town*, *Tales of Ordinary Madness*, *Portions from a Wine-Stained Notebook*, and *Absence of the Hero*. He died of leukemia in San Pedro on March 9, 1994.

Essential Bukowski

The Thirsty Muse

Charles Bukowski, King of the Underground

Pulp

No Thanks

*South of No North* is a collection of short stories written by Charles Bukowski that explore loneliness and struggles on the fringes of society.

The definitive collection of works on a subject that inspired and haunted Charles Bukowski for his entire life: alcohol Charles Bukowski turns to the bottle in this revelatory collection of poetry and prose

that includes some of the writer's best and most lasting work. A self-proclaimed "dirty old man," Bukowski used alcohol as muse and as fuel, a conflicted relationship responsible for some of his darkest moments as well as some of his most joyful and inspired. In *On Drinking*, Bukowski expert Abel Debritto has collected the writer's most profound, funny, and memorable work on his ups and downs with the hard stuff—a topic that allowed Bukowski to explore some of life's most pressing questions. Through drink, Bukowski is able to be alone, to be with people, to be a poet, a lover, and a friend—though often at great cost. As Bukowski writes in a poem simply titled "Drinking,": "for me/it was or/is/a manner of/dying/with boots on/and gun/smoking and a/symphony music background." *On Drinking* is a powerful testament to the pleasures and miseries of a life in drink, and a window into the soul of one of our most beloved and enduring writers.

Charles Bukowski examines cats and his childhood in *You Get So Alone at Times*, a book of poetry that reveals his tender side. He delves into his youth to analyze its repercussions.

Immortalized as Dean Moriarty by Jack Kerouac in his epic novel, *On the Road*, Neal Cassady was infamous for his unstoppable energy and his overwhelming charm, his savvy hustle and his devil-may-care attitude. A treasured friend and traveling companion of Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs and Ken Kesey, to name just some of his cohorts on the beatnik path, Cassady lived life to the fullest, ready for inspiration at any turn. Before he died in Mexico in 1968, just four days shy of his forty-second birthday, Cassady had written the jacket blurb for this book: "Seldom has there been a story of a man so balled up. No doubt many readers will not believe the veracity of the author, but I assure these doubting Thomases that every incident, as such, is true." As Ferlinghetti writes in his editor's note, Cassady was "an early prototype of the urban cowboy who a hundred years ago might have been an outlaw on the range." Here are his autobiographical writings, the rambling American saga of a truly free individual. Neal Cassady (1926–1968) was a key figure and writer during the Beat Generation and is known as the inspiration for Jack Kerouac's immortalizing character Dean Moriarty. In 1946, Cassady traveled to New York City where he met famous Beat poets and writers such as Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg. Cassady's works were never published during his lifetime.

A Novel

The Life and Work of Carey McWilliams

South of No North

New Poems Book One

Examines the life and work of twentieth-century German American poet, novelist and short story writer Charles Bukowski, discussing how his troubled relationships influenced his writing.

Marvel's Spider-Ham swings into his first Little Golden Book ever! Fans of Marvel's Spider-Man are sure to love this all-new Little Golden Book, featuring the Spectacular Peter Porker: Spider-Ham! Filled with thrills and laughs, boys and girls ages 2-5 will love this light-hearted and humorous take on the Marvel

universe with animal versions of their favorite characters and in which an ordinary spider becomes a pig-like web-spinning super hero!

Charles Bukowski's debut novel introduces his alter ego Henry Chinaski.

Chinaski is a low life loser with a hand-to-mouth existence. His menial Post Office job supports his life of beer, one-night stands and race-tracks.

Sharp and moving reflections and ruminations on the artistry and craft of writing from one of our most iconoclastic, riveting, and celebrated masters. Charles Bukowski's stories, poems, and novels have left an enduring mark on our culture. In this collection of correspondence—letters to publishers, editors, friends and fellow writers—the writer shares his insights on the art of creation. *On Writing* reveals an artist brutally frank about the drudgery of work and canny and uncompromising about the absurdities of life—and of art. It illuminates the hard-edged, complex humanity of a true American legend and counterculture icon—the “laureate of American lowlife” (*Time*)—who stoically recorded society's downtrodden and depraved. It exposes an artist grounded in the visceral, whose work reverberates with his central ideal: “Don't try.” Piercing, poignant, and often hilarious, *On Writing* is filled not only with memorable lines but also with Bukowski's trademark toughness, leavened with moments of grace, pathos, and intimacy.

Alcohol and the American Writer

Once Again to Zelda

Tales of Ordinary Madness