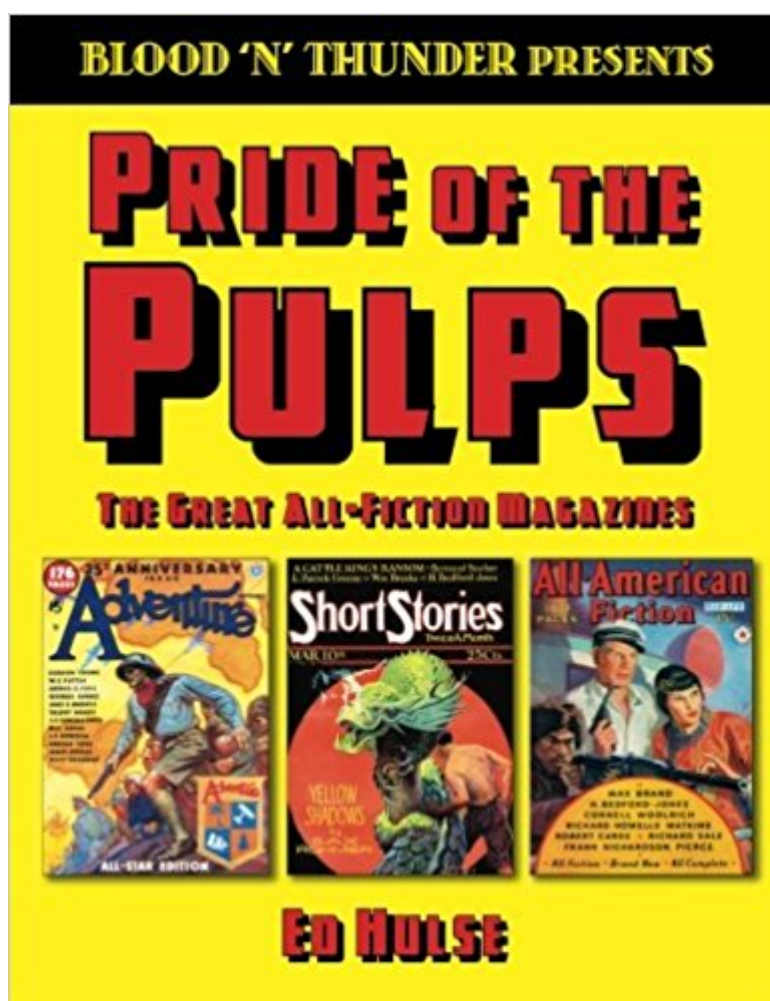


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Blood 'n' Thunder Presents: Pride Of The Pulps: The Great All-Fiction Magazines (Volume 1)



Synopsis

During the pulp era â” roughly the first five decades of the 20th century â” more than one thousand all-fiction magazines reached the nationâ”™s newsstands, if only for a single issue. Of that number, just a couple dozen attained any reputation for literary quality, and fewer than half that many regularly published stories considered to be on a par with those accepted by the prestigious âœslickâ• magazines. The top periodicals in the field â” ADVENTURE, ARGOSY, BLUE BOOK, SHORT STORIES, THE POPULAR MAGAZINE, and a few others â” were edited and packaged with loving care and consistently reflected the best that rough-paper magazines had to offer. And for decades American readers, ravenous for escapist entertainment, devoured them in weekly or monthly intervals. PRIDE OF THE PULPS contains lengthy, in-depth surveys of the most prestigious all-fiction magazines. Considerably revised and expanded from their original appearances in the award-winning journal BLOOD 'N' THUNDER, these essays reflect scholarly devotion and fannish enthusiasm in equal measure. They chart the evolutions of ADVENTURE, SHORT STORIES, THE POPULAR MAGAZINE, and several other periodicals of comparable quality, noting the memorable authors, stories, and characters that paraded across their woodpulp pages, entertaining readers through two World Wars and a Great Depression. PRIDE OF THE PULPS, profusely illustrated with cover art and interior illustrations from the pulp magazines under consideration, is the first volume in BLOOD 'N' THUNDER PRESENTS, a series of book-length histories of vintage American popular culture as reflected in books, magazines, comic strips, radio dramas, and motion pictures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Last year when the great fanzine "Blood 'n' Thunder" ended with issue #50 (actually a double issue of #49/50), we were promised that BnT would continue as a series of standalone themed books. Well, we now have the first of these: Blood 'n' Thunder Presents #1: Pride of the Pulps! Pulps, of course, were usually looked down upon regarding their literary quality. But a few, very few, published stories on par with the 'slick' fiction magazines. So the focus of this volume is on the handful of top all-fiction pulp magazines, Adventure, All-American Fiction, Short Stories, The Popular Magazine, Famous Fantastic Mysteries and West (just the 1920s issues), that accomplished this. This volume contains lengthy, in-depth surveys of these all-fiction magazines, reprinted from past issues of BnT. However, they have been revised and expanded from their original appearances. We see their evolution as magazines, and note the memorable authors, stories, and characters, which hopefully will spark an interest in searching out these stories and reading them. The volume is profusely illustrated with covers (including some scans of original cover paintings) and interior illustrations. I just wish these were in color. As I looked over the covers for Adventure, I wish someone would produce these as posters. Leave the Adventure logo and get rid of the rest of the type so we can enjoy the colorful artwork. As the first volume in this new series of books, I hope that those that follow will be of this caliber. No work yet as to what might be planned or when. I should also point out that Murania Press has put out a "Blood 'n' Thunder Sampler", a collection of previous articles. If you've never checked out BnT, this may be a great intro to the magazine.

PRIDE OF THE PULPS provides in-depth, incredibly well-researched historical overviews of the some of the best of the classic pulp fiction magazines that were published. Like all of the Blood 'n' Thunder publications, this is a book that will appeal to both serious pulp mag geeks and to newbies who want to learn about the pulps. It has a wealth of detailed information and is well-illustrated with many cover scans and some nice original artwork by top pulp artists. Five stars.

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