The Man Who Sold the Future:

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Section One
Introduction

In the years between 1939 and 1969, Robert A. Heinlein was widely acknowledged to be the “Dean of American Science Fiction Writers.” Although styles and tastes in science fiction have changed over the years, Heinlein is still considered one of the foremost writers in the field, and many of his works are considered classics.

Bibliography for Heinlein presents several challenges. The primary materials are often publications in “pulp” magazines and other popular periodicals. For many of these serials indexing is at best spotty, at worst, non-existent. Many of Heinlein’s novels were first published in serial form, then published as books under different titles. In some cases, the book versions were revised extensively. As many of the young adult novels were published just in time to take advantage of the Christmas buying season, one has to imagine the disappointment of children excitedly opening their new Heinlein book, only to find a story they had already read in Boy’s Life. Some of the short stories have been anthologized repeatedly; others remained uncollected for decades after their first appearances. Non-fiction essays and speeches pose yet another problem, one which the present guide sidesteps by focusing only on fiction. Citations for primary sources were drawn from the various bibliographies on Heinlein, including a bibliography which appeared as an appendix to Grumbles from the Grave, and Donald Day’s Index to the Science Fiction Magazines, 1926-1950 (Boston: Hall 1982). One issue which became problematic was the lack of specific page numbers for the magazine publications in the available printed bibliographies. I have looked at most of the stories either in paper copy or microform to establish authoritative pagination.

Secondary materials raise other issues. Publication news items abound, especially from Heinlein’s later years, and after his death many tributes and appreciations from his colleagues in the field were published. Heinlein criticism, apart from book reviews, is generally held to have begun with the 1968 publication of Alexei Panshin’s Heinlein in Dimension (Chicago: Advent). In the years since, many have written on Heinlein’s work, often focusing on his best known book, Stranger in a Strange Land, or the themes and preoccupations of his later, more ambitious novels such as sex and immortality. In itself, this is fairly straightforward; the complications arise from the nature of science fiction scholarship, which tends to address topics across the spectrum of science fiction rather than the works of any single author. Thus a typical article may reference thirty or forty different works by almost as many authors. Additionally, even criticism limiting itself to the works of a single author often covers a variety of pieces; one article may discuss an entire series of books (e.g. Heinlein’s juvenile novels published by Scribners in the late Forties and Fifties. Another topic in the secondary material is the ongoing debate over Heinlein’s alleged sexism and militarism. This has been a source of contention among scholars and readers for many years, and it looks as though the discussion is likely to continue. One does see now more comment that Heinlein actually did write any number of strong, empowered female characters, even if they are not in the traditional feminist mold. What seems to have been neglected, to date, are close readings and analyses of individual works, especially the short fiction.
Secondary references included in this guide were drawn from a variety of sources, including MLA, ABELL, Arts and Humanities Citation Index, and Hal Hall’s Science Fiction and Fantasy Research Database <http://access-co2.tamu.edu/hhall/index.htm>.

The Guide’s sections include: biographies and reference guides, encompassing general information resources; bibliographies; primary materials; secondary materials; and a section exploring the reprint history of one of Heinlein’s short stories. Headnotes with each section explain the organization and limits for the materials included. Annotations, where present, were written by the author of the guide.

Section Two:
Biographies and Reference Guides

Biographies

Despite Heinlein’s continuing popularity, influence on his genre of science fiction, and the growth of legitimacy of scholarly research into science fiction as literature, no book-length biography of the author has appeared in the thirteen years since his death. I have included in this section a number of the more substantive of the numerous biographical essays which have appeared in reference works, as well as several interviews. Many basic biographical entries have been published in standard sources such as Something about the Author, Contemporary Popular Writers, Twentieth-Century Young Adult Writers, St. James Guide to Science Fiction Writers, and Contemporary Novelists. While Heinlein did not publish formal memoirs, he did write a book-length account of his travels, Tramp Royale, and a collection of his correspondence appeared after his death (the aptly titled Grumbles from the Grave), both listed below, along with Expanded Universe, an anthology of Heinlein’s fiction and non-fiction writings with extensive notes by the author. Lastly, I would like to mention that readers of Heinlein’s epic novel, Time Enough for Love, (included in the section on Primary Sources) may notice many autobiographical elements in the section entitled “The Tale of the Man Who was Too Lazy to Fail.” The descriptions of Kansas City at the beginning of World War I, in the last major section of the novel, “Da Capo,” draw upon the author’s memories of his boyhood home.


This essay includes summaries of the author’s life, major themes, and several of the most important works.


The biographical essay is excerpted from Gifford’s Robert A. Heinlein: A Reader's Companion (2000), which is included in the “Reference Works” section.

While dated, this essay does provide an overview of the first 48 years of the author’s life, and contains references to several other sources of biographical information.


This unusual anthology includes many of Heinlein’s non-fiction essays, as well as a number of previously uncollected short stories, arranged by date of creation, and interspersed with brief notes by the author about his life and creative processes. As such, it provides an unparalleled insight into the author’s life and writings from 1939-1980.


This posthumously published collection of correspondence and other material, edited by Heinlein’s wife, presents insights into the personality of the author which are not found elsewhere. Also included is a short biography (xi-xviii), and a bibliography of works.


This is a posthumously published travel memoir of Heinlein’s 1953-54 trip around the world, from San Francisco through South America, South Africa, and Australia.


One of Heinlein’s last interviews.


*Requiem* contains, aside from the pieces by Heinlein, a number of personal reminiscences and speeches by and about the author. Since these fall into the realm of anecdote, and concern Heinlein’s life and personality, rather than discussing his work, I felt this book should be included here.


A very sad article discussing Heinlein’s character flaws.


Another interview given by Heinlein shortly before his death.


This book includes a number of pieces of interest, including the titular 1973 interview, which fills over 100 pages.

Reference Guides

Reference guides on Heinlein are not overly numerous; I have included in this section all the pertinent works of which I could find record. The bulk of the secondary material on Heinlein consists of critical materials, and will be covered in another section.


This is a generally useful guide, which incorporates significant bibliographic material as well as background on Heinlein.


This web site, recently updated and expanded, contains links to articles, bibliographies and other Heinlein-related material.


I have not seen this item, however, Cliffs Notes usually provide a basic overview of the major works of an author, and usually have reasonably trustworthy information. The author of this item has written other books and articles on science fiction, and is considered a reliable scholar in studies of the genre.

This slender volume provides an overview of Heinlein’s works, and some commentary.


As with most Twayne’s volumes, Stover’s book gives a detailed introduction to Heinlein’s works, as well as a reasonably complete bibliography of the published works to 1986.


This volume is obviously an amateur publication, but does contain good photos of most of the book covers, and general commentary on Heinlein’s works.

Section Three:
Bibliographies and Primary Sources

Bibliographies

I have listed only book-length bibliographies here. There are many shorter bibliographies in reference and critical works.


This web site contains the “Opus List” taken from Gifford’s book, Robert A. Heinlein: A Reader’s Companion, complete with its own numbering system. The Opus List covers everything written for publication, chronologically in order of creation and lists known variations. Full publication information is not given, making this somewhat frustrating to use.


This somewhat simplified list gives basic information on Heinlein’s published works, although citations for journal material are incomplete.

This bibliography lists most (although not all) of Heinlein’s works. As with most bibliographies, it does not list page numbers for magazine pieces.


This work contains chronological, alphabetical and detailed reference bibliographies. Although very helpful, it is of limited assistance in providing page numbers for the magazine publications. It does contain some egregious errors, such as listing the first publication of “The Man who Traveled in Elephants” as being in the October, 1957 *Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*; the story was first published in that month, but under a variant title and in another magazine. The commentary on the items, much of it taken from Heinlein’s own files, is quite interesting.


This is essentially a slightly revised reprint of the introduction to her dissertation


While useful for noting all appearances of various pieces, the 1973 date of this bibliography limits it. It does not provide full citations for magazine publications.


I have not seen this work


This 100-page pamphlet is one of the more complete Heinlein bibliographies, attempting to enumerate all the appearances of various stories and other materials. It covers some foreign language publications, and many secondary materials. Particularly helpful is the listing of reviews of Heinlein’s work. The main drawbacks of this volume are its poor design and incomplete citations.

**Primary Sources**

Robert A. Heinlein began his publishing career in the science fiction magazines (pulps) of the 1930s. Since his earliest publications were in magazines, this bibliography begins with a
chronological listing of the magazine publications, followed by lists of novels, young adult novels, and collections. This list covers published fiction only, and does not attempt to include either non-fiction or unpublished works.

Virtually all of Heinlein’s short stories and novels which were first published in magazines have been reprinted in collections of Heinlein’s work. In this list, since the contents of the collections are noted elsewhere, reprints have not been noted unless the title was changed. In many cases, novels which first appeared in serialized form were expanded before book publication, sometimes by 20,000 words or more.

All the material first published under pseudonyms has subsequently been published under Robert A. Heinlein’s name, and since this is the case, the material has not been divided by pseudonym, although the pseudonym used with first publication is noted.

Many, if not most, of Heinlein’s short stories have also been anthologized, some numerous times. While a complete list of anthologized Heinlein works would be of some interest, it is, alas, outside the scope of this guide.

A gap may be noted between 1942 and 1947: during World War II, Heinlein worked as an engineer for the Navy and did not publish fiction.

**Magazine Publications (Fiction)**

Most of the following are short stories, however, any work which was serialized over 2 or more issues is a novella or a novel. Most page numbers were taken directly from the items, either in print or microfilm. In a few cases, page numbers have been gleaned from bibliographies, and in others, were neither listed in a bibliography nor available to me.


Republished in *Expanded Universe* as “Successful Operation.”


“Coventry.” *Astounding Science Fiction* 25.5 (July 1940): 56-93.

   Reprinted as “Magic, Inc.” in Waldo and Magic, Inc.

   Reprinted as The Day After Tomorrow, as well as under its original title.

“‘--And He Built a Crooked House.’” Astounding Science Fiction 26.6 (Feb. 1941): 68-83.


“They.” Unknown 4.6 (Apr. 1941): 84-95.

“Universe.” Astounding Science Fiction 27.3 (May 1941): 9-42.
   This issue also contains a chart with a timeline of Heinlein’s “Future History” series on pages 124-125, which was revised and reproduced in The Past Through Tomorrow.

MacDonald, Anson. “Solution Unsatisfactory.” Astounding Science Fiction 27.3 (May 1941): 56-86.

MacDonald, Anson. “‘--We Also Walk Dogs.’” Astounding Science Fiction 27.5 (July 1941): 126-143.


   Reprinted as “Elsewhen” in Assignment in Eternity.


   Reprinted as “Lost Legacy” in Assignment in Eternity.
“‘My Object All Sublime.’” Future 4.6 (Feb. 1942): 82-87, 95.


Reprinted as “Jerry Was a Man” in Assignment in Eternity.


“Gentlemen, Be Seated!” 326.5 Argosy (May 1948): n. pag.


“Gulf.” Astounding Science Fiction 44.3 (Nov. 1949): 53-90; 44.4 (Dec. 1949): 54-79.


“Satellite Scout.” Boy’s Life 40.8 (Aug. 1950); 40.9 (Sept. 1950); 40.10 (Oct. 1950); 40.11 (Nov. 1950): n. pag.

       Reprinted as Farmer in the Sky.


       At least one bibliography lists this item as initially appearing under the title “Planets in Conflict.” I have not seen this item; therefore I am unable to state authoritatively which title is correct. Reprinted as Between Planets.


“Tramp Space Ship.” Boy’s Life 42.9 (Sept. 1952); 42.10 (Oct. 1952); 42.11 (Nov. 1952); 42.12 (Dec. 1952): n. pag.

       Reprinted as The Rolling Stones.


       Reprinted as The Star Beast.


“Tenderfoot in Space.”  Boy’s Life  (May 1958); (June 1958); (July 1958): n. pag.


Reprinted as Starship Troopers.


Interestingly, this short short story appeared in two magazines simultaneously as a two-page advertisement for Hoffman Electronics Corp.


Worlds of If is also sometimes cited (even in its own pages) as If; the longer title is on the cover and table of contents of each issue.


Reprinted as “No Bands Playing, No Flags Flying” in Expanded Universe.

**Short Fiction First Published in Collections**

Complete citations for the collections are listed below.


“A Bathroom of Her Own.” In Expanded Universe.

“On the Slopes of Vesuvius.” In Expanded Universe.


**Novels**

First publication is given for the novels, usually hardcover. All Heinlein’s novels have been reprinted in paperback; most have seen reprint after reprint, and are currently, as they have been since the 1950’s, still in print.

**Beyond This Horizon.** Reading: Fantasy Press, 1948.

Revised from magazine publication version.


Also published as Sixth Column.

**Sixth Column, a Science Fiction Novel of a Strange Intrigue.** New York: Gnome, 1949.

Also published as Sixth Column, and as The Day After Tomorrow.

**The Puppet Masters.** Garden City: Doubleday, 1951.

A revised edition was issued by Ballantine, Del Rey in 1990; I have not determined if it represents a significant revision. An early report, “The Compleat Stranger.” Locus 23.5
indicated that several thousand words would be restored to the novel, but I have not yet determined if that is in fact the case.

**Double Star.** Garden City: Doubleday, 1956.

**The Door Into Summer.** Garden City: Doubleday, 1957.

**Methuselah’s Children.** Hicksville: Gnome Press, 1958.

Revised from magazine publication version.

**Starship Troopers.** New York: Putnam, 1959.


**Farnham’s Freehold.** New York: Putnam, 1963.


This novel is made up of the two previously published novellas “Universe” and “Commonsense.”


As the cover states: "The original uncut version of the bestselling classic." This edition restores some 60,000 words cut (over the author’s objections) from the initial publication and its many reprints.

**Young Adult Novels**

Heinlein’s series of novels for young adults, published by Scribner’s, comprises a significant portion of his oeuvre, one regarded by many critics as among his best work. Some list *Starship Troopers* among these; it was rejected by Scribner’s for a variety of reasons (for one thing, it is not really a young adult novel), and published elsewhere to considerable acclaim. Podkayne of Mars, also not a Scribner’s publication, is however, clearly a juvenile novel, and as such is included in this section.


The 1963 edition of this book does not contain the ending Heinlein originally wrote for the story. Some subsequent editions do have the original ending. A reprint of the original ending is also included in *Grumbles from the Grave*.

**Collections**
Collections included are primarily U.S. publications. Although Heinlein has been translated into many languages, and there are a number of variant collections published in English in the United Kingdom, none contain any material unpublished elsewhere.


**Three by Heinlein.** Garden City: Doubleday, 1951.


**Assignment in Eternity: Four Long Science Fiction Stories.** Reading: Fantasy Press, 1953.


In this note on contents are included only the fiction in this book by Robert A. Heinlein. Contents: “Requiem;” “Tenderfoot in Space;” “Destination Moon;” “The Bulletin Board;” “Poor Daddy.”


Section Four
Archives

The primary collection of Heinlein papers and manuscripts is the Robert A. Heinlein Archive at the University of California—Santa Cruz. A large collection, approximately 75 linear feet, the archive contains the author's archive of manuscripts, outlines, proofs, and other materials related to his life and works. Also included in the collection are books from his private and working collections, as well as his published works in various editions and languages. A brief inventory list is available on site. According to the OCLC WorldCat record, access to portions of the collection is restricted. Contact information (from the 2000/2001 American Library Directory, 53rd ed. New York: R. R. Bowker, 2000):

Rita Bottoms  
Rare Books, Special Collections  
University Library  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
Telephone: 831-459-2547

Other archival materials, especially copies of the pulp magazines where so many of Heinlein’s works first appeared in print, are available at many university libraries around the country in Science Fiction collections, for example the Science Fiction Research Collection at Texas A&M University. Other noteworthy collections include: University of Arizona; the Eaton Collection at the University of California, Riverside; the Azriel Rosenfeld Science Fiction Research Collection at the University of Maryland; the Russell B. Nye Popular Culture Collection at Michigan State University; Eastern New Mexico State University; the David Charles Paskow Science Fiction Collection at Temple University; the Popular Culture Library at Bowling Green State University; and the William J. Heron Collection at Virginia Polytechnic University. Specific addresses for these collections may be found in the American Library Directory, or in Subject Collections (New York: Bowker, 7th ed., 1993).

Section Five
Secondary Sources (Post 1988)

This section includes critical writing on Heinlein published after his death in 1988. Biographical articles, “appreciations,” and brief items on publishing have been omitted. As much as possible, I have attempted to eliminate articles with a broad focus, and retain only those
which discuss an aspect of Heinlein’s work in some depth. This section is divided into three parts: books, articles, and theses and dissertations. The section on articles is further subdivided into three parts: articles on Stranger in a Strange Land, articles on Heinlein’s juveniles, and all other articles. The earliest dissertations on Heinlein were written in 1980; since that time a small but steady stream of theses and dissertations has followed, including the 1993 Ormes dissertation cited above in the bibliography section.

Books


Articles

These articles deal with one or more of Heinlein’s works in some depth; articles which merely reference a work or mention it in passing have been excluded. Annotations for the articles usually give the works which constitute the focus of the article. Where a work is mentioned in the title, or the item has not been examined, no annotation is given. The Heinlein Journal, from which several citations are taken, is not held (to the best of my knowledge and following a search on WorldCat) by any library. An internet search does reveal a site, <http://hometown.aol.com/bpral22169/myhomepage/index.html>, which gives information on upcoming issues of the Heinlein Journal and offers back issues for sale.

Stranger in a Strange Land


Stranger in a Strange Land, The Moon is a Harsh Mistress, I Will Fear No Evil.


Scribner Juveniles


Mostly the juveniles, although some of the “Future History” stories are discussed also.


Other Topics


The Man Who Sold the Moon, The Moon is a Harsh Mistress.


Methuselah’s Children and Time Enough for Love.


Starship Troopers and Puppet Masters.


Starship Troopers.


An overview of books on Heinlein through 1980.


*Tramp Royale*.


I have not seen this item; an educated guess would be that it concerns “If This Goes On—.”


*The Moon is a Harsh Mistress* and “It’s Great to Be Back.”


The Moon is a Harsh Mistress.


“The Unpleasant Profession of Jonathan Hoag.”


Beyond This Horizon, Methuselah’s Children, Time Enough for Love, and To Sail Beyond the Sunset.


“By His Bootstraps.”


Review of the collection The Fantasies of Robert Heinlein.


I Will fear No Evil.


Farnham’s Freehold and Sixth Column.


The Moon is a Harsh Mistress.


**Theses and Dissertations**


Section Six
“—And He Built a Crooked House”

After looking at other aspects of Heinlein’s life and works, I thought it might be interesting to end with a look at the ways in which one of the short stories has been anthologized over the years in volumes other than collections of Heinlein’s work. I selected “—And He Built a Crooked House” (which first appeared in Astounding Science Fiction 26.6, Feb. 1941) because it has been reprinted in a number of collections, both broad science fiction anthologies and more focused thematic volumes. The citations were gleaned from a number of sources, including Short Story Index, WorldCat, the Index to Stories in Thematic Anthologies of Science Fiction (Tymn, Marshall, et al., Boston: G.K. Hall, 1978), Index to Science Fiction Anthologies and Collections (Contento, Donald, Boston: G.K. Hall, 1978, 1983), and the various N. E. S. F. A. indexes to short science fiction. The entries are arranged chronologically.


   This anthology is also catalogued as Fifty Years of the Best: From Astounding Science Fiction and Analog Science Fiction/Science Fact, and as Analog's Golden Anniversary Anthology.


   No editor or compiler name is given in this volume.