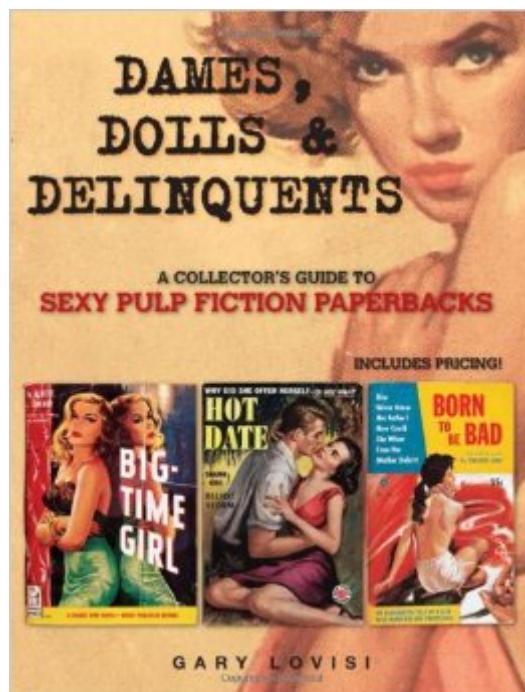


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Dames, Dolls And Delinquents: A Collector's Guide To Sexy Pulp Fiction Paperbacks



Synopsis

It's no secret the sexy and racy cover art of femme fatales from the golden age of paperbacks and magazines exalts the female form in all its sexy and sultry allure. Still today, these lustful, passionate and sometimes lurid images are enticing and artistically inspiring. From sexy, semi-dressed pin-up dolls to dangerous bad girls and deadly dames, many of these rare covers were painted by some of the most talented and collectible artists of the last 50 years, including popular American artists Robert Bonfils, Robert Maguire, Gene Bilbrew and Bill Ward, and British artists Reginald Heade and H.W. Perl. Always titillating, often tawdry, definitely not politically correct nor for the faint of heart, the nearly 700 full-color pulp fiction paperback cover images in this book show women in all their sexy, sassy and sinful best. This dynamic book also features: 700 covers with title, author, cover artist, publisher, book number, and date of publication for each bookValues for three grades of conditionA quick guide to collectingA list of specialist book dealers and collector shows

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Customer Reviews

I was pleasantly surprised at how good this book looked. Usually titles for collectors, from my experience, tend to look very dull and unimaginative (Schiffer books in particular) probably on the basis that they are only a visual checklist of what is available and presentation doesn't matter. Fortunately Krause think book buyers deserve something better and it showed when I looked through these interesting pages. The seven hundred covers get a good showing with none of them

angled or arranged in contrived graphic presentations. They all have nice drop shadows which lifts them off the page and the nine chapter opening spreads get a pleasant graphic treatment, too. This all looks a lot better than the comparable Sin-A-Rama: Sleaze Sex Paperbacks of the Sixties, which features many of the same covers. As with any down-market product individually they tend to look like trash but collect lots of them together and visually they come alive. Virtually none of these covers have any design potential and why should they. The publishers clearly knew their market and pitched to it with gusto. Artists like Bilbrew, Avati, Edwards, Maguire, Popp or Bill Ward made a living (sometimes rather precariously) churning out the same female form but concentrating on the bits that caught the male imagination. The first sixteen pages have an interesting essay about the artists and how the paintings were used on covers. My only real criticism of the contents is that there are far too many British covers. Their extremely tacky art and crude title lettering make them stand out even from the few dull American titles.

This is an outstanding collection of illustrations featuring works by a variety of artists who were drawing for the lurid world of steamy paperback fiction from the 50s and the 60s. With cover prices as low as 35 cents and titles like "Hot Dames on Cold Slabs," "She Had What It Takes," and "All Dames Are Dynamite" you get a pretty good idea of what to expect from this collection. This fantastic book is really written to be a collector's guide. I ordered "Dames, Dolls and Delinquents" thinking it was more of an art book. I am a huge fan of this style of illustration and many of the greats like James Bama, Robert Maguire and Robert McGinnis are well represented in its pages. However, perhaps as many as half of the books are identified as "artist unknown." Although I found this sometimes frustrating I was won over by all the other positives of the book. The layout is simple, most of the pages contain four book covers with the occasional one per pager. Each book is identified with as much information as is available including a fantastic price guide which gives a price range based on condition. Looking at some of these crazy book values is amusing because it's hard to image who the guy is that was buying these up at .35 each, hiding them in a closet and is now sitting on a fortune.

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