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# Edgar Rice Burroughs: The Master Of Pulp Storytelling



## Synopsis

Few, if any, authors of science fiction writing since the publication of *A PRINCESS OF MARS* can say that they were not influenced, to a greater or lesser degree, by the pulp adventure and science-fiction storyteller, Edgar Rice Burroughs. A seminal work, that 1912 novel started the ever popular Planetary Romance genre and the first ever science-fiction series, running for ten books between 1912 and 1948. Burroughs also created Tarzan of the Apes, perhaps the first action hero in mainstream literature and certainly the first in the movies. His popularity with the general public was assured with the 1914 hard cover publication of his first Tarzan novel. However, only since the 1980s have critics in journalism and academia began to recognize the impact of his work on fantastic literature in general. Today his literary future and reputation are secure. The contributors to this anthology include critics, scholars and fans of this most popular of all pulp storytellers: Patrick H. Adkins, David Critchfield, J. G. Huckenpöhl, Charles A. Madison, John Flint Roy, Suzannah Rowntree, Abraham Sherman, Den Valdron, John C. Wright, and Robert B. Zeuschner. Together their essays and articles survey the impact and influence of American writer Edgar Rice Burroughs on science fiction writing and film, and in the process affirm both his reputation and his continued popularity with collectors and the general reading public.

## Book Information

Paperback: 204 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (May 12, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1511941138

ISBN-13: 978-1511941136

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,239,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #692 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Science Fiction & Fantasy](#) #775 in [Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > History & Criticism](#)

## Customer Reviews

I like it. An interesting look at some of the tropes we all know and love; the planetary romance, the lost world(s), and so forth. What pushed it to "4 star" was John C. Wright's review of John Carter (the movie). YES! At last. Someone who understands. It's NOT a bad movie, nor is it a bad story, per se,

but it's NOT A Princess of Mars. Another article I found interesting and somewhat humorous was the examination of ERB's use of the 'framing' technique, wherein he was not the protagonist, but was taking down the story FROM the protagonist, or from an eyewitness. Apparently 'Framing' ERB was quite the long-lived chap (but what can one expect when one is descended from Captain John Carter, late of the Army of Virginia).

A good collection of ERB lore and facts. It's fun reading even if I don't agree with all the articles. Great for someone who hasn't studied ERB and it even has surprises for someone like me who has read a lot. Normally, you would have to read a lot of books and magazines to have had this information at your fingertips. From here, you should have a good idea of what you want to study next.

As a life-long Burroughs fan, I was intrigued by the title, EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS: The Master of Pulp Storytelling. I knew that almost all of Burroughs' stories originally appeared in pulp magazines, but I'd never thought of him as primarily a pulp writer. But the editor and essays in this book delightfully expound on Burroughs gift to tell stories that create worlds of fantastic adventure - the heart of pulp storytelling. Charlie Madison does a wonderful job in selecting and weaving together this wonderful collection of essays using what he calls "asides." These wonderful anecdotes and musings serve as transitions between articles. I found them to be entertaining and full of wit and wisdom. I especially enjoyed Madison's previously unpublished article on the post-war drama between ERB book publishers. The articles by David Critchfield are fascinating and the choice of John Flint Roy's chapter from A Guide to Barsoom was a great way to end the book. This is a wonderful book full of warmth and devotion for Mr. Burroughs, but with enough surprises to keep the reader fully engaged.

Charlie did a great job of gathering and presenting articles concerning Edgar Rice Burroughs' literary efforts. Several of the articles I had never seen before, and several I got to enjoy again. Really good to have all this info in one place

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