Title & Author: Adam and Two Eves by Anonymous (Lilla Van Saher)
Call Number: PS3572.A536 A3 1956
Description: Pulp paperbacks were less likely to contain bisexual characters than gay and lesbian ones—and even less likely to feature any kind of positive representation. Adam and Two Eves is about Carroll, a young widow who lives with a married man and woman, and frames her sexual orientation as a result of predation: “Carroll is the seduced rather than the seducer,” the back cover copy describes, “the sinned against rather than the sinner.” Initially released as part of a two-title collection with The Other Stranger by Daoma Winston in 1953, this version notes that the copyright holder (and thus author) is Lilla Van Saher. Publisher Beacon Books was one of the biggest names in queer pulp, releasing several romance novels and serving as a major competitor to Fawcett Publications, whose Women’s Barracks and Spring Fire helped form the lesbian pulp subgenre.
Back Cover: "...in the grip of perversity. OFTEN whispered about—but rarely spoken of aloud—the startling theme of this story concerns Carroll, a pretty young widow. She is taken into the household of a friendly couple, only to find that her caresses are sought not only by the husband—but by his wife . . . Should warm, lovely Carroll be condemned for yielding both to the love of a married man, and the equally ardent embraces of a voluptuous though twisted woman? The answer is not simple. True, Carroll responds to their needs, yet it is a haunted, tortured experience . . . despite its warped delights, its moment of almost unearthly bliss. Perhaps she is more to be pitied than condemned. For the whole point of this bitterly true novel is that pretty Carroll is the seduced rather than the seducer—the sinned against, rather than the sinner . . . entirely too attractive for her own good. Out of her own experience, the anonymous author tears the curtain from one of the gravest threats to modern social morality—the strange love practices trapping unwary girls today, particularly in our larger cities!"

Title & Author: Male Bride by Anonymous
Call Number: PS3550.A1 M354 1963
Description: The cover to Male Bride is an early example of a cover aimed clearly at gay men, with its imagery coming from the covers of beefcake magazines. Jackie Cassius, the protagonist featured on the cover, is a bisexual actor who meets a wealthy gay man and begins a relationship with him. The front cover copy plays into a notion that talking about LGBTQ+ people, no matter how negatively, was itself a daring act: “Read the FACTS most books on the subject DARE NOT REVEAL.” This rhetoric occurs throughout several books in this collection, with Adam and Two Eves's copy describing it as “A NOVEL THAT SPEAKS OUT BOLDLY ON A NEW SUBJECT.” Kozy Books published several over-the-top titles, releasing in previous years Nymph in Need, Swamp Nymph, and The Girl with the Golden G-String. Most
of their books list authors with first names commonly given to men, indicating if not a stable of male writers, then at least pseudonyms meant to imply as much.

**Back Cover:** "The author who must remain anonymous has written an engaging work of self-revelation. The reader is led on a journey through the private hells of the HOMOSEXUAL. This is Jackie Cassius’s story . . . an actor who was a bi-sexual, he found himself more attracted to men than to women. From the moment of his meeting with the wealthy and influential Orson Doderer Cassius was led down the aisle into the twilight world of desire and dreams. He becomes a MALE BRIDE. In the arms of this voluptuary Cassius found himself completely helpless . . . a slave to unlooked for passions."

**Title & Author:** *Faggots to Burn!* by Matt Bradley  
**Call Number:** PS3552.R229 F3 1962  
**Publication Information:** Hollywood, CA: Intimate Books (Art Enterprises, Inc.), 1962  
**Description:** This inflammatory title holds dual meaning: first, when paired with the cover art, it clearly evokes how the slur in its title refers to kindling, and the violence that implies. Its use in the book, though, does not directly advocate for this, instead playing on the phrase “money to burn” to indicate that Hollywood consists of an abundance of specifically lesbian, gay, and bisexual people. The exposé framework indicated by the cover copy again reflects the common theme of being the first to speak the truth on an issue, stating, "For the first time…the truth about the alarming spread of homosexuality in America today!" The “Third Sex” mentioned on the cover refers to popular theories of sexual intermediacy that conceptualized gay and lesbian individuals as not men and women with differing sexual orientations, but instead as falling between the poles of “male” and “female” on a sex and gender spectrum.  
**Back Cover:** "The abnormal ones. Author Matt Bradley pulls no punches in this startling, penetrating, factual survey of the shadowy half-world of homosexuals – both men and women – as he takes you on an intimate guided tour of . . . Queer Street, U. S. A.! What are they? Who are they? Where are they? Where is our society headed? What is happening to our moral code? Will homosexuality be legalized? Candid light on a social problem people only dare talk about in whispers!"

**Title & Author:** *Mademoiselle Lesbian* by Renee Coquelin  
**Publication Information:** North Hollywood, CA: Brandon House, 1964  
**Call Number:** PS3553.O684 M33 1964  
**Description:** Renee Coquelin is the name of the protagonist in *Mademoiselle Lesbian*, a 22 year old office worker at Paris Interpol who is asked to work as an agent. Believing that a salon owner named Madame le Blanc is trafficking drugs to the United States, the director of Interpol promotes Renee at the urging of Charlie, a woman with whom Renee is in a sexual relationship. Madame le Blanc is also attracted to women, and the author uses this framework to both portray sex scenes and frame Renee as merely trying to advance the case. Brandon House was a publisher who published several lesbian pulps aimed at men, including titles such as *Flying Lesbian*, *Lesbian Web of Evil*, and *Two Way Beach Girl*.  
**Back Cover:** "Paris is filled with beautiful women who know the full meaning and value of love. Some of them seek their pleasure with men; but others prefer the caresses of a Mademoiselle Lesbian!"
Title & Author: *A Lover Mourned* by Carl Corley

**Publication Information:** San Diego, CA: PEC French Line Novel (Publishers Export Co., Inc.), 1967

**Call Number:** PS3553.O6478 L68 1967

**Description:** The common trope in gay and lesbian pulps of a main character dying—a tactic employed by editors to avoid claims of obscenity from government censors—is placed front and center on the cover and in the title of *A Lover Mourned*. Additionally, the trope of speaking out occurs in the interleaf page, which was often used to indicate the content of the book to browsing readers: “I do demand my right, as a writer, to show the dark side of wrong, that I may illuminate the bright side of virtue.” Carl Corley is notable as a gay author who often portrayed rural southern spaces, contrasting the tendency to represent homosexuality as an urban phenomenon. *A Lover Mourned*, for example, features two men trying to live together in Raymond, Mississippi.

**Back Cover:** "I go mourning . . . for my loins are filled with burning . . . —from a Psalm of David"

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Title & Author: *Buffy Rides Again!* by Chris Davidson

**Publication Information:** San Diego, CA: Adult Books (Greenleaf Classics, Inc.), 1968

**Call Number:** PS3554.A9244 B85 1968

**Description:** Greenleaf Classics had its origins in science fiction pulp magazines, as did many pulp paperback publishers. Greenleaf placed a stronger emphasis on sex scenes, and the cover of *Buffy Rides Again!* reflects this. A follow-up to *Buffy and the Holy Quest*, which came out earlier in the same year, this book follows a college student in a fraternity where sexual relationships between the members are the norm rather than unusual. Chris Davidson was listed as the author of fifteen titles over two years, and his output is limited to that time window.

**Back Cover:** "Buffy’s major in college was Drama . . . and he took his coach as well as the course, while his 28 fraternity brothers applauded his gay performance on stage and off."

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Title & Author: *Caves of Iron* by Chris Davidson

**Publication Information:** San Diego, CA: Adult Books (Greenleaf Classics, Inc.), 1967

**Call Number:** PS3554.A9244 C38 1967

**Description:** *Caves of Iron*, the cover of which is featured on one of the covers for Susan Stryker’s *Queer Pulp*, takes place in a prison and focuses on the romance between a psychiatrist sent to prison for homosexual acts and a con man. The other book by Chris Davidson mentioned on the title, *Go Down, Aaron*, also took place in a prison, but was set in a Nazi prison, fitting Davidson’s tendency to write historical fiction. The setting of a prison fits the common theme of queer pulps taking place in a space separate from “normal” U.S. society, be it Hollywood, Paris, or the othered households of *Tender Torment* and *Adam and Two Eves*.

**Back Cover:** "Perhaps the warden had the right idea turning Tommy over to Dr. Warner. And perhaps Tommy became more of a man because of it...until another man’s jealously challenged Dr. Warner to the fag fight..."
**Title & Author:** The Anatomy of a Homosexual by Lee Dorian  
**Publication Information:** New York, NY: Imperial Books (L. S. Publications Corp.), 1965  
**Call Number:** PS3554.O753 A53 1965  
**Description:** A companion to Dorian’s The Anatomy of a Lesbian, The Anatomy of a Homosexual falls into a common queer pulp subgenre of pseudo-scientific non-fiction, which rehearses the trope of speaking truth to a silenced viewpoint (“A BOOK THAT ANSWERS THE QUESTIONS MOST PEOPLE HESITATE TO ASK!”). The back cover copy claims its arguments come from “psychiatrists,” using the rhetoric of scientific objectivity to present anxieties around queer people in the government, prisons, schools, and even “‘wife swap’ clubs.” The opening interleaf page adds to this mode of discussion, with the title “THE HOMOSEXUAL AS CRIMINAL” being followed by a promise to relate “WHY, AND HOW, AND WHEN DEVIATE BEHAVIOR BECOMES A MENACE TO THE INDIVIDUAL, THE COMMUNITY, AND THE DEVIATE HIMSELF.”

**Back Cover:** “A book that answers the questions most people hesitate to ask! Psychiatrists have accused the ‘wife swap’ clubs as growing out of the latent homosexuality of the husbands involved. Other authorities have said only latently homosexual husbands could have stood idly by while their wives made ‘pin money’ by prostituting in a good Long Island suburb. A case that recently rocked the nation included a highly placed government official with a wife and six children. Why are many top athletes homosexual? Why do homosexuals marry? What is the incidence of homosexuality in our prisons and reform schools? Are homosexuals made that way by their environment, or are they born that way? What is it that the homosexual seeks in his lonely, misfit life? Would he change if he could? Psychiatrists say, ‘No!’ But—why? THE ANATOMY OF A HOMOSEXUAL answers these questions, explores these facts, and gives an unforgettable picture of the homosexual in our society!”

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**Title & Author:** Strange Sisters by Fletcher Flora  
**Publication Information:** New York, NY: Lion Books, Inc., 1954  
**Call Number:** PS3556.L5837 S77 1954  
**Description:** Published two years after the genre-defining Spring Fire, Strange Sisters reflects Lion Books’ ability to capitalize on a popular topic. The previous year, they had published Half by Jordan Park, which was a pseudo-biography of Christine Jorgensen (without using her name), who had beenouted by the New York Daily News in 1952. Fletcher Flora’s book describes a woman who has a mental breakdown after several abusive lesbian relationships. Although the narrative still presents lesbian relationships as frequently negative, its copy is markedly less homophobic than many of the book’s contemporaries. Promising to treat the topic with “rare sensitivity,” and emphasizing that the breakdown stems from attempts “to disavow her body’s urgings” rather than innate instability, the Lion Books tagline of “BETTER BOOKS FOR EVERYBODY” is at least partially reflected in how the book sold itself to readers.

**Back Cover:** “The slender bookshelf of outstanding works about sexual deviations must now make room for Fletcher Flora’s honest and perceptive novel, Strange Sisters. Here is the story of a lesbian, and of the devastating crime to which she was driven when she tried to disavow her body’s urgings. Here is a shattering theme, treated with rare sensitivity and power.”
**Title & Author:** The Weird Women: Detailed Case Histories by Brock Garrison  
**Publication Information:** Van Nuys, CA: Venice Books (Venice Publishing Company), 1967  
**Call Number:** PS3557.A7339 W45 1967  
**Description:** Another example of a pseudo-scientific queer pulp, The Weird Women’s back cover copy lists a set of “case studies” that are elaborated on in the main text. Venice Books published several titles in this vein, including The National Sex Test, Orgies Around the World, and Operation Sex. Brock Garrison oscillates between condemning specific practices and lesbianism outright. For example, he writes that “lesbianism, in itself, according to the context of our subject matter, will not be treated as a deviation. But some aspects of its practice must be.” However, it still presents lesbianism as fundamentally a sickness, claiming that “there is no other end but a tragic one for [lesbians], if they do not seek professional help.”  
**Back Cover:** *The Offbeat Sisters! The Bondage Girls/Kicks in a Crowd/Female Voyeurs/Sex and Clothing/The Child Lovers/The Phallic Substitute Deviation/Female Exhibitionists/The Water Lovers/Deviations in Lesbianism ‘Freak’ Lovers . . .”

**Title & Author:** Skid Row Sweetie by Gene North  
**Publication Information:** San Diego, CA: Late-Hour Library (Phoenix Publishers, LTD.; Greenleaf Classics, Inc.), 1968  
**Call Number:** PS3564.O784 S55 1968  
**Description:** Gene North wrote titles that were both fiction and pseudo-scientific non-fiction, such as Erotic Games People Play for Greenleaf Classics’ Companion Books, and Queer Couples for Erika Press. Skid Row Sweetie tells the story of Rod, a young man who travels “skid row”—a term that refers to an urban space coded as dangerous and marginal—to fulfill sexual compulsion. As the tagline states, “He would do anything to satisfy his need for sexual gratification,” correlating homosexuality with uncontrollable desire. Late-Hour Library often published more sexually explicit material, with covers featuring nudity such as those for Sister Swap and Flesh Fever, as well as kink-oriented titles like Bound to Swap, Locked Up Lover, and Shame Circle.  
**Back Cover:** "He was hungry. Not starving, but soul hungry. He would do anything to satisfy his need for sexual gratification..."

**Title & Author:** Whisper by Sean O’Shea  
**Publication Information:** New York, NY: Softcover Library, Inc., 1965  
**Call Number:** PS3565.S543 W45 1965  
**Description:** Softcover Library was the continuation of Beacon Books, and follows the traditional formula of a moralistic ending wherein gay or lesbian characters become straight. Bart is a college athlete who has an affair with a teammate, but is outed by a photograph that results in a public trial. Bart relegates his sexuality to improper behavior. “The trial ended favorably for us,” he says, “but it taught me a big lesson. If I have any quirks—anything that could lead me into temptation—I have no business being connected with an educational institution.” The way Sean O’Shea handles this shift points to similar anxieties around how sex, gender, and sexual orientation were defined and understood at the time: one of Bart’s friends...
justifies his attractions by noting that a man he wrestled was “physically rather girlish.” “The male,” she adds,” has a trigger mechanism. It will respond not only to a female, but to anything soft, yielding, silky. It’s all automatic.” This uncertainty is reflected in back cover copy, alluding to how the book will describe “THE SHADOW LINE BETWEEN ‘NORMAL’ AND ‘ABNORMAL’ LOVE.”

**Back Cover:** "Was it friendship – or unnatural attraction? Once star athletes, Bart Neilsen and Chuck Pomeroy now were directors of an exclusive preparatory school for boys. Handsome, virile-looking, they were pursued by every ‘debutramp’ in local suburbia. Their prowess, sexual and otherwise, was never questioned. But a shadowy rumor persisted— a rumor about the to men’s warm camaraderie with each other. So when Bart and Chuck exposed an illicit sex rendezvous between two of the young students, their own personal lives exploded into scandal and public trial— with a sensational, unretouched photograph as Exhibit A! These unexpurgated pages explore the shadow-line between “normal” and “abnormal” love. They expose once and for all the private code of honor that tests a man who may be 'different!'"

**Title & Author:** *Tender Torment* by Randy Salem  
**Publication Information:** New York, NY: Midwood-Tower (Tower Publications, Inc.), 1962  
**Call Number:** PS3569.A45935 T46 1962  
**Description:** In *Tender Torment*, Alexis and Deirdre’s contentious relationship moves through fighting, abuse, and violence. The cover reflects Midwood-Tower’s penchant for the dramatic and the sexual, although they also published books by such lauded lesbian pulp writers as Valerie Taylor, Sloane Britain, and Joan Ellis. Randy Salem’s dramatic storylines and writing style were celebrated by contemporary critics such as Barbara Grier, who wrote reviews for the Ladder (a magazine with issues held by the Archives & Special Collections Department), and has been discussed along with bigger names like Taylor and Ann Bannon by recent scholars of lesbian pulps, particularly Yvonne Keller.

**Back Cover:** "A note from the editor: TENDER TORMENT is the most shocking and revealing novel that we have dared publish to date. It takes you within the walls of a Lesbian household and lays bare the most intimate details of their strange world. No door is left unopened — no question unanswered — and when rape and incest threaten to shatter this unnatural union you have a truly explosive story. We are proud to present this new novel by Randy Salem."

**Title & Author:** *Never the Same Again* by Gerald Tesch  
**Publication Information:** New York, NY: Pyramid Books, 1958  
**Call Number:** PS3570.E834 N48 1958  
**Description:** Gerald Tesch takes a less didactic approach to what might be one of the most controversial relationships across the titles held by the Archives & Special Collections Department: that of a 13-year-old child and a 30-year-old man. “Was their relationship too intimate? What would you decide?” the front cover copy asks, repeating the second question on the back cover. The expressionistic cover art is less sexual in tone than many other queer pulps, possibly due to the nature of the relationship between the main characters, and possibly due to the book being a republished hardcover novel by the more
traditional book publisher G. P. Putnam’s Sons. Pyramid Books was particularly known for republishing hardcover titles across a variety of genres.

Back Cover: "An unconventional intimacy - a seething scandal—one man’s decision could destroy their lives - what would you decide? This is Johnny Parish’s story - the frankly revealed life of a virile adolescent. At times you may recoil from his candor . . . at times you may yourself relive the gropings and yearnings. But when young Johnny and his closest friend in the world reach the crossroads of society’s judgement you will find it difficult to make your decision. You will also know why NEVER THE SAME AGAIN has provoked so much acclaim and heated discussion."

Title & Author: The Homosexual Generation by Ken Worthy


Call Number: PS3573.O784 H66 1965

Description: A pseudo-scientific nonfiction book, Ken Worthy’s The Homosexual Generation positions itself as an informative public service announcement, even saying on the back cover copy that it is “A MUST FOR EVERY PARENT!” Imperial Books published many such titles, including Lee Dorian’s The Anatomy of a Homosexual and titles such as Homosexuality: The International Disease. The interleaf page follows a similar pattern to Dorian’s book, with its opening line referencing an unnamed doctor and responding “Yes!” to the question, “does the homosexual seek to corrupt young people or does he not?”

Back Cover: “Says an editorial in ‘Life’ magazine: ‘The gay world— actually a sad world— is coming increasingly above ground in many big cities and is lobbying for more sympathetic treatment and the abolishing of laws punishing homosexual acts...’ Proof: Illinois has already removed criminal sanctions against private homosexual acts between consenting adults... A similar law was barely defeated in the New York State legislature... In England, the House of Lords gave the suggested legislation its overwhelming approval... What is the story behind the fantastic success of the homosexuals among us to turn this into a homosexual generation? Our college campuses, our professions, our art forms, our novels are increasingly weighted in favor of the homosexual. What will a homosexual generation be like? Or—as many educators and psychiatrists think - is it here already? A book that will shock, that might rock, but that sheds new light on a situation that increasingly menaces our young people. A must for every parent”