I am grateful to see my grandfather’s works made available in the Edgar Rice Burroughs Authorized Library, the first-ever uniform editions of his entire literary catalog. Now readers everywhere can enjoy these timeless stories of wonder and adventure in a way they have never been presented before. These new editions represent the ultimate ERB experience, featuring magnificent cover art and frontispieces by legendary artist Joe Jusko, forewords and afterwords by noted authors and celebrities, and a bounty of rare and previously unpublished treasures straight from the archives of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., in Tarzana, California. Whether a reader is new to my grandfather’s works or has spent a lifetime enjoying them as I have, the Edgar Rice Burroughs Authorized Library opens a unique window into extraordinary worlds of imagination, standing as an unparalleled landmark in an already historic legacy.

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BEST KNOWN AS THE CREATOR of Tarzan of the Apes and John Carter of Mars, Edgar Rice Burroughs stands among the world’s most popular authors. Millions of copies of his approximately 80 books have been printed in 35 languages, representing genres including adventure, Western, historical, contemporary crime drama, and planetary romance. Burroughs’ business acumen and pioneering approach to intellectual property rights led to success beyond publishing, as his work was adapted to film, radio, television, stage, comics, licensing, merchandising, and more.

Dubbed “The Grandfather of American Science Fiction,” Burroughs influenced many well-known and respected names, including authors Isaac Asimov, Leigh Brackett, Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke, Fritz Leiber, Larry Niven, Michael Moorcock, and Mike Resnick, and filmmakers such as George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, Jim Cameron, and Gene Roddenberry.

Edgar Rice Burroughs was born on September 1, 1875, in Chicago, Illinois, to George Tyler Burroughs and Mary Evaline Burroughs. George’s executive positions at a distillery and later a battery company allowed Edgar and his three brothers to be raised in upper-middle class comfort.

A creative child, who loved to write poetry and draw cartoons, Burroughs was educated at local elementary schools. A dangerous influenza outbreak prompted his parents to send him to Idaho to his brothers’ ranch, where he worked and developed a lifelong
love for horsemanship. Burroughs would incorporate his Western experiences into stories like *The Bandit from Hell's Bend*.

After a brief stint at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, Burroughs enrolled at Michigan Military Academy and thrived in the structured environment. Following his 1895 graduation, he remained at the Academy as an instructor for one year before joining the Army; in 1896, he was stationed at Fort Grant, Arizona Territory, with the Seventh Cavalry.

Health problems led to his discharge from service and subsequent return to Chicago, where, in early 1900, he married his childhood sweetheart, Emma Centennia Hulbert. Burroughs proceeded to embark on a series of unrewarding jobs that kept the young couple in transit, from Idaho to Utah and back to Illinois where daughter Joan and son Hulbert were born.

Frustrated by his employment options, he tried his hand at writing fiction, penning a fantastic tale about the interplanetary adventures of Civil War veteran John Carter, which he submitted to the New York–based Munsey Magazines. Thomas Newell Metcalf, editor of Munsey’s *The All-Story* pulp magazine, responded favorably, requesting the remainder of the story.

“Dejah Thoris, Martian Princess” was purchased for $400, running in the February–July issues as “Under the Moons of Mars” (re-titled *A Princess of Mars* for book publication). Metcalf requested a second tale, in the *Ivanhoe* vein, but rejected the resulting manuscript, *The Outlaw of Torn* (later published by rival *New Story Magazine*).

Burroughs’ third creative effort, *Tarzan of the Apes*, became a publishing phenomenon, and was syndicated in newspapers around the country following its appearance in the sold-out October 1912 *All-Story*. Metcalf requested sequels to the Mars and Tarzan stories, and Burroughs committed to writing full time after the 1913 birth of his third child, son John Coleman.

An intensely productive and financially rewarding period followed. This newfound prosperity allowed the family to winter in San Diego and Los Angeles, returning home to the affluent Chicago suburb of Oak Park as his writing continued.
Aware that expanding his literary domain offered the potential for financial rewards, Burroughs trademarked “Tarzan” in 1913 and sought new media outlets for his literary characters. *Tarzan of the Apes* was adapted to a film in 1918, a Broadway stage play in 1921, and a radio serial in 1932–34. In time, 52 authorized films, two plays, three radio programs, seven television series, newspaper comic strips, and comic books with thousands of issues worldwide to date, all became part of the Burroughs dynasty.

In March 1919, the author relocated his family to the San Fernando Valley northwest of Los Angeles, where he purchased a 540-acre estate and renamed it Tarzana Ranch. Always interested in financial opportunity, Burroughs subdivided the ranch in 1922 for both residential and commercial development. Six years later, Burroughs’ neighbors voted to name their town Tarzana; a U.S. Post Office branch was granted in 1930, making the christening official.

In 1923, the author incorporated as Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. Four years later, he established an office on Ventura Boulevard, began self-publishing his novels, and tried his hand at film production after founding Burroughs-Tarzan Enterprises.

In 1940, Burroughs moved to Hawaii with his second wife, the former silent screen actress Florence Gilbert Dearholt, and embarked on another prolific period, turning out sequels for his Mars, Venus, and Pellucidar cycles. Burroughs and his son Hulbert witnessed the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor; shortly thereafter, the author, 67, enlisted as the oldest war correspondent in the Pacific Theater, traveling the South Seas to report on the conflict.

Following the war’s end, Burroughs returned to California and retired to a small house not in Tarzana but in the neighboring town of Encino, where he spent his remaining days enjoying the company of his children and grandchildren. He died on March 19, 1950, reading the Sunday Tarzan comics.

Today, Edgar Rice Burroughs’ legacy flourishes in its second century, evoking the indomitable philosophy of his protagonist, John Carter, Warlord of Mars: “I still live!”
The offices of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., in Tarzana, California.
About Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.

Founded in 1923 by Edgar Rice Burroughs, one of the first authors to incorporate himself, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., holds numerous trademarks and the rights to all literary works of the author still protected by copyright, including stories of Tarzan of the Apes and John Carter of Mars. The company oversees authorized adaptations of his literary works in film, television, radio, publishing, theatrical stage productions, licensing, and merchandising. Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., continues to manage and license the vast archive of Mr. Burroughs’ literary works, fictional characters, and corresponding artwork that has grown for over a century. The company is still owned by the Burroughs family and remains headquartered in Tarzana, California, the town named after the Tarzana Ranch Mr. Burroughs purchased in 1919 that led to the town’s future development.

In 2015, under the leadership of President James Sullos, the company relaunched its publishing division, which was founded by Mr. Burroughs in 1931. With the publication of new authorized editions of Mr. Burroughs’ works and brand-new novels and stories by today’s talented authors, the company continues its long tradition of bringing tales of wonder and imagination featuring the Master of Adventure’s many iconic characters and exotic worlds to an eager reading public.

Visit EdgarRiceBurroughs.com for more information.
The only fan organization to be personally approved by Edgar Rice Burroughs, The Burroughs Bibliophiles is the largest ERB fan club in the world, with members spanning the globe and maintaining local chapters across the United States and in England.

Also endorsed by Burroughs, *The Burroughs Bulletin*, the organization’s official publication, features fascinating articles, essays, interviews, and more centered on the rich history and continuing legacy of the Master of Adventure. The Bibliophiles also annually sponsors the premier ERB fan convention.

Regular membership dues include:

- **Four issues of The Burroughs Bulletin**
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