



Max Perkins: Editor of Genius

By A. Scott Berg

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Winner of the National Book Award
and a National Bestseller...

MAX PERKINS: Editor of Genius by A. Scott Berg took the literary world by storm upon its publication in 1978, garnering rave reviews and winning the National Book Award. A meticulously-researched and engaging portrait of the man who introduced the public to the greatest writers of this century, Berg's biography stands as one of the finest books on the publishing industry ever written. Unavailable for the last few years, *MAX PERKINS* is now being re-released (on the fiftieth anniversary of the great editor's death.

The driving force behind such literary superstars as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, and Thomas Wolfe, Max Evarts Perkins was the most admired book editor in the world. From the first major novel he edited (Fitzgerald's *This Side of Paradise*) to the last (James Jones's bestselling *From Here to Eternity*) Perkins revolutionized American literature. Perkins was tirelessly committed to nurturing talent no matter how young or unproven the writer.

Filled with colorful anecdotes about everything from Perkins's struggles to convince the old guard at Scribners to publish his visionary (and often controversial) authors to his falling out with one of his most brilliant discoveries, Thomas Wolfe, *MAX PERKINS* reveals with insight and humor the professional and personal life of one of the most legendary figures in the history of American publishing. Given unprecedented access to the correspondence between Perkins and his writers, Berg has fashioned a compellingly thorough biography that is as entertaining as it is informative.

A vivid portrait of one man's life and a revealing behind-the-scenes look at the creation of literature, A. Scott Berg's *MAX PERKINS: Editor of Genius* is a masterful achievement in scholarship and writing.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The man who invented the modern profession of book editing finally got his due, 31 years after his death, when this revelatory biography appeared. A. Scott Berg's detailed explication of Maxwell Perkins's work on the manuscripts of F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe, and a host of other important American writers shows how much the Scribner's editor contributed to their books, all the while maintaining that he only helped his authors find the best in themselves. This 1978 National Book Award winner is a thorough, carefully considered account of a seminal period in American publishing.

Review

"A highly readable work of literary history."—*The New York Times Book Review*

"Berg has told this story unobtrusively and with great feeling, and he has (perhaps just in the nick of time) rescued Perkins from permanent obscurity."—*The Atlantic*

"[An] exhaustive, penetrating, and wholly satisfying biography...Scrupulous, thoughtful, touching, memorable, and eminently rewarding."—Jonathan Yardley, *The Miami Herald*

"Talented, intelligent, and marvelously researched...A work that does honor to the subject."—*Chicago Tribune*

"Berg's whole narrative is first-rate—filled with humor and feeling. Max would have published it in a minute."—*Newsweek*

"Although Perkins would have been embarrassed by the attention, Berg's tribute would have touched him."—*Time*

"A book about Maxwell Perkins? Of course! Why didn't someone think of it before?...Berg has done very well...It's a fascinating and illuminating story."—*Chicago Sun-Times*

"As complete a Max Perkins as we will ever need. It's an extraordinary vivid portrait."—Webster Schott, *The Washington Post Book World*

"Perkins turns out to have been as fascinating, dark, complex, and sad as any of his golden boys. A lovely book about the age of giants and the extraordinary man in the shadows behind them."—Russell Baker

"Max Perkins was the best of the best. This book brings him back alive."—Erskine Caldwell

About the Author

A. Scott Berg graduated from Princeton University, where his senior thesis on Maxwell Perkins received the Charles William Kennedy Prize. He spent the next seven years expanding that thesis into *Max Perkins: Editor of Genius*, which became a national bestseller and won the National Book Award. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, he has also published the international bestseller *Goldwyn: A Biography*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lanita Hill:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled Max Perkins: Editor of Genius. Try to the actual book Max Perkins: Editor of Genius as your pal. It means that it can being your friend when you truly feel alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , we need to make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Arthur Lee:

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Tony Valdez:

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Alice Concannon:

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