

John Steinbeck, born in Salinas, California, in 1902, grew up in a fertile agricultural valley, about 25 miles from the Pacific Coast, and went to Stanford University, where he intermittently enrolled in literature and writing courses until he left in 1925 without taking a degree. In New York City, he finished his first novel, Cup of Gold (1929). He returned to California for his next two books, The Pastures of Heaven (1932) and To a God Unknown (1933). Three powerful novels of the late 1930s focused on the California laboring class: In Dubious Battle (1936), Of Mice and Men (1937), and the book considered by many his finest, The Grapes of Wrath (1939). The Grapes of Wrath won both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize in 1939. Steinbeck received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962, and, in 1964, he was presented with the United States Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Steinbeck died in New York in 1968. Today, more than 30 years after his death, he remains one of America's greatest writers and cultural figures.

Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature

“Steinbeck makes his country live and the people live as a part of it.”

-The New Republic

“All [these stories] have one rare creative thing: a directness of impression that makes them glow with life.”

-The New York Times

The Long Valley

John Steinbeck



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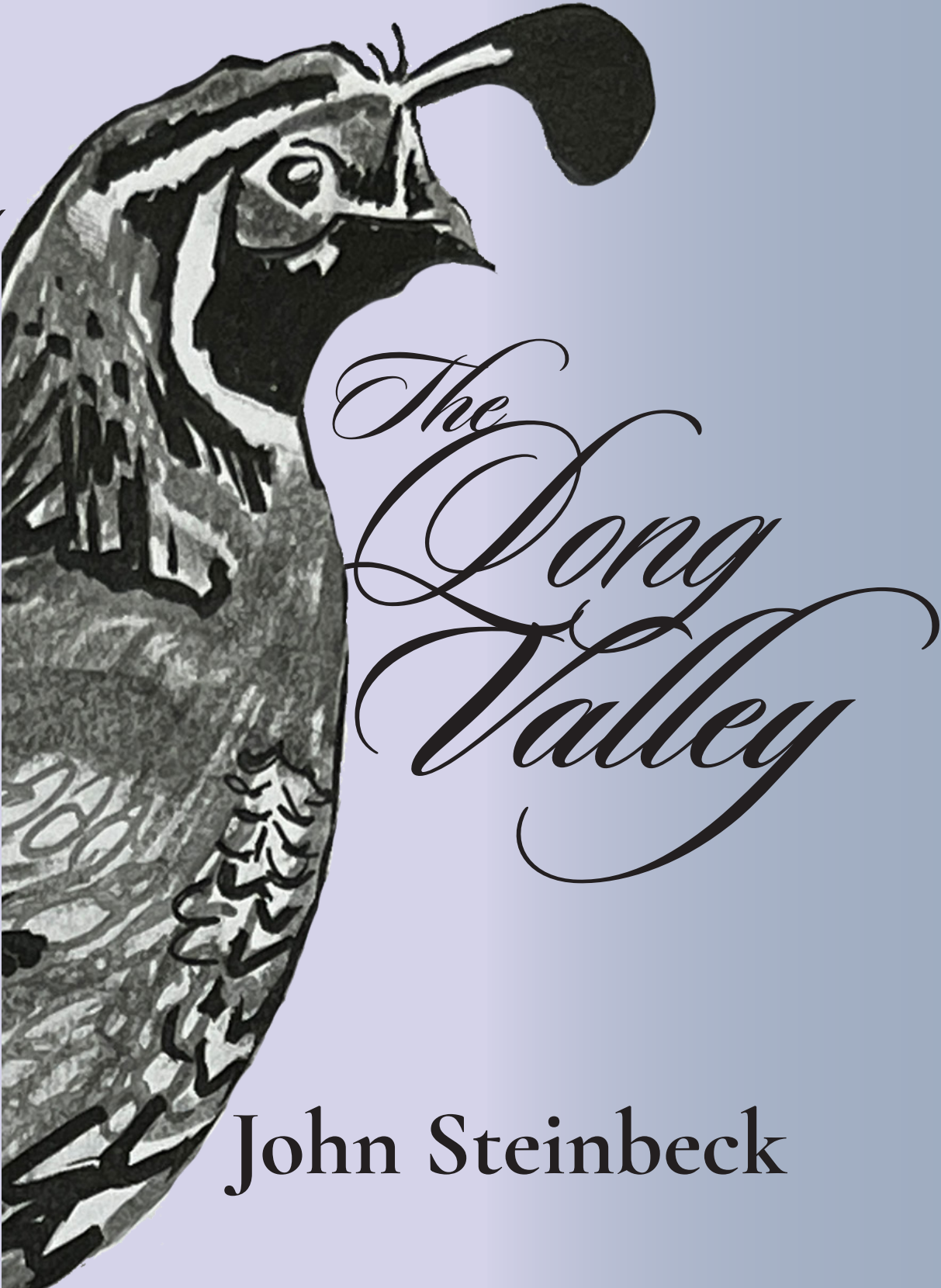
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This collection, first published in 1938, serves as a wonderful introduction to Steinbeck's work. Set in the beautiful Salinas Valley of California, where simple people farm the land and struggle to find a place for themselves in the world, these stories reflect Steinbeck's characteristic interests: the tensions between town and country, laborers and owners, past and present. Included here are the O. Henry Prize-winning story "The Murder"; "The Chrysanthemums," perhaps Steinbeck's most challenging story, both personally and artisitcally; "Flight," "The Snake," "The White Quail," and the classic tales of "The Red Pony." Introduction and Notes by John H. Tim-merman


John Steinbeck, born in Salinas, California, in 1902, grew up in a fertile agricultural valley, about 25 miles from the Pacific Coast, and went to Stanford University, where he intermittently enrolled in literature and writing courses until he left in 1925 without taking a degree. In New York City, he finished his first novel, Cup of Gold (1929). He returned to California for his next two books, The Pastures of Heaven (1932) and To a God Unknown (1933). Three powerful novels of the late 1930s focused on the California laboring class: In Dubious Battle (1936), Of Mice and Men (1937), and the book considered by many his finest, The Grapes of Wrath (1939). The Grapes of Wrath won both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize in 1939. Steinbeck received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962, and, in 1964, he was presented with the United States Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Steinbeck died in New York in 1968. Today, more than 30 years after his death, he remains one of America’s greatest writers and cultural figures.

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“The Red Pony, [by] John Steinbeck, [is a] wrenching story of adolescent initiation into the world of death, birth, and disappointment.”

-Billboard





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The Red Pony
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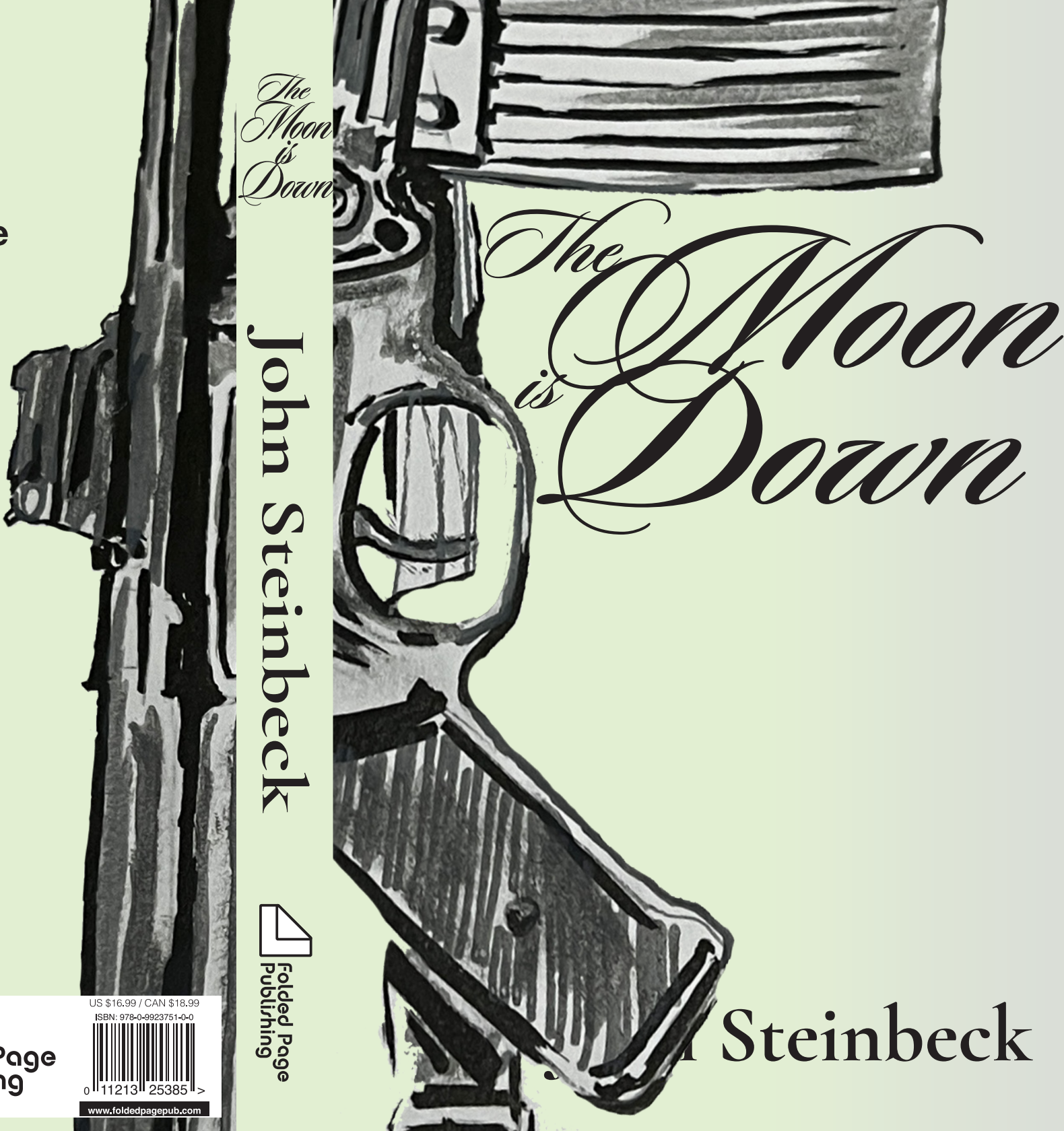
John Steinbeck

John Steinbeck’s masterpiece celebrates the spirit and courage of adolescence. Steinbeck draws on his memories of childhood in these stories about a boy who embodies both the rebellious spirit and the contradictory desire for acceptance of early adolescence. Unlike most coming-of-age stories, the cycle does not end with a hero “matured” by circumstances. As John Seelye writes in his introduction, reversing common interpretations, The Red Pony is imbued with a sense of loss. Jody’s encounters with birth and death express a common theme in Steinbeck’s fiction: They are parts of the ongoing process of life, “resolving” nothing. Introduction by John Seelye

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Occupied by enemy troops, a small, peaceable town comes face-to-face with evil imposed from the outside--and betrayal born within the close-knit community.



In this masterful tale set in Norway during World War II, Steinbeck explores the ef-fects of invasion on both the conquered and the conquerors. As he delves into the emotions of the German commander and the Norwegian traitor, and depicts the spirited patriotism of the Norwegian un-derground, Steinbeck uncovers profound, often unsettling truths about war—and about human nature. Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck’s self-described “celebration of the dura-bility of democracy” had an extraordinary impact as Allied propaganda in Nazi-occu-pied Europe. Despite Axis efforts to sup-press it (in Fascist Italy, mere possession of the book was punishable by death), The Moon is Down was secretly translated into French, Norwegian, Danish, Dutch, Swedish, German, Italian and Russian; hundreds of thousands of copies circulat-ed throughout Europe, making it by far the most popular piece of propaganda under the occupation. Few literary works of our time have demonstrated so triumphantly the power of ideas in the face of cold steel and brute force. Introduction by Donald V. Coers



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John Steinbeck