

Nova Express The Nova Trilogy 3

Cutting Up the Century / Oliver Harris -- The Nova Convention : Celebrating the Burroughs of Downtown New York / Kristen Galvin -- Mutable Forms : The Proto-Ecology of William Burroughs' Early Cut-Ups / Chad Weidner

A Reader

Set in Mexico City during the early fifties, this title follows William Lee's hopeless pursuit of desire from bar to bar in the American expatriate scene

In late summer 1953, as he returned to Mexico City after a seven-month expedition through the jungles of Ecuador, Colombia, and Peru, William Burroughs began a notebook of final reflections on his four years in Latin America. His first novel, Junkie, had just been published and he would soon be back in New York to meet Allen Ginsberg and together complete the manuscripts of what became The Yage Letters and Queer. Yet this notebook, the sole survivor from that period, reveals Burroughs not as a writer on the verge of success, but as a man staring down personal catastrophe and visions of looming cultural disaster. Losses that will not let go of him haunt Burroughs throughout the notebook: "Bits of it keep floating back to me like memories of a daytime nightmare." However, out of these dark reflections we see emerge vivid fragments of Burroughs'

fiction and, even more tellingly, unique, primary evidence for the remarkable ways in which his early manuscripts evolved. Assembled in facsimile and transcribed by Geoffrey D. Smith, John M. Bennett, and Burroughs scholar Oliver Harris, the notebook forces us to change the way we see both Burroughs and his writing at a turning point in his literary biography.

A Book of the Dead

William S. Burroughs and the Cult of Rock 'n' Roll

Station Zero

Interviews with William S. Burroughs

The Wild Boys

A terrifying, surreal space-age odyssey, The Soft Machine initiated Burroughs' Cut-Up Trilogy that includes Nova Express and The Ticket That Exploded. The book draws the reader into an unmappable textual space, where nothing is true and everything is permitted, to make a total assault on the colonising powers of planet earth that have turned us all into machines. Edited and introduced by renowned Burroughs scholar Oliver Harris, this new edition clarifies for the first time the extraordinary history of The Soft Machine's writing

and rewriting, demolishing the myths of Burroughs' chance-based writing methods and demonstrating for a new generation the significance of his greatest experiment.

"The Soft Machine is Burroughs' original cut-up novel, first in an experimental trilogy that includes Nova Express and The Ticket That Exploded. A surreal space-age odyssey and a total assault on the powers that turn humans into machines, the book draws the reader into an unmappable textual space where nothing is true and everything is permitted"--Back cover.

Last Words: The Final Journals of William S. Burroughs is the most intimate book ever written by William S. Burroughs, author of Naked Lunch and one of the most celebrated literary outlaws of our time. Laid out as diary entries of the last nine months of Burroughs's life, Last Words spans the realms of cultural criticism, personal memoir, and fiction. Classic Burroughs concerns -- literature, U.S. drug policy, the state of humanity, his love for his cats -- permeate the book. Most significantly, Last Words contains some of the most personal work Burroughs has ever written, a final reckoning with his life

and regrets, and his reflections on the deaths of his friends Allen Ginsberg and Timothy Leary. It is a poignant portrait of the man, his life, and his creative process -- one that never quit, not even in the shadow of death.

The Booker shortlisted novel that “restored the historical novel to its rightful place of honor” (New York Times). Robert Merivel, son of a glove maker and an aspiring physician, finds his fortunes transformed when he is given a position at the court of King Charles II. Merivel slips easily into a life of luxury and idleness, enthusiastically enjoying the women and wine of the vibrant Restoration age. But when he’s called on to serve the king in an unusual role, he transgresses the one law that he is forbidden to break and is brutally cast out from his newfound paradise. Thus begins Merivel’s journey to self-knowledge, which will take him down into the lowest depths of seventeenth-century society.

Cities of the Red Night

Counterfeit Culture

What is Situationism?

Exterminator!

The People of the Basin-Plateau, Expanded Edition.

Counterfeit Culture explores the possibility of writing epic in an age of alternative facts. Examining six attempts to forge an American prose epic since 1960, this study goes on to trace a national tradition of inauthenticity, stretching back across four centuries. In works by authors such as Pynchon, Gaddis and Burroughs, the contemporary turn away from truth and authenticity can be seen as a return to an established line of literary tricksters and confidence men, with tropes of fraud and artifice running deep in the American grain. Combining archival work with historically-inflected analysis of literary narrative, this book ranges through questions of identity, technology, history, and music in its engagement. From Marguerite Young's inquiry into psychological disintegration to William T. Vollmann's ongoing cycle of false histories, the study introduces a new reading of the American epic. The diabolical Nova Criminals now include the nightmarish characters of Sammy the Butcher, Iron Claws, Izzy the Push

and the Brown Artist, and are poised to wreak untold destruction on the world with their new-found control. Only Inspector Lee of the Nova Police has any chance of stopping them, by dismantling the word and image machine before it's too late. The third book of Burroughs's linguistically prophetic 'cut-up' trilogy - following *The Soft Machine* and *The Ticket That Exploded* - *Nova Express* is a hilarious and Swiftian parody of bureaucracy and the frailty of the human animal. "Almost indecently readable . . . captures [Burroughs's] destructive energy, his ferocious pessimism, and the renegade brilliance of his style."—*Vogue* With a new preface as well as a final chapter on William S. Burroughs's last years, the acclaimed *Literary Outlaw* is the only existing full biography of an extraordinary figure. Anarchist, heroin addict, alcoholic, and brilliant writer, Burroughs was the patron saint of the Beats. His avant-garde masterpiece *Naked Lunch* shook up the literary world with its graphic descriptions of drug abuse and illicit sex—and resulted in a landmark Supreme Court ruling on obscenity. Burroughs continued to revolutionize literature with

novels like *The Soft Machine* and to shock with the events in his life, such as the accidental shooting of his wife, which haunted him until his death. Ted Morgan captures the man, his work, and his friends—Allen Ginsberg and Paul Bowles among them—in this riveting story of an iconoclast.

With the publication of *Naked Lunch* in 1959, William Burroughs abruptly brought international letters into the postmodern age. Beginning with his very early writing (including a chapter from his and Jack Kerouac's never-before-seen collaborative novel), *Word Virus* follows the arc of Burroughs's remarkable career, from his darkly hilarious "routines" to the experimental cut-up novels to *Cities of the Red Night* and *The Cat Inside*. Beautifully edited and complemented by James Grauerholz's illuminating biographical essays, *Word Virus* charts Burroughs's major themes and places the work in the context of the life. It is an excellent tool for the scholar and a delight for the general reader.

Throughout a career that spanned half of the twentieth century, William S. Burroughs managed continually to be a

visionary among writers. When he died in 1997, the world of letters lost its most elegant outsider.

Rewriting the Urge to Purge

William S. Burroughs' Narrative Revolution

The Final Journals of William S. Burroughs

Literary Outlaw: The Life and Times of William S. Burroughs

The Latin American Notebook of William S. Burroughs

In *The Ticket That Exploded*, William S. Burroughs's grand "cut-up" trilogy that starts with *The Soft Machine* and continues through *Nova Express* reaches its climax as inspector Lee and the Nova Police engage the Nova Mob in a decisive battle for the planet. Only Burroughs could make such a nightmare vision of scientists and combat troops, of ad men and con men whose deceitful language has spread like an incurable disease be at once so frightening and so enthralling. In *Naked Lunch*, William S. Burroughs revealed his genius. In *The Soft Machine* he begins an adventure that will take us even further into the dark recesses of his imagination, a region where nothing is sacred, nothing taboo. Continuing his ferocious verbal assault on hatred, hype, poverty, war, bureaucracy, and addiction in all its forms, Burroughs gives us a surreal space odyssey through the wounded galaxies in a book only he could create.

The Soft Machine introduced us to the conditions of a universe where endemic lusts of the mind and body prey upon men, hook them, and turn them into beasts. *Nova Express* takes William S. Burroughs's nightmarish futuristic tale one step further. The diabolical Nova Criminals—Sammy The Butcher, Green Tony, Iron Claws, The Brown Artist, Jacky Blue Note, Izzy The Push, to name only a few—have gained control and plan on wreaking untold destruction. It's up to Inspector Lee of the Nova Police to attack and dismantle the word and imagery machine of these “control addicts” before it's too late. This surrealist novel is part sci-fi, part Swiftian parody, and always pure Burroughs.

William S. Burroughs' experimental narratives, from the 1959 publication of *Naked Lunch* through the late trilogy of the 1980s, have provided readers with intriguing challenges and, for some, disheartening frustrations. Yet, these novels continue to generate new interest and inspire new insights among an increasing and evolving readership. This book addresses the unique characteristics of Burroughs' narrative style in order to discover strategies for engaging and navigating these demanding novels. Bolton advises, “Burroughs' subversive themes and randomizing techniques do not amount to unmitigated attacks on conventions, as many critics suggest, but constitute part of a careful strategy for effecting transformations in his readers”. Utilizing various poststructuralist theories, as well as recent theories in

electronic literature and posthumanism, Mosaic of Juxtaposition examines the various strategies that Burroughs employs to challenge assumptions about textual interpretation and to redefine the relationship between reader and text.

The Cat Inside

Poems of the Great War

Black Light Express

Queer

1914-1918

This project examines the function of the cut-up method in William S Burroughs's Nova trilogy (The Soft Machine, The Ticket That Exploded, Nova Express). Through a textual analysis of each novel, I track the evolution of Burroughs's conception of the cut-up method as a revolutionary weapon, and ultimately find that Burroughs is skeptical about the actual potential for the cut-up method to bring about a paradigm shift.

"William Burroughs' work was dedicated to an assault upon language, traditional values and all agents of control. Produced at a time when he was at his most extreme and messianic, The Job lays out his abrasive, incisive, paranoid, maddened and maddening worldview in interviews interspersed with stories and other writing. On the Beat movement, the importance of the cut-up technique, the press, Scientology, capital punishment, drugs, good and evil, the destruction of nations, Deadly Orgone Radiation and whether violence just in words is violence enough - Burroughs' insights show why

he was one of the most influential writers and one of the sharpest, most startling and strangest minds of his generation." -- Book cover.

Published to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of Armistice, this collection is intended to be an introduction to the great wealth of First World War Poetry. The sequence of poems is random - making it ideal for dipping into - and drawn from a number of sources, mixing both well-known and less familiar poetry.

While young men wage war against an evil empire of zealous mutants, the population of this modern inferno is afflicted with the epidemic of a radioactive virus. An opium-infused apocalyptic vision from the legendary author of Naked Lunch is the first of the trilogy with *The Places of the Dead Roads* and his final novel, *The Western Plains*.

The Western Lands

Interzone

The Place of Dead Roads

The Soft Machine

Word Virus

First published almost fifty years ago and long out of print, *The Shoshoneans* is a classic American travelogue about the Great Basin and Plateau region and the people who inhabit it, never before—or since—documented in such striking and memorable fashion. Neither a book of journalism nor a work of poetry, this powerful collaboration represents

the wild wandering of a white poet and black photographer in Civil Rights era (also Vietnam War era) America through a part of the indigenous West that had resisted prior incursions. The expanded edition offers a wealth of supplemental material, much of it archival, which includes poetry, correspondence, the lecture "The Poet, the People, the Spirit," and the essay "Ed Dorn in Santa Fe."

A prophetic vision of a world in which technology has gone haywire, 'The Ticket that Exploded' completes Burroughs' classic 'Cut-Up Trilogy'.

A fascinating mix of autobiographical episodes and extraordinary Egyptian theology, Burroughs's final novel is poignant and melancholic. Blending war films and pornography, and referencing Kafka and Mailer, The Western Lands confirms his status as one of America's greatest writers. The final novel of the trilogy containing Cities of the Red Night and The Place of Dead Roads, this is a profound meditation on morality, loneliness, life and death. With superb world building, gripping action, and ruthless

political intrigue, *Black Light Express* delivers a breathtaking adventure into the darkest depths of space and is sure to please sci-fi fans and foes alike. At the edge of the Great Network, a small-time thief and an android girl ride aboard a sentient train. They hurtle toward the unknown, ready to see what lies beyond the end of the universe. But Zen Starling and Nova leave behind worlds on the brink of chaos. Old rulers are dead, and now young Threnody Noon sits precariously on the throne. Unrest spreads like a virus, a rival corporate family grows hungry for power, and the once tranquil Empire seems bound for railwar and ruin. Watching everything are the Guardians--the mysterious god-like AIs to whom people of the Network offer their prayers and praises. But even gods have secrets. Secrets the so-called benevolent deities would do anything to keep hidden deep within the farthest reaches of existence. Return to the exciting sci-fi world of Philip Reeve in this sequel to *Railhead*, which received three starred reviews and was praised by *Publishers Weekly* as a

thrilling and imaginative escapade.

The Ticket that Exploded

A Reader

The Burroughs File

Restoration

The Evolution of the Cut-up Method as Revolutionary Weapon
in William S. Burroughs's Nova Trilogy

The most ferociously political and prophetic book of Burroughs's "cut-up" trilogy, Nova Express fires the reader into a textual outer space the better to see our burning planet and the operations of the Nova Mob in all their ugliness. As the new edition demonstrates, the shortest of the three books was cut by Burroughs from an extraordinary wealth of typescripts to create a visionary demand to take back the world that has been stolen from us. Edited from the original manuscripts by renowned Burroughs scholar Oliver Harris, this revised edition incorporates an introduction and appendices of never before seen materials. A good old-fashion shoot-out in the American West of the

frontier days serves as the springboard for this hyperkinetic adventure in which gunslingers, led by Kim Carson, fight for galactic freedom. The Place of Dead Roads is the second novel in the trilogy with Cities of the Red Night and The Western Lands.

Nova Express Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

This debut novel by the two time Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Underground Railroad and The Nickel Boys wowed critics and readers everywhere and marked the debut of an important American writer. Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read it is a time of calamity in a major metropolitan city's Department of Elevator Inspectors, and Lila Mae Watson, the first black female elevator inspector in the history of the department, is at the center of it. There are two warring factions within the department: the Empiricists, who work by the book and dutifully check for striations on the winch cable and such; and the Intuitionists, who are simply able to enter the elevator

cab in question, meditate, and intuit any defects. Lila Mae is an Intuitionist and, it just so happens, has the highest accuracy rate in the entire department. But when an elevator in a new city building goes into total freefall on Lila Mae's watch, chaos ensues. It's an election year in the Elevator Guild, and the good-old-boy Empiricists would love nothing more than to assign the blame to an Intuitionist. But Lila Mae is never wrong. The sudden appearance of excerpts from the lost notebooks of Intuitionism's founder, James Fulton, has also caused quite a stir. The notebooks describe Fulton's work on the "black box," a perfect elevator that could reinvent the city as radically as the first passenger elevator did when patented by Elisha Otis in the nineteenth century. When Lila Mae goes underground to investigate the crash, she becomes involved in the search for the portions of the notebooks that are still missing and uncovers a secret that will change her life forever. Look for Colson Whitehead's bestselling new novel, *Harlem Shuffle*!

Mosaic of Juxtaposition

The Adding Machine

The Construction of Signification in William S. Burrough's

Nova Trilogy

Everything Lost

A man, dispirited by ageing, endeavours to steal a younger man's face; a doctor yearns for a virus that might eliminate his discomfort by turning everyone else into doubles of himself; a Colonel lays out the precepts of the life of DE (Do Easy); conspirators posthumously succeed in blowing up a train full of nerve gas; a mandrill known as the Purple Better One runs for the presidency with brutal results; and the world drifts towards apocalypses of violence, climate and plague. The hallucinatory landscape of William Burroughs' compellingly bizarre, fragmented novel is constantly shifting, something sinister always just beneath the surface.

"Sheer pleasure. . . . Wonderfully entertaining."--Chicago Sun-Times Acclaimed by Norman Mailer more than twenty years ago as "possibly the only American writer of genius," William S. Burroughs has produced a body of work unique in our time. In these scintillating essays, he writes wittily and wisely about himself, his interests, his influences, his friends and foes. He offers candid and not always flattering assessments of such diverse writers as Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Joseph Conrad,

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Graham Greene, Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Samuel Beckett, and Marcel Proust. He ruminates on science and the often dubious paths into which it seems intent on leading us, whether into outer or inner space. He reviews his reviewers, explains his famous "cut-up" method, and discusses the role coincidence has played in his life and work. As satirist and parodist, William Burroughs has no peer, as these varied works, written over three decades, amply reveal.

Both heartwarming and meditative, *The Cat Inside* explores not only the personal relationship between Burroughs and cats, but the deeper relationship of cats with mankind, which Burroughs traces back to the Egyptians. This book of moving and witty discourse is for both Burroughs fans and cat lovers alike.

Trenchant writings by that sardonic "hombre invisible," William Seward Burroughs, perpetrator of *Naked Lunch* and other shockers. These malefic and beatific, mordant and hilarious straight-face reports on life are mostly from scatter-shot...

The Bulimic/revolutionary Aesthetic in William Burroughs' Nova Express Trilogy

Nova Express

The Job

A Novel

The Intuitionist

The Wild Boys is a futuristic tale of global warfare in which a guerrilla gang of boys dedicated to freedom battles the organized armies of repressive police states. Making full use of his

inimitable humor, wild imagination, and style, Burroughs creates a world that is as terrifying as it is fascinating.

'He felt a sudden deep pity for the finger joint that lay there on the dresser, a few drops of blood gathering around the white bone.' A deliberately severed finger, a junky's Christmas miracle and a Tangier con-artist, among others, feature in these hallucinogenic sketches and stories from the infamous Beat legend. Penguin Modern: fifty new books celebrating the pioneering spirit of the iconic Penguin Modern Classics series, with each one offering a concentrated hit of its contemporary, international flavour. Here are authors ranging from Kathy Acker to James Baldwin, Truman Capote to Stanislaw Lem and George Orwell to Shirley Jackson; essays radical and inspiring; poems moving and disturbing; stories surreal and fabulous; taking us from the deep South to modern Japan, New York's underground scene to the farthest reaches of outer space.

*First published in 1963 and representing Burroughs's literary breakthrough in the UK, *Dead Fingers Talk* is, in the words of Burroughs scholar Oliver Harris, "a prophetic work of haunting power," a unique experiment in writing that has for too long been overlooked. Combining new material with rearranged selections from *Naked Lunch* and his cut-up novels *The Soft Machine* and *The Ticket That Exploded*, the book is a fascinating precursor to remix and mash-up forms in art and music, which owe much to Burroughs's influence. This newly restored edition of *Dead Fingers Talk*, based on the novel's archival manuscripts, will delight all Burroughs fans and lovers of experimental literature, and offer a new insight into the artistic process of one of the most original and influential writers of the twentieth century. This definitive book on Burroughs' decades-long cut-up project and its relevance to the*

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American twentieth century, including previously unpublished works. William S. Burroughs's Nova Trilogy (The Soft Machine, Nova Express, and The Ticket That Exploded) remains the best-known of his textual cut-up creations, but he committed more than a decade of his life to searching out multimedia for use in works of collage. By cutting up, folding in, and splicing together newspapers, magazines, letters, book reviews, classical literature, audio recordings, photographs, and films, Burroughs created an eclectic and wide-ranging countercultural archive. This collection includes previously unpublished work by Burroughs such as cut-ups of work written by his son, cut-ups of critical responses to his own work, collages on the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal, excerpts from his dream journals, and some of the few diary entries that Burroughs wrote about his wife, Joan. William S. Burroughs Cutting Up the Century also features original essays, interviews, and discussions by established Burroughs scholars, respected artists, and people who encountered Burroughs. The essays consider Burroughs from a range of perspectives—literary studies, media studies, popular culture, gender studies, post-colonialism, history, and geography. “A landmark in scholarship.” —Choice

William S. Burroughs Cutting Up the Century

The Restored Text

The Shoshoneans

Dead Fingers Talk

Truth and Authenticity in the American Prose Epic since 1960

The Nova Trilogy stands apart from Naked Lunch (and other works) because the trilogy, despite all appearances, is

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first and foremost about language. The structure and movement of the text is an experiment in the capabilities of language - not writing, story-telling or thinking, but of language itself, while also contemplating and exploring those capabilities thematically. Issues of control infiltrate shattered themes of communication, sex, death, self and other, and addiction, at the center of which lies a power struggle between language and its human hosts. ... The Soft Machine, The Nova Express, and The Ticket That Exploded represent one of the most profound statements on language, by language. The primary impediment to understanding the Nova Trilogy is the language of the text itself. Written using the cut-up technique, the reader is presented with a strange and fragmented language. The Nova Trilogy must first and foremost be analysed on this basic, radical level, exploring the theoretical underpinnings of the text as a concatenation of words and phrases. This examination of the language and the literal text itself is required to properly decipher meaning and cohesion among the nigh non-sensical

montages of seemingly arbitrary words and phrases. Until deciphered, the text can only be witnessed, accepted or rejected but never assimilated. This irreducible distance between reader and text allows the text an autonomy by which it can be its own mediator, controlling its hieroglyphic significance relatively unchallenged by extra textual content. Repetitions and juxtapositions mark time for this internal movement of the text: the literal procession of words and language. Repetition and juxtaposition of words and phrases generates a significance and signifying network unique to the language and text of the Nova Trilogy; this repetitious, generative process evolves synchronically, instigating a perpetual modifying and re-modifying of meaning. In constructing significance, the spatio-temporal management of the text is situated in Derrida's notion of the trace and supplement, and taken altogether, the progression of the text of the Nova Trilogy is explicitly constructed upon a chronotope (the procession or movement) of supplementarity.

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After receiving a mysterious coded message, Zen Starling abandons his life of luxury and, with the help of sentient trains, goes in search of android Nova, who plans to reawaken the Railmaker.

Interzone portrays the development of Burroughs's mature writing style by presenting a selection of pieces from the mid-1950s. His outrageous tone of voice represents the exorcism of four decades of oppressive sexual and social conditioning. Burroughs's close observations of humanity - its ugliness and ignorance - invites the reader to dispense with their traditional notions of decorum, and taste the world as he sees it.

William S. Burroughs's fiction and essays are legendary, but his influence on music's counterculture has been less well documented—until now. Examining how one of America's most controversial literary figures altered the destinies of many notable and varied musicians, William S. Burroughs and the Cult of Rock 'n' Roll reveals the transformations in music history that can be traced to Burroughs. A heroin addict and

a gay man, Burroughs rose to notoriety outside the conventional literary world; his masterpiece, *Naked Lunch*, was banned on the grounds of obscenity, but its nonlinear structure was just as daring as its content. Casey Rae brings to life Burroughs's parallel rise to fame among daring musicians of the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, when it became a rite of passage to hang out with the author or to experiment with his cut-up techniques for producing revolutionary lyrics (as the Beatles and Radiohead did). Whether they tell of him exploring the occult with David Bowie, providing Lou Reed with gritty depictions of street life, or counseling Patti Smith about coping with fame, the stories of Burroughs's backstage impact will transform the way you see America's cultural revolution—and the way you hear its music.

The Finger

The William S. Burroughs Reader

Last Words

The Ticket That Exploded

"Cut the Word Lines"©