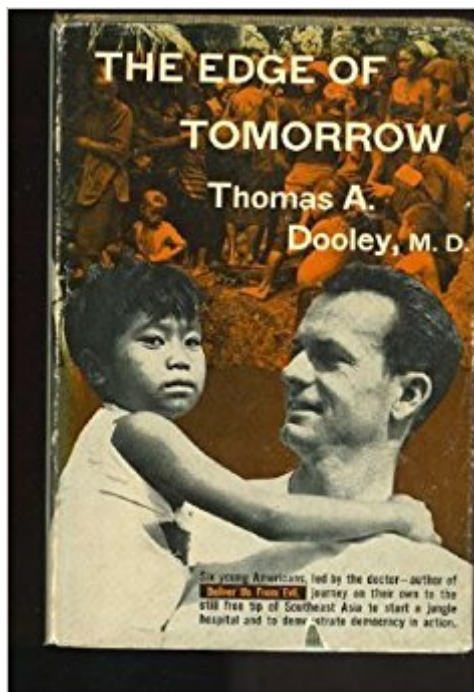


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The Edge Of Tomorrow



Synopsis

1958 Hard back copy. Good to Very Good Condition. Dust jacket missing. Boards are clean and bright with light edge and shelf wear. Signature inside front cover. Text is perfect. Many photos. Same day shipping from AZ.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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Howard Fast (1914--2003) was best known for his historical novels such as *The Unvanquished* (1942), *Citizen Tom Paine* (1943), *Sparticus* (1951), and *April Morning* (1961). Under the pseudonym E.V. Cunningham, he wrote several excellent mystery stories. *The Edge of Tomorrow* (1961) is Fast's first collection of science fiction stories. "The Large Ant" appeared in the penultimate issue of *Fantastic Universe* as "The Big Ant" and was one of the most famous stories to appear in that magazine. It has since been reprinted many times. The other six tales all appeared in *Fantasy and Science Fiction* between 1959 and 1960. Some (like "The First Men," "Cato the Martian," and "The Martian Shop") had some fame. Others (like "Of Time and Cats" and "The Sight of Eden") were little known beyond this collection. "The Large Ant" is about a writer who encounters a large, antlike creature on a fishing trip. He instinctively kills it. But then he feels a sense of guilt. It does him no good to say that most other people would have done the same thing, for he feels that the human race is being judged as well-- and being found wanting. "The First Men" is about a growing number of feral children who are appearing round the world. Is it a step forward in God's

plan for peace? Or a step backward into bestiality?"Cato the Martian" is a statesman who says that Earth must be destroyed, root and branch. One scholarly philosopher opposes him. Who proves to be right? Who proves to be righteous?"The Martian Shop" is a terrific science fiction mystery. Three shops open in Japan, Paris, and New York City at the same time-- apparently staffed by Martians and offering fantastic products for sale. What is their game? Fast's attention to detail keeps this story lively on repeated rereadings. This is my favorite tale in the collection."The Cold, Cold Box" poses the same problem as Ursula K. le Guin's "The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas".

Suppose that you have a group of people-- intelligent, high-minded, heterogeneous, civilized-- who owe their existence to the suffering of one scapegoat. _Is their existence justified?_ In Fast's story, the vote is put before the group of people. The outcome is a foregone conclusion."Of Time and Cats" is a lightweight comedy of time travel and matter duplication. A piece done just for fun. And "The Sight of Eden" is about the space travelers from Earth who do indeed reach Eden, but who don't-- quite-- fit in.Howard Fast's political novels have a strong political slant to them. I believe that we may say that Fast favors freedom defenders over authoritarian figures, those critical of our faults over those who are overly righteous, and Mark Twain over Cato the Censor. You will also find a strong moral theme to most of these stories, which gives them an added depth.

This is the second book written by Dr. Thomas Dooley, a now well-known doctor of the Navy over 6 decades ago. This adventure details setting up a way of providing his volunteer medical humanitarian program in which to aid those isolated from medicine in Southeast Asia...Laos. This doctor/author could not escape the yearning he had to medically help those living in the mountains of Laos...the 'untouchables'...those who fled from Communist rule who therefore lived in poverty, isolation and possibly life as nomads, because of it their situation.I happened to read the 2nd book before the first. I must say that the Reviewers prior, gave affirmative reviews. I would buy this book due to their reviews. But this is mine about Operation Laos....in a kingdom of magical beauty by means of luscious green fields, rice paddies, jungles and people.To reach this remote area, Dr. Dooley combined a team that dedicated themselves to traveling into uncharted territory to Westerners, in order to set up medical facilities to help those inflicted with medical injuries and untreated diseases: Those who deserved the chance to live like human beings with this team's aid of medical care, positive thinking, cleanliness and given medical direction...to care for their own proper hygiene. There was so much to accomplish, not excluding having to operate on people with no electricity, but thus was accomplished with the useage of generators. Companies believing in this expedition donated such generous items as generators, batterey opperated equipment, to cooking

gear and more. This team of 'want to be' medical humanitarians (back in the 1950's) had apparently impressed even the global medical community. Thousands of dollars worth of medications, vaccines, equipment, meal supplements, vitamins, nutrients, clothing and even medical books were over-whelmingly given. (Move over witch doctors...but not until the team asked them to--with honor and respectability.) These Laotian Buddhists were living on a very rationed diet of all they could really find and sometimes barter for...that of rice and fish. They did not know anything about maintaining good health, beginning with the water they drank and used. Poor nutritional habits affected mothers nursing newborns and thus was the way for these communities when the medical teams saw the majority of children with their protruding bellies. But the team prepared themselves for what lay ahead...Malaria constant from jungle exposure, cholera, still-birth pregnancies, everyone infected with lice, cases of gangrene and more than enough people unfortunate to be the victim of leprosy. Once a child's cleft lip was operated on and fixed, many more with this unfortunate disfigurement came to the medical camp with parents who wanted the same results for their child. Thank God the world community made this mission possible for Dr. Dooley to carry out most all of the treatments which these people faced. He and his team were definitely heaven sent, as were their costly supplies. Eventually the medical team needed to leave the area and travel down the Nam Tha River in 'pirogues' (dug out canoes--like others call them in Asia and Africa), where eventually this river meets up with the mighty Mekong (which is a river I wrote a book review about--you would find it in my book reviews under J. Lavoie). But the mountain people of Laos did not want the medical team to travel the river in search of villages scattered among it because they thought they'd be killed because of their skin color. However, the team knew of other villages that would also need their medical skills and also be in need of vaccines, medical supplies and medical attention. Luckily, their sincere practices were sensed as such among the river's other villagers. They accepted what this 'white men medical team' was giving their lives for traveling down the river. They could not believe that humanitarians existed in Western civilization....as that was what they were taught by the iron rule of Communism. This hard cover book includes several photos of the people they cared for, as well as sharing how extremely poor the people were in this area of the world. The book is amazing and I recommend it very highly. I did not pass by one paragraph unread. Great humanity is explored among those having no knowledge of loving care, until this team intervened. However, if they could read books, they would know that going out of one's way to help others, was among that of their Lord Buddha's teachings. Bless all of those humanitarians who cover the globe doing the good will of everyone's God.

First Men one of my all time favorite futuristic stories.

Some tales are amazing

A bird's eye view of the work among the Vietcong in the early 60s and the good the Americans did to help. Not really a book on missions, more about his concern for humanity.

there are many short tales, all of them full of incredible imagination. it is an old book, but filled with new energy

so important to me to have the copy. Thank you

Sorry, I am not a Sci-Fi fan!

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