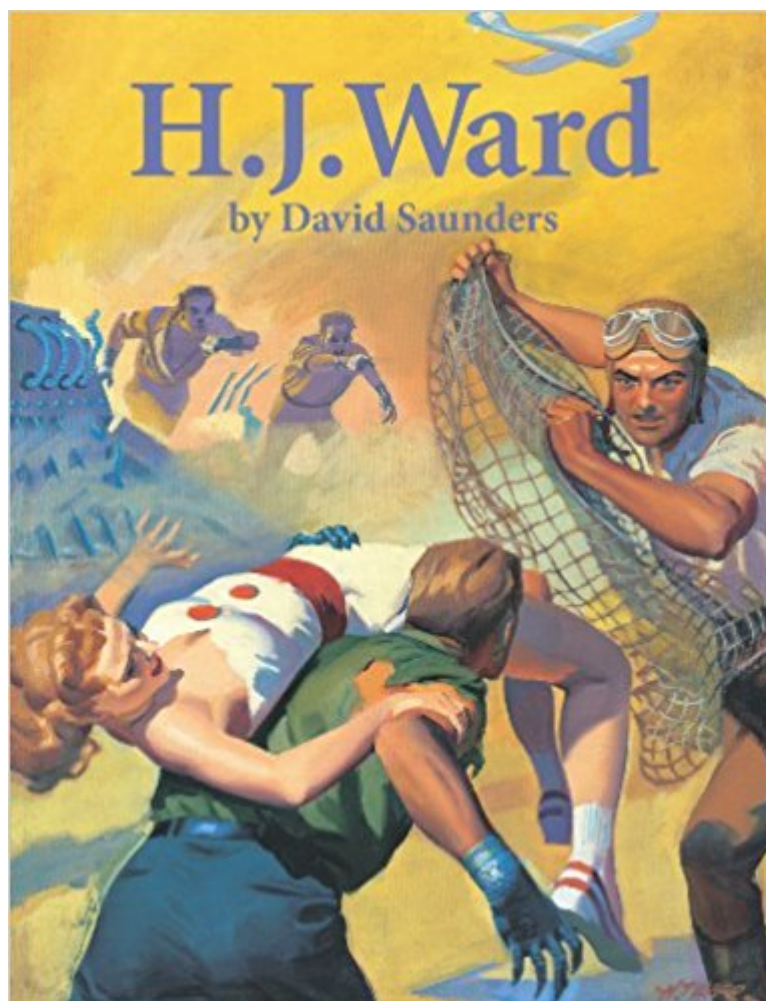


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# H.J. Ward



## Synopsis

Hugh Joseph Ward (1909-1945) painted many of the most sensational pulp magazine covers that ever graced a sidewalk newsstand and stopped a pedestrian dead in his tracks. He painted sexy women hounded by ferocious predators, whose merciless villainy is only matched by their shocking lack of chivalry. His work has fascinated generations of fans, but his life has remained a mystery ever since his untimely death from cancer at the age of thirty-five, while serving in WWII. This book finally reveals the life of the man behind so many masterpieces of pulp art. It chronicles his humble family roots, his art education, and his early career as a newspaper cartoonist. The artist's working methods are documented along with his impressive contributions to the earliest conceptualizations of America's famous super heroes The Lone Ranger, The Green Hornet, and Superman. Pulp art historian David Saunders has written an insightful biography, richly seasoned with quotes from the artist and his associates, that chronicles the life and art of this important American master of 20th century popular culture. This is the consummate reference book on H.J. Ward, with over five-hundred high quality reproductions. The book contains more than 100 original paintings, 80 drawings, and 50 historic photographs, as well as a comprehensive checklist of all published illustrations. 272 pages, 9 x 12, full-color on premium glossy stock, hardbound with dustjacket. Anyone interested in great American illustration art must have this book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

David Saunders (born 1954 in NYC) is a pulp art historian. He has written biographical essays for Illustration magazine on several pulp artists. His website, [pulpartists.com](http://pulpartists.com), provides biographical

information on many classic American illustrators, including his father, Norman Saunders (1907-1989). He has taught at dozens of art schools, including Yale, Oberlin, and the Kansas City Art Institute (BFA 75). He is also an artist, with work in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the New Museum, the Hirshhorn Museum, Japan National Rail, New York Penn Station, and LaGuardia Airport. He lives and works in New York with his wife, Mary, and their two children, Zoe and Joe.

Just received this book which is comparable in quality to David Saunder's book on Norm Saunders,....which is to say a superb effort. It is an oversized book on excellent paper with a paper dj as well as an imprinted image on front board book. Great production qualities by The Illustrated Press. Mostly full size repro of 7 Lone Ranger pulp covers. Hundreds of high definition glossy cover photos(sized to be appreciated at 4 per large book size page) of Spicy Mystery, Spicy Detective, Spicy Adventure, Private Detective, Speed Adventure, Spicy Western, Super Detective, etc. The pulp covers look as though they came from a just-purchased-off-the-newstand collection. Quite a few pages with blown-up(or zoomed in)detail art from the actual oil paintings which led to the magazine covers. A bibliography of Ward/s pulp art is here. Quite a few repros from the actual paintings themselves. A must have for risque art or damsel in distress popular art. Saunders points out that many of the damsels in Ward's paintings do not have a rescuer in sight and likely are going to have to depend on their wiles to escape rape/murder/kidnapping. Also his work on Lone Ranger, Green Hornet, Superman. He died at an early age of 36 during WW 2 of lung cancer. Good family background/photos also.

Lots of Beautiful Full color plates, However I felt there was way too much text for an art book, FAR too much detail and exposition , Also too many supplemental and B&W progressive pieces,, I believe the book could have supported at least 20 more full page illos. had these elements been condensed, Overall well worth it and a fantastic book, But hopefully In the future we will see another volume with only full page illos and minimal text

And I own many. THis is page after page of superb craftsmanship, burly gangsters, femme fatales, brave heroes and wide eyed, teary women in peril. Equal in quality and depth to the author's previous book on his father's work, Norman Saunders. Every page elicits a gasp; it's too rich in imagery to take in one sitting. The best bang for buck, too - I hemmed and hawwed for years on purchasing - now I'd say it's the best money I ever spent on classic pulp illustration. Mr. Ward was, I

submit, an artistic genius

This book is a real dream come true. High quality binding. Full color throughout, printed on high quality paper. One of the most fascinating chapters of this book is the story behind H.J. Ward's 1940 painting of Superman. This chapter reveals the artistic influences and the actual person who posed as the Man of Steel for this iconic painting. The story is all here. There is also a couple of very nice chapters that covers The Lone Ranger and The Green Hornet. Including, aside from the magazine covers, some promotional and product advertisement art. Truly beautiful art abounds on nearly every page of this book. Detective, adventure, and even some spicy magazine cover art, it's all here. David Saunders writes a very informative and entertaining story of a great artist who left us too, too early. The late, great Hugh Joseph Ward.

H.J. Ward gave skilled artistic perfection to any story he illustrated. This book shows the excellent quality of his work and his sense of action and adventure. It should serve as inspiration to any artist looking to perfect their craft. This book gives insight into the types of stories that captured the imagination of readers over the span of many years. An excellent addition to your library of keepers.

Following his Norm Saunders book, author David Saunders examines in glorious full color detail the life and art of pulp artist H. J. Ward. And, like his previous efforts, Saunders wisely keeps the text to a well written minimum and focuses on the fantastic art. Highly recommended for anyone who loves pulps, illustration art, or a bargain.

This vol. is breathtaking in its exceptional masterpieces created by Ward. A work that can be pored over again and again. This is a book that I found hard to lay down and is certainly one of my favourite books. Ward has a truly unique and accomplished style and is a tragic loss at such a young age.

Wonderful book filled with amazing art. I'm so happy I bought it. I love the pulp artists and Ward has become my favorite.

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