PENNY BOOKS
1938 - 1950s
OVERVIEW

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

The Whitman Publishing Company of Racine, Wisconsin copyrighted the term “Penny Book” and used it to describe several types of small soft cover books. All of Whitman’s Penny Books were published during the Silver Age of Big Little Books (mid-1938 into the 1940s). Some took their content directly from the Big Little Books, but most had original content.

There were three distinct series of Whitman Penny Books:

1. The first series was made up of three numbered sets:

   1100A Famous Comic Strip Story Books Series
   
   18 titles published in 1938; soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

   The content of these books is mostly text accompanied by several black and white illustrations, many crudely redrawn from Big Little Book illustrations. All the books were small — 2 1/2” x 3 1/2 x 1/8” and 32 pages in length. There are five distinct printings for these books. Books with plain back covers were sometimes sold for 1¢. Back covers with ads on them were given away by various distributors.

   1100B Fun Book Series
   
   18 titles published in late 1938, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

   These books are identical in size and format to 1100A, however, their content is made up of jokes, puzzles, riddles, etc. Some content was derived from Big Little Books.

   1101 Cowboy and Detective Story Books Series
   
   18 titles published in early 1939, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

   These books are identical in size and format to 1100A. Some of the artwork and story lines were derived from Whitman Big Little Books.

2. Whitman published a second series of Penny Books for younger children. They contain traditional stories such as The Gingerbread Boy and Peter Rabbit.

   1104 Fairy Tale and Story Books Series
   
   20 titles published in 1939, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

   All the books have 12 pages, and are 2 3/4” x 3” x 1/8” in size.
3. The third series contains content from the Disney Studios

1145 Walt Disney Picture Story Series

10 titles published in 1939, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

These books are 4 3/4” x 4 1/4” x 18” and 10 pages in length with 4-color illustrations throughout each book.

OTHER PUBLISHING COMPANIES

Captain Midnight Riddle Book

1 title published in 1939, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

This book is 2 1/2” x 3 1/2 x 1/8” and 32 pages in length. It was a Ralston premium.

Books similar in size to those published by Whitman were printed in Great Britain. Two distinct series are worth collecting.


Printed in England by W. Barton Ltd., London

60 titles published in the 1940s and 1950s, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

These books are 2 1/2” x 3 1/2” x 1/8” and 28 pages in length with a 4-color illustrated cover. Captioned black and white illustrations are scattered throughout each book. Each book is numbered.


Printed in England by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd., London

Unknown number of titles (more than 60) published in the 1940s and 1950s, soft cover, stapled (side-wire binding)

These books are 2 1/2” x 3 5/8” x 1/8” and 32 pages in length with a 4-color illustrated cover. Captioned black and white illustrations are scattered throughout each book. The books are not numbered.
Famous Comic Strip Books Series #1100A
1938-9

Size: 2 1/2” X 3 1/2” X 1/8”
Soft cover, stapled
32 pages
SWp = Silver Age, Whitman, Peripheral item

SWp1.1.1 Alley Oop and the Missing King of Moo
SWp1.1.2 Dan Dunn, Secret Operative 48, and the Bank Hold-up
SWp1.1.3 Dan Dunn, Secret Operative 48, Play a Lone Hand
SWp1.1.4 Dick Tracy Gets His Man
SWp1.1.5 Dick Tracy the Detective
SWp1.1.6 Don Winslow of the U.S. Navy and the Missing Admiral
SWp1.1.7 Freckles and His Friends Stage a Play
SWp1.1.8 G-Men and the Missing Clues
SWp1.1.9 G-Men on the Job Again
SWp1.1.10 Ken Maynard in Six Gun Law
SWp1.1.11 Little Orphan Annie Gets Into Trouble
SWp1.1.12 Little Orphan Annie Saves Sandy
SWp1.1.13 Smilin’ Jack Grounded on a Tropical Shore
SWp1.1.14 Smokey Stover and the Fire Chief of Foo
SWp1.1.15 The Adventures of Terry and the Pirates
SWp1.1.16 Terry and the Pirates on their Travels
SWp1.1.17 The Texas Ranger in the West
SWp1.1.18 The Texas Ranger to the Rescue

Each book in this set of 18 has 5 distinctive printings plus three variations. All the red back books have 3-color cover illustrations except for the one with Penny Book titles listed on it. It has a 2-color cover illustration. All the blue back books have 2-color cover illustrations. For every Penny Book title:

1. The first printing cover illustration is printed in 3 colors (blue, yellow, red). NOTE: When yellow and blue (cyan) are printed together, they make green.

   The first printing has a plain red back cover, no ad, 2 staples.

   First printing variations: various ads are printed on the red back cover.

2. The second printing cover illustration is printed in 3 colors.

   The second printing has a red back cover with a dark red stripe along the stapled edge, no ads, 2 staples.

   Second printing variations: various ads are printed on the red back cover.
3. The third printing cover illustration is printed in 3 colors.

   The third printing has a plain red back cover, no ads, and a single staple (other printings have two staples).

   NOTE: It is unknown whether or not this printing was the first printing. Whitman might have started the Penny Book series with one staple, then found it better to switch to two staples. Or this printing might be the second or third printing for which Whitman tried a one staple version in order to save on the cost of the printing, then subsequently returned to using two staples.

4. The fourth printing cover illustration is printed in 2 colors (yellow, red).

   The fourth printing has a red back cover with a black stripe along the stapled edge, a listing of Penny Book titles is printed on the back, 2 staples.

5. The fifth printing cover illustration is printed in 2 colors

   The fifth printing has a plain blue back cover with a dark blue stripe along the stapled edge, 2 staples.

   Fifth printing variation: a listing of Penny Book titles is printed on the back cover.

Possible other printings.

There is an odd, unexplainable plain white back cover for the Freckles and His Friends and several other titles. The cover illustration is printed using 2-colors (blue is removed).

Also, the Ken Maynard book is the only Penny Book to have 1¢ printed on the cover, however, a sixth printing of this book (plain blue back cover with dark blue stripe along its stapled side) removes the price.

NOTE: It is possible that variations and printings other than those described here might be discovered.
SWp1.1abcdefg  Alley Oop and the Missing King of Moo
  Author/Artist: V. T. Hamlin
  Adapted from 1936 comic strip

SWp1.2abcdefg  Dan Dunn, Secret Operative 48, and the Bank Hold-Up
  Author/Artist: Norman Marsh
  Adapted from 1938 comic strip

SWp1.3abcdefg  Dan Dunn, Secret Operative 48, Plays a Lone Hand
  Author/Artist: Norman Marsh
  Adapted from 1938 comic strip

SWp1.4abcdefg  Dick Tracy Gets His Man
  Author/Artist: Chester Gould
  Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #1170 Dick Tracy on the Trail of Larceny Lu

SWp1.5abcdefg  Dick Tracy the Detective
  Author/Artist: Chester Gould
  Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #707 The Adventures of Dick Tracy
SWp1.6abcdefg  Don Winslow of the U.S. Navy
             and the Missing Admiral
             Author: Lt. Cmdr Frank Martinek

SWp1.7abcdefg  Freckles and His Friends Stage a Play
             Author/Artist: Jack Werner
             NOTE: Copies of this title have been found with a plain white
             back cover.

SWp1.8abcdefg  G-Men and the Missing Clues
             Author: K. H. Eisen

SWp1.9abcdefg  G-Men on the Job Again
             Author: K. H. Eisen

SWp1.10abcdefg Ken Maynard in Six Gun Law
             Author: Eleanor Packer
             NOTE: A sixth printing of this book has been found with the 1¢ price
             removed from the cover.
SWp1.1.11abcdefg  Little Orphan Annie Gets Into Trouble
   Author/Artist: Harold Gray
   Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #708
   Little Orphan Annie

SWp1.1.12abcdefg  Little Orphan Annie Saves Sandy
   Author/Artist: Harold Gray
   Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #716
   Little Orphan Annie and Sandy

SWp1.1.13abcdefg  Smilin’ Jack Grounded on a Tropical Shore
   Author/Artist: Jack Mosley

SWp1.1.14abcdefg  Smokey Stover and the Fire Chief of Foo
   Author/Artist: Bill Holman

SWp1.1.15abcdefg  The Adventures of Terry and the Pirates
   Author/Artist: Milton Caniff
   Adapted from the daily strip beginning May 17, 1937, ending May 25, 1937
WHITMAN PENNY BOOKS®
1938-1943

SWp1.1.16abcdefg  Terry and the Pirates on their Travels
Author/Artist: Milton Caniff
Adapted from the daily strip
beginning October 24, 1934,
ending November 17, 1934

SWp1.1.17abcdefg  The Texas Ranger in the West
Author: Albert Short

SWp1.1.18abcdefg  The Texas Ranger to the Rescue
Author: Albert Short
Fun Book Series #1100B
1940

Size: 2 1/2” X 3 1/2” X 1/8”
Soft cover, stapled
32 pages
SWp = Silver Age, Whitman Peripheral item

SWp1.2.1    Dreams
SWp1.2.2    Fortune Teller
SWp1.2.3    Fun, Puzzles, and Riddles
SWp1.2.4    Hobbies
SWp1.2.5    Jokes, Side Splitting
SWp1.2.6    Jokes, Laughter Galore
SWp1.2.7    Learn to be a Ventriloquist
SWp1.2.8    Magic - How to do Tricks
SWp1.2.9    Magic Tricks Explained
SWp1.2.10   Movie Jokes
SWp1.2.11   Puzzle Book
SWp1.2.12   Puzzles
SWp1.2.13   The Quiz Book
SWp1.2.14   Riddles for Fun
SWp1.2.15   Riddles to Guess
SWp1.2.16   Tell Your Fortune
SWp1.2.17   Tricks Easy to Do
SWp1.2.18   Tricks You Can Do

Each book in this set of 18 has 4 distinctive printings plus one variation.

1. The first printing has a red back cover with a red stripe on the stapled side,
a Penny’s Store Back to School ad, and 2 staples. The ad probably contributed
to these books being called penny books.

2. The second printing has a red back with a black stripe along the stapled side,
a listing of the penny book titles in this series, and 2 staples.

3. The third printing has a blue back cover with a darker blue stripe along the
stapled side, no ads, 2 staples.

   A third printing variation has a listing of the penny book titles in this series
printed on the back cover.

4. A fourth printing is identified by a blue back cover ad that promotes Hobby
Ice Cream Lids which are collected for trading for Hobby Books. The 18
titles are called Hobby Books, and each is numbered on the back cover with
all the titles and directions for obtaining them.

There is one variation in the 2 color cover illustrations: SWp1.2.16 Tell Your Fortune.

There seems to be only 6 titles with red back covers.
PENNY BOOKS—LISTED 1939

No. 1100-B—FUN BOOK SERIES—
(6 to 12 years)—2½ x 3½”—18 titles
as: Magic; Jokes; Puzzles; Riddles; Tricks; Quizzes, etc.—36
pages including colored cover—illustrated. Assorted to gross. Approximate shipping weight per
gross. 3 lbs.

WHITMAN PENNY BOOK CATALOGUE AD 1939

SWp1.2.1abc Dreams,
Your Dreams and What They Mean

SWp1.2.2abc Fortune Teller,
How To Look Ahead by Lucky Signs

SWp1.2.3abc Fun, Puzzles, and Riddles
Hobbies, Fun With Things To Do

Jokes, A Book of Side Splitting Funny Stories

Jokes, The Book of Laughs Galore

Learn to be a Ventriloquist, How to Throw Your Voice And Make a Dummy Talk

Magic, How to do Tricks, Mystifying and Puzzling Tricks with Explanations Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini
SWp1.2.9abc Tricks and How To Do Them
Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini

SWp1.2.10abc Movie Jokes,
Funny Ones From The Talkies

SWp1.2.11abc Puzzle Book
All Kinds of Puzzles with Their Solutions
Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini

SWp1.2.12abc Puzzles,
For Fun - Complete with Solutions
Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini

SWp1.2.13abc The Quiz Book,
Questions and Answers
You Should Know
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHITMAN PENNY BOOKS®</th>
<th>1938-1943</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWp1.2.14abc</td>
<td>Riddles for Fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conundrums Galore -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With All The Answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp1.2.15abc</td>
<td>Riddles to Guess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete with Answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp1.2.16abc d</td>
<td>Tell Your Fortune,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucky Ways to Reveal Your Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book has a color cover variation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp1.2.17abc</td>
<td>Tricks, Easy to Do,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tricks of Magic and Slight-of-Hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp1.2.18abc</td>
<td>Tricks You Can Do,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to Amaze and Mystify Your Friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adapted from Whitman’s BLB #715 Houdini</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cowboy and Detective Story Books Series #1101
1943

Size: 2 1/2” X 3 1/2” X 1/8”
Soft cover, stapled
32 pages
SWp = Silver Age, Whitman Peripheral item

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SWp</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.3.1</td>
<td>Buck Jones on the Six-Gun Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.2</td>
<td>The Fighting Cowboy in Nugget Gulch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.3</td>
<td>Gang Busters and the Radio Clues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.4</td>
<td>George O’Brien and the Arizona Bad Man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.5</td>
<td>The Ghost Gun Gang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.6</td>
<td>Gunmen of Rustlers’ Gulch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.7</td>
<td>Jim King of the Secret Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.8</td>
<td>Jim Brant of the Highway Patrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.9</td>
<td>Jim Doyle, Private Detective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.10</td>
<td>Junior G-Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.11</td>
<td>Zane Grey’s King of the Royal Mounted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.12</td>
<td>Lightning Jim Whipple, U.S. Marshal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.13</td>
<td>Red Ryder and the Highway Robbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.14</td>
<td>Sandy Gregg, Federal Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.15</td>
<td>Tom Beatty, Ace Detective, and the Gorgon Gang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.16</td>
<td>Tom Beatty, Ace of the Service, and the Kidnappers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.17</td>
<td>Tom Mix Rides to the Rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.18</td>
<td>Two-Gun Montana Shoots It Out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each book in this set of 18 has 2 distinctive printings plus one variation.

1. The first printing has a plain red back cover, no ads, 2 staples.
   Ads are printed inside the front cover (a listing of Better Little Books®) and back cover (ad for Crackajack Funnies and Super Comics).

   First printing variation: An ad is printed on the back cover (e.g. Buster Brown Shoes).

2. The second printing has a plain red back cover, no ads, 1 staple.
   There are no ads inside the back covers or added to the back cover.

There are no variations in the 3 color cover illustrations.

There seems to be no blue back covers for this set of titles.
| SWp1.3.1abc | Buck Jones on the Six-Gun Trail  
Author: Don Black  
Artist: Harry Lawson |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| SWp1.3.2abc | The Fighting Cowboy of Nugget Gulch  
Author / Artist: Jack Werner |
| SWp1.3.3abc | Gang Busters and the Radio Clues  
Author: Isaac McAnally.  
Artist: Henry Vallely |
| SWp1.3.4abc | George O’Brien and the Arizona Badman  
Author: Eleanor Packer |
| SWp1.3.5abc | The Ghost Gun Gang Meet Their Match  
Author / Artist: Jack Werner |
Lowery's—GUIDE TO PENNY BOOKS®

WHITMAN PENNY BOOKS®
1938-1943

SWp1.3.6abc  The Gunmen of Rustlers' Gulch
Author: Jack Werner.
Cover Artist: Henry Vallely

SWp1.3.7abc  Jack King of the Secret Service
and the Counterfeiters
Author / Artist: John G. Gray

SWp1.3.8abcd  Jim Brant of the Highway Patrol
and the Mysterious Accident
Author: Ernest New

SWp1.3.9abc  Jim Doyle, Private Detective,
and the Train Hold-up
Author: Ernest New

SWp1.3.10abc  Junior G-Men Solve a Crime
Author: Jack Werner
Artist: Henry Vallely
SWp1.3.11abc  King of the Royal Mounted
    in Law of the North
    Adapted from the Zane Grey comic strip

SWp1.3.12abc  Lightning Jim Whipple, U.S. Marshall,
    In Indian Territory
    Adapted from the radio program

SWp1.3.13abc  Red Ryder and the Highway Robbers
    Author/Artist: Fred Harman

SWp1.3.14abc  Sandy Gregg, Federal Agent,
    On Special Assignment
    Author: Richard Van
    Artist: Henry Vallely

SWp1.3.15abc  Tom Beatty, Ace Detective,
    and the Gorgon Gang
SWp1.3.16abc  Tom Beatty, Ace of the Service, and the Kidnappers
Author: Jerry Warren

SWp1.3.17abc  Tom Mix Rides to the Rescue
Author: L. A. Ranch

SWp1.3.18abc  Two-Gun Montana Shoots it Out
Author: Tex Rayton
This series of 20 titles was released in 1939. Called “Penny Books”, the books had a slightly larger outside dimension than the earlier “Penny Books” - 2 3/4” x 3” x 1/8”. They are 32 pages in length and stapled. The covers are heavy paper with full color illustrations. The content is fairy tales and young children’s stories.

There is at least one printing and one variation for these books. The yellow back cover without an ad is the basic printing. The yellow back cover with an ad on it is a variation (or, perhaps a second printing). It is important to note that the variations all have an added black spine that hides the staples.

SWp2.1 Beauty and the Beast

SWp2.2 Chicken Greedy

SWp2.3 Chicken Licken

SWp2.4 Dick Whittington and his Cat

SWp2.5 East of the Sun and West of the Moon

SWp2.6 The Gingerbread Boy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whittmann Penny Books</th>
<th>1938-1943</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.7 Hansel and Grethel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.8 Little Black Sambo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.9 Little Polly Flanders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.10 The Little Red Hen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.11 Little Red Riding Hood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.12 The Musicians of Bremen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.13 Patch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.14 Peter Rabbit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.15 Puss-in-Boots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.16 The Red Hen and the Fox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.17 The Three Bears</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.18 The Three Little Pigs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.19 Tim the Builder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWp2.20 The Ugly Duckling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Walt Disney Picture Story Book Series #1145
1939

This 1939 series of 10 titles was derived from Walt Disney motion picture cartoons. The books are larger than the other Penny Books - 4 3/4” x 4 1/4” x 1/8”. These “self-covered” books are non-stapled and 12 pages in length. The pages are lightly glued at their center folds to hold them in place. Each book has four full-color illustrations in its interior.

SWp3.1 The Brave Little Tailor

SWp3.2 Donald Duck’s Cousin Gus

SWp3.3 Donald’s Better Self

SWp3.4 Donald’s Lucky Day
SWp3.5 Farmyard Symphony

SWp3.6 Goofy and Wilbur

SWp3.7 Mickey’s Gold Rush

SWp3.8 The Practical Pig

SWp3.9 Pluto at the Society Dog Show

SWp3.10 The Ugly Duckling
Great Britain Penny-Type Books
1940s-1950s

Mighty Midget Books
1940s — 1950s
Printed in England by W. Barton Ltd., London

These books began in the 1940s during war time. They continued well into the 1950s. Dates are uncertain because each book did not have a copyright date. The single-staple books are 2 1/2” x 3” x 1/8” and 32 pages in length. They have captioned black and white illustrations scattered throughout each book. The covers are four color illustrations. There is a full-color ad on the back cover.

SFGB1.1 1 Mitzi the Marvel
Author: S. Manton Wayne

SFGB1.2 2 A Dog Shall Die
Author: R. G. Gay

SFGB1.3 3 Tanks A Lot
Author: Sam Lee

SFGB1.4 4 The Red Flash
Author: Edgar Jepp

SFGB1.5 5 Runaway Robot *
Author: S. Sandfords

SFGB1.6 6 The Clarions
Author: Elwood Dal
| SFGB1.7 | 7 | Sky Pirate  
Author: Ator Misk |
| SFGB1.8 | 8 | The Thought Reader  
Author: Cameron Carr |
| SFGB1.9 | 9 | Gangster’s Kid  
Author: Dane Jenner |
| SFGB1.10 | 10 | Cherokee Joe’s Revenge  
Author: James Reade |
| SFGB1.11 | 11 | Formula X81  
Author: Gunn Warne |
| SFGB1.12 | 12 | Spitfire Sabotage  
Author: Max Mallon |
| SFGB1.13 | 13 | Aladdin  
Author: Unknown |
| SFGB1.14 | 14 | Gulliver’s Travels  
Author: Unknown |
| SFGB1.15 | 15 | The 12 Dancing Princesses  
Author: Unknown |
| SFGB1.16 | 16 | Tom Thumb  
Author: Unknown |
| SFGB1.17 | 17  | Sinbad the Sailor  *  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.18 | 18  | Pied Piper of Hamelin  
|          |     | Author: Jennifer Lee |
| SFGB1.19 | 19  | Cinderella  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.20 | 20  | The Golden Goose  
|          |     | Author: Geoffrey C. Mann |
| SFGB1.21 | 21  | Little Red Riding Hood  *  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.22 | 22  | The Sleeping Beauty  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.23 | 23  | The Goose Girl  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.24 | 24  | Robinson Crusoe  
|          |     | Author: Unknown    |
| SFGB1.25 | 25  | Commando Leader  *  
|          |     | Author: Hugh Cleverly |
| SFGB1.26 | 26  | Convoy in Danger  
|          |     | Author: Dennison Robb |
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

SFGB1.27  27  Berlin for To-night
Author: Jack Westley Drew

SFGB1.28  28  Captured by U-Boar
Author: Rex Racing

SFGB1.29  29  The Big Blow-Up
Author: Manton Lawson

SFGB1.30  30  Robin Hood *
Author: Ronalda Lynn

SFGB1.31  31  Anti-Gas
Author: D.G.B. Simpson

SFGB1.32  32  Secret Bomber
Author: Wayne Fleet

SFGB1.33  33  Missing Death by Inches
Author: Dick Kerr

*SFGB1.34  34  The Silent Avenger
Author: Denver Hudson

*SFGB1.35  35  Khyber Justice
Author: Henry McGovan

*SFGB1.36  36  Terror Above the Stratosphere
Author: Nixon Kinson
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

SFGB1.37  37  Nursery Rhymes No. 1
Author:

SFGB1.38  38  Nursery Rhymes No. 2
Author:

SFGB1.39  39  A B C Book
Author: Unknown

SFGB1.40  40  Dick Whittington
Author: Susan Grimsley

SFGB1.41  41  Jack the Giant Killer
Author:

SFGB1.42  42  The Sleeper Awakened
Author:

SFGB1.43  43  3 Little Pigs
Author:

SFGB1.44  44  Old Man of the Mountain
Author: Ruby Bamber

SFGB1.45  45  Alice in Wonderland
Author:

SFGB1.46  46  The Flying Horse
Author:
### GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
#### 1940s-1950s

| SFGB1.47  | 47  | Puss in Boots  
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.48  | 48  | Magic Carpet  
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.49  | 49  | Robin Hood Accepts A Challenge 
| Author: Avon Sutton |      |               |
| SFGB1.50  | 50  | Axis Pirates  
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.51  | 51  | Moon Monster   
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.52  | 52  | Treachery on the Khyber 
| Author: John Oliver |      |               |
| SFGB1.53  | 53  | Revenge in the Fjord 
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.54  | 54  | Wreckers Over Munich 
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.55  | 55  | The Avenger Again 
| Author:   |      |               |
| SFGB1.56  | 56  | U Boats Defied  
| Author:   |      |               |
SFGB1.57  57  Tournament of Death  
   Author: Unknown

SFGB1.58  58  Cowboy Millionaire  
   Author: Unknown

SFGB1.59  59  Human Torpedo  
   Author: Unknown

SFGB1.60  60  Abandoned Schooner  
   Author: Unknown

Display of Mighty Midget Books  
Woolworth Store, England
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

Tuck’s Better Little Books
1940s — 1950s
Printed in England by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd., London

These books began in the 1940s during war time. They continued well into the 1950s. Dates are uncertain because each book did not have a copyright date. The books are 2 1/2” x 3” x 1/8” and 32 pages in length. They have captioned black and white illustrations scattered throughout each book. They are stapled and the covers are four color illustrations. After WWII, the content changed from military stories to information on famous people, British-related countries, and interesting occupations. In the 1950s, romance stories joined the list of titles.

The Tuck Company described the books as follows: This series, now famous, had its origin in the early days of the war, and was intended to provide a suitable diversion during air-raid alerts. Handy little books like these could be easily carried in the pocket, and handed on from one reader to another in the shelters. At the same time, by their small size, the books made the most of the very limited quantities of paper then available. The idea made a hit at once, and soon “Better Little Books” were met with everywhere. The range grew and expanded, to include not only fiction for boys and girls of all ages, and for grown-ups as well, but also lives of great men and women and accounts of interesting phases of life in both war and peace. Writers and artists of standing have given of their best to these little gems; and, as time has gone on, the whole series has become a popular, ever-changing library of illustrated books, which the publishers are proud to put before the public, and at an astoundingly low price.

| SFGB2.01   | How to Read Hands |
| SFGB2.02   | How to Read Handwriting |
| SFGB2.03   | How to Read Dreams |
| SFGB2.04   | How to Read Omens |
## GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
### 1940s-1950s

| SFGB2.1 | Nelson |
| SFGB2.2 | Captain Scott |
| SFGB2.3 | Joan of Arc |
| SFGB2.4 | Alfred the Great |
| SFGB2.5 | Abraham Lincoln |
| SFGB2.6 | Christopher Columbus |
| SFGB2.7 | Captain Cook  
Author: Mary Allen |
| SFGB2.8 | David Livingstone |
| SFGB2.9 | Bonnie Prince Charlie  
Author: D. Wilson  
McArthur, M.A. |
| SFGB2.10 | Sir Francis Drake |
| SFGB2.11 | Clive of India |

| SFGB3.1 | The Story of Australia |
| SFGB3.2 | The Story of New Zealand |
| SFGB3.3 | The Story of Canada |
| SFGB3.4 | The Story of South Africa |
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS

1940s-1950s

SFGB4.1  Little Dorrit
SFGB4.2  Little Paul Dombey
SFGB4.3  The Marchioness
SFGB4.4  Little Nell
SFGB4.5  Tiny Tim
SFGB4.6  The Fat Boy
SFGB4.7  Poor Jo
SFGB4.8  Trotty Veck
SFGB4.9  Pip’s Adventure
SFGB4.10 Terry Turns up Trumps
SFGB4.11 She Shall Have Music
SFGB4.12 The Magic Elephant
SFGB4.13 Treasure Hunt
SFGB4.14 Lonesome Lake
SFGB4.15 Ring Up the Curtain
SFGB4.16 The Secret Passage
SFGB4.17 Smugglers’ Cottage
SFGB4.18 Little Black Sambo
SFGB4.19 The Enchanted Fawn
SFGB4.20 Jack the Giant Killer
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

SFGB4.21 Clues for a Pup
   Author: R. Barnes

SFGB4.22 Grace Darling

SFGB4.23 The Pilgrim Fathers

SFGB4.24 Nigger the Pit Pony

SFGB4.25 Divers at Work

SFGB4.26 Robinson Crusoe

SFGB4.27 Robin Hood

SFGB4.28 Elephant Tales

SFGB4.29 Stories of Animals

SFGB4.30 Tales from Hans Andersen

SFGB4.31 The Hole in the Wall

SFGB4.32 Bandit Gang

SFGB4.33 Gipsy Soldier

SFGB4.34 Wizard’s Delight

SFGB4.35 Hidden Treasure

SFGB4.36 To-morrow at Dawn

SFGB4.37 Frontier Boy

SFGB4.38 Exciting Afternoon

SFGB4.39 Gallows Verdict

SFGB4.40 The Blue Man
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

SFGB4.41 They’re All In It
SFGB4.42 Final Performance
SFGB4.43 Janet Comes Home
SFGB4.44 Hiders and Finders
SFGB4.45 It Happened at Midnight
SFGB4.46 Hop o’ My Thumb
SFGB4.47 Florence Nightengale
SFGB4.48 Nell Gwynne
SFGB4.49 Mountain Rescue
SFGB4.50 Jannis and the Gipsy
SFGB4.51 Bridesmaids Wore Blue
Author: Mabel Constanduros
SFGB4.52 Foolish Virgin
SFGB4.53 Love’s Miracle
SFGB4.54 Why Did You Leave Me?
SFGB4.55 Faraway Lover
SFGB4.56 The Gipsy Dress
SFGB4.57 The Ghost of Greyfriars
SFGB4.58 Kid Sister
Author: Mary Allen
SFGB4.59 Jean Wins Through
SFGB4.60 All’s Fair in Love
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS

1940s-1950s

SFGB4.61  I Had to Come Back
SFGB4.62  Give Me Adventure  
          Author: Muriel King
SFGB4.63  Wings
SFGB4.64  Home’s Where the Heart Is  
          Author: Rosina Land
SFGB4.65  Some Other Spring
SFGB4.66  You Can Never Be Sure
SFGB4.67  Button Box
SFGB4.68  Long Engagement

SFGB4.69
SFGB4.70
SFGB4.71
SFGB4.72
SFGB4.73
SFGB4.74
SFGB4.75
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS

1940s-1950s

SFGB5.1 Aladdin
SFGB5.2 Beauty and the Beast
SFGB5.3 The Sleeping Beauty
SFGB5.4 Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes
SFGB5.5 Little Tales of Little Dogs
SFGB5.6 Little Tales of Little Kits
SFGB5.7 Red Riding Hood and Cinderella
SFGB5.8 Let’s Play Gardening
SFGB5.9 Come to the Farm
SFGB5.10 Let’s Play Postmen
SFGB5.11 Let’s Play Fireman
SFGB5.12 Bedtime Stories
SFGB5.13 More Bedtime Stories
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

SFGB5.1 Searching for Contraband
SFGB5.2 Life in the A.T.S.
SFGB5.3 Life in the W.R.N.S.
SFGB5.4 Life in the W. A. A. F.
SFGB5.5 Life in the A.T.C.
SFGB5.6 Brave Boys in War
SFGB5.7 Brave Girls in War
SFGB5.8 I am Making Munitions
SFGB5.9 I’m a Fire Girl
SFGB5.10 The Convoys Come Through
SFGB5.11 Life in the Land Army
SFGB5.12 Life in a Submarine
SFGB5.13 Life in a Tank
SFGB5.14 Life as a Nurse
SFGB5.15 The Convoys Come Through
With the Sea Cadets
SFGB5.16 I’m a Parachutest
SFGB5.17 I am an Engine Driver
SFGB5.18 I am a Pearl Diver
SFGB5.19 With the Commandos
SFGB5.20 Dogs in War
SFGB5.21 Railways in Wartime
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

Pocket Wonder Library
1940s — ?????

Printed in England: P M (Productions) Ltd., London and Letchworth

These books were published in the 1940s. The number of titles are unknown at this time. Both the front and back covers are the same picture. There are 32 pages plus the cover. The size is 3 1/2” x 2 1/2”. There are no dates in these books. The books are coded for reading levels (3-5 for primary, 5-8 for intermediate).

Tangled Trails

The Hawk Swoops Fast

Shadow Men of Lone Town

The Secret of Redlands Abbey

The Boy Who Won an Empire

Grenville of the “Revenge”
Pocket Wonder Library
continued

The Imp in the ‘Bus by Dee Boreham

Robinson Crusoe

Treasure Island

The Naughty Popgun

Wendy the Wonder-Doll

Little Taggy Tumbledown
The Little Marvels Fairy Tales Series
1940s — ????
Printed in Great Britain

There are 32 titles in this series. The first 16 titles are promoted as The Little Marvels Fairy Tales, the remaining 16 are described as The Little Marvels Thrilling Stories. Each book has 20 pages plus a full color cover and a color Fosters Custard Powder ad on the back cover. Each is 4 3/4” x 3 1/2” in size. There are no copyright dates or publisher information in the books.

1. Snow White

2. The Little Mermaid

3. Rumpel-Stilts-Kin

4. The Emperor’s Nightingale

5. Beauty and the Beast

6. The Forty Thieves

7. The Flying Trunk
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

The Little Marvels Fairy Tales Series continued

8. The Frog Prince

9. Jack and the Beanstalk

10. The ugly Duckling

11. King Grisly-Beard

12. Dick Whittington

13. The Giant with the Three Golden Hairs

14. The Fox and the Horse

15. The Elves and the Shoemaker

16. Hansel and Grethel
GREAT BRITAIN PENNY-TYPE BOOKS
1940s-1950s

The Little Marvels Thrilling Adventure Series
continued

17. Bombs on Berchtesgaden

18. Ace v. Ace

19. Slayer of Sharks

20. Prince of Paratroops

21. Scouts of Doom

22. The Phantom Redskin

23. Ape Spies

24. The Death Patrol
The Little Marvels Thrilling Adventure Series continued

25. Fifth Columnists

26. Shark Infested Seas

27. Jon Goes Red Indian

28. Double Life Detective by Norman Saxon

29. Red Mans Lair

30. Pride of the Cowboys

31. Traitor’s Trail

32. Message at Moon Island
The Adventure Stories Series
1940s — ????
Printed in England

There are 12 titles in this series. All are 32 pages plus a full-color front cover and a back cover with a full-color ad on it. The books are xxx? x xxx?

1. Killer Dooley
   by Arthur Paul

2. Yukon Justice
   by Penny Street

3. Combined Operation
   by Norman Saxon

4. Kidnapping of Papoose
   by Mark Thomas

5. The Super Explosive
   by Peter James

6. The Mechanical Whale
   by Joan Norman
The Adventure Stories Series
1940s — ???
Printed in England

7. Pirates Hulk
   by King Marcland

8. Talking Horse
   by Dan Groswell

9. Will Scarlet’s Bluff
   by Lloyd Milton

10. The Lair of the Yellow Dwarf
    by Manville Doyle

11. Carlo the Sleuth
    by Layton Scaze

12. The Island of Vengeance
    by Manville Doyle