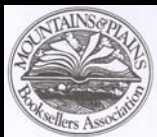
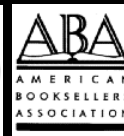




# BOOKTALK



The bi-monthly Newsletter of  
**Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore**  
*Salt Lake's Premier Full-Service Bookstore since 1929*  
**December 2007-January 2008**



## Books Make Wonderful Gifts

By Tony Weller



Happy holidays booklovers. We have just completed our annual holiday season rare book catalog. As I reviewed it for errors last night, I felt the surging excitement that follows the few months of work leading up to this point. Beginning a few weeks ago, all of us in the rare book department have been challenged to resist adding

more books. We are already late and over packed and since we don't want to shrink the type and we really dig the photographs, we have to draw the line. However I intend to give you a double portion of highlights from our rare book department in this newsletter. But before that, I want to remind you of the many wonderful new books we have to offer.

I have just browsed the whole bookstore and between the advice of staff and my own book sense, I found more really good looking and interesting books than I have persons on my gift list. Selecting some to present to you here was almost as difficult as knowing when to pull the plug on rare book catalog selections. Here is a sampling of some of the many recently published and alluring books, and an image, that nabbed my attention.

### On the Main Floor

First I encountered the display of the massive English translation of *1080 Recetas* by **Simone and Ines Or-**

**tega** by our front door. This cookbook has been a steady seller in Spain for over 30 years. The English edition, published this year by Phaidon, has been plainly titled *1080 Recipes*. It sells for \$39.95.

Then, for a while I got lost in our sidelines which include cards, diaries, notebooks and literary umbrellas. They are next to our calendars and books on CD. Before moving on to the Juvenile section, I stopped and examined a display full of small books of various types and couldn't help thinking what neat stocking stuffers they would make.

In the kid's section I found a charming book for the younger set published by the Running Press, entitled *Wings, Horns & Claws: A Dinosaur Book of Epic Proportions* by **Christopher Wormell**. The main thrust of this large cloth bound volume is the large, stunning and bold color linoleum-block prints by Wormell. But it is not all art. I especially appreciate the phonetic guidance to saying these complexly named creatures.

I must admit I was sceptical when I encountered *Christmas Tree In-a-Box* but upon seeing the model we built for display, I overcame. **Sam Ita** and **Karen Greenberg** have created a do-it-yourself, three-dimensional Christmas tree with decorations out of paper. It stands 22 inches high and is charming in an old fashioned pop-up kind of way. \$14.95

### From the Mezzanine

We are selling a matted reproductions of a long (18" x 4") panoramic view of *The Mormon Temple Grounds*, taken by **L. Holland** in about 1912. It sells for \$30.00. I also found myself intrigued by a neat little set of oblong octavo paperbacks by **E. Keith Howard** entitled *A Concise History of Palmyra, Kirtland, Nauvoo and Zion*.

*Continued on page 4*

# New Non-Fiction Reviewed by Fred Brady

## Bloodthirsty Bitches and Pious Pimps of Power

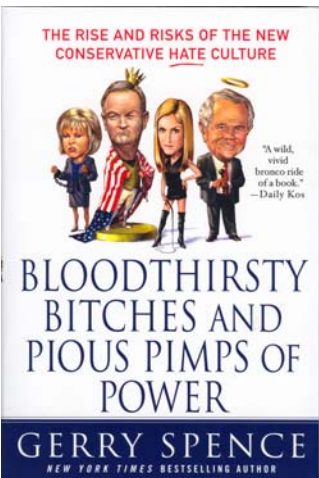
By Gerry Spence

ISBN 9780312373900  
St. Martin's Press  
\$14.95

Renowned trial lawyer Gerry Spence takes on the haters who rule America's airwaves. He particularly focuses on Ann Coulter, the Queen of Hate, TV bully Bill O'Reilly, and homophobic evangelist Pat Robertson. He discusses Limbaugh and others, but does not even honor "that Hannity fellow" with a whole sentence, let alone a chapter. Examples:

Ann Coulter: "I love to engage in repartee with people who are stupider than I am." She believes torture should be a spectator sport and thinks it would be "fun" to nuke North Korea.

Bill O'Reilly, who nearly lost his job at Fox TV over a sexual harassment case, stands for old-fashioned family



values. He bullies and screams at anyone on his program who disagrees with him. His philosophy of successful television: "The best host is the guy or gal who can get the most listeners extremely annoyed—over and over again."

Pat Robertson leads the fight for old-fashioned Christianity: "Just like what Nazi Germany did to

the Jews, so liberal America is now doing to the evangelical Christians.... It is the Democratic Congress, the liberal-based media, and the homosexuals who want to destroy the Christians." Who would Jesus hate? See Matthew 5:44.

How do these people get on TV? How do their books get published? According to Spence, "Hate Sells" and "Money is King." The best way to make money is by

*Continued on page 4*

## Upcoming Events December & January

- ◆ **Irene Spencer, *Shattered Dreams***  
Wednesday, December 12th, @ 5:00pm  
Location: Downtown City Library
- ◆ **Pat Bagley & Gordon Campbell**  
Thursday, December 13th, @ 11:00am  
Location: In Store  
Both local authors will be here together signing their new books *Bagley's Utah Survival Guide* and *Missing Witness*
- ◆ **Debbie Stoller, *Son of Stitch-n-Bitch***  
Thursday, December 13th, @ 7:00pm  
Location: Downtown City Library, 4th floor Conference Room
- ◆ **Pilar Pobil, *My Kitchen Table***  
Sunday, January 5th @ 3:00pm  
Location: U of U, Olpin Student Union
- ◆ **J. A. Jance, *Hand of Evil***  
Thursday, January 24th, @ 6:30pm  
Location: In Store  
The best-selling author will be reading and signing her newest release
- ◆ **Jana Richman, *The Last Cowgirl***  
Thursday, January 31, @ 7:00pm  
Location: In Store  
The author will be reading and signing her newest work

*For more info call 801-328-2586,*

## Read a Best Wellers Book

We see a lot of new books every year that don't always get the kind of exposure we think they deserve. We've developed the **Best Wellers** program to bring to your attention worthy titles that might otherwise fall beneath the radar. Every two months our buyers get together and select a title that we think you will find interesting, enlightening, thought-provoking and entertaining and we offer it to you at a 20% discount.

Our selection for December-January is *Missing Witness* by **Gordon Campbell**. Read the review by Bruce Christensen on page 5 and ask for it the next time you come in.

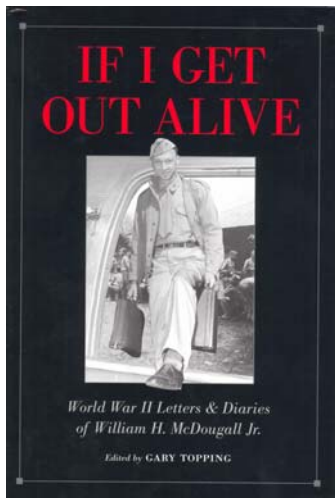
# Books of Local Interest

Reviewed by Joan Nay

## **If I Get Out Alive** **World War II Letters & Diaries** **of William H. McDougall Jr.** Edited by Gary Topping

ISBN 9780874808919  
University of Utah Press  
\$24.95

Bill McDougall spent three and a half years during World War II in a Japanese prison camp on the island of Sumatra. A Salt Lake native, he had been a journalist for United Press in Indonesia when the island fell



to the Japanese. When he tried to leave the island nation, his ship was sunk by Japanese bombers. He floated in the Indian Ocean for many hours before being captured and imprisoned.

While a prisoner of war, McDougall recorded almost daily, his harrowing experiences in a tiny, crabbled script in vest pocket notebooks. When he was

transferred to a second prison camp, he buried the early diaries for safekeeping. Two years after liberation, he returned to retrieve them and found they were still in remarkably good condition.

Gary Topping has done a fine work of transcribing McDougall's diaries and making them available here in their entirety with annotations and minimal editing. Almost everyone who knew Bill McDougall will pick up this book with a smile and a sigh as they remember their dear friend. If you didn't know McDougall, this will introduce you to one of Salt Lake City's kindest, gentlest men.

After the war, McDougall was ordained a Catholic priest in 1952. From that time until his death in 1988, he served as pastor, rector of the Cathedral of the Madeleine, taught at Judge Memorial High, and edited the local Catholic newspaper, all in Salt Lake City. He was named Monsignor in 1963. A gripping read about one of Utah's own "Greatest Generation."

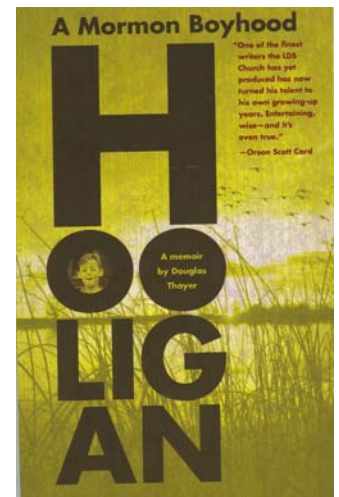
## **Hooligan**

by Douglas Thayer

ISBN 9780978797157  
Zarahemla Books  
\$14.95

At first glance, Douglas Thayer's account of his boyhood years in the late '30s and early '40s in Provo, Utah might seem a bit violent and gory as he describes his hunting, shooting and fishing escapades with his friends. This book is aptly titled, because he and his friends were indeed "hooligans." But there is a prevailing warmth and nostalgic charm to his reminiscences.

Organized by subject, Thayer's stream-of-thought here captures an innocence and honesty that has the potential for bringing both tears and belly laughs. He has used his recognized skill as a wordsmith and given an otherwise ordinary childhood both brilliance and dimension. Read it!



**Our Used Book-buying desk will reopen January 2, 2008.**  
**Please call for an appointment.**

## Books Make Wonderful Gifts

*Continued from page 1*

Each thin book covers a city of importance in the development of the Mormon Church with text and photographs. \$27.80.

Hot off the press is the new Smith-Petit Foundation's *Early Patriarchal Blessings of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints*, compiled by **H. Michael Marquardt**. This large and historically revealing volume costs \$70.00. In the Eastern Philosophy section a new large format illustrated edition of Thomas Cleary's translation of *The Book of Five Rings*, by **Miyamoto Musashi**. This Japanese martial arts and philosophy classic has been more recently presented as a business strategy book. \$24.95.

There is a new edition of the classic guide to writing, *The Elements of Style* by **Willaim Strunk** and **E. B. White**. This new edition from Penguin is in a larger format and bound in red cloth. Most excitingly, it contains numerous color illustrations by the strange but wonderful children's illustrator and author, **Maira Kalman**. Super cool. You better hurry or I might buy these first. \$24.95.

**In the Basement, I got lost. Then...**

I found the phenomenal collection of posters gathered in Thames and Hudson's new book, *War Posters: Weapons of Mass Communication*. This folio volume by **James Aulich** brings together war posters from 20<sup>th</sup> century wars up the present one. It includes work from many nations. \$40.00.

On a lighter note, I discovered the paperback release of a book I enjoyed in hardcover, *Monkey Portraits*, by **Jill Greenberg**. In it Ms Greenberg has used a style of photography that one associates with human portraiture and the range of monkeys and their expressions is vast and entertaining. The paperback issue contains eight portraits that weren't in the original edition. \$17.99.

And last, I really dig a hardcover collection of photos by **Marc Joseph** and published by Steidl. It's called *New and Used*. In addition to photos, it has essays about books and book places by various writers including Jonathan Lethem and Thurston Moore. I admit that I haven't read the essays. It's the photos that got me. Beautiful photos of books – not necessarily rare, valuable or even important ones, just books as images. In

some case one can't even tell what books they are. But Joseph's photos are striking and his subject is dear to me. \$45.00

Of course, these are just the tip of the tip of the iceberg. These books may not resonate with you as they did with me, but there are thousands of others from which to choose.

Before moving on to my holiday picks from the rare book department, I want to remind you that we are again presenting our Holiday Living Window where local book lovers simply sit and read as part of our display. Call for information on how to participate.

When visiting our store, you should remember that we now have 60 parking meters just south of us on Broadway. Now through New Years, parking there is free for up to two hours. There is also parking underground at the American Plaza which can be entered from Broadway, West Temple or Second South. We gift wrap. And if you are really stumped selecting gifts, we offer Book Sense gift certificates which are not only good here, but at over 400 independent bookstores all over the country.

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## Bloodthirsty Bitches and Pious Pimps of Power

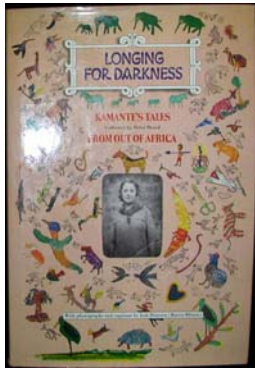
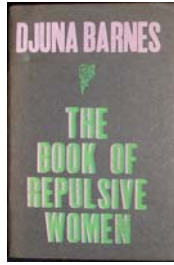
*Continued from page 2*

peddling hate. The huge media corporations are overwhelmingly conservative, as are the corporations that advertise in those media. They own our politicians too, which is why George II has been unopposed in his shenanigans for seven dismal years. It is in the corporation's best interest to distract the average, underpaid Joe from his problems by feeding him trivia, porn, sports, and hate, blaming everything on liberals, gays, atheists, and terrorists, while sending Joe's job to Mexico and his son to Iraq. Joe will drink his Coors, swear at his TV, and re-elect Bush and his ilk, voting against his own self interest because Team Hate has conned him into a single-issue stupor. He'll elect a man who will trash the economy, the environment, and other countries as long as faggots can't marry each other.

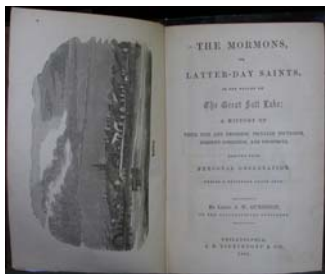
Hate sells, but Spence's disturbing and thought-provoking book is a plea for moderation, tolerance, and decency. Spence is not a hater, but people should buy his book and read it anyway.

**Gift Ideas From the Rare  
Book Department  
By Tony Weller**

- I love the stark but alluring green and pink on black paper design of the 1948 Alleycat Bookshop edition of **Djuna Barnes**' *The Book of Repulsive Women*, containing her poems and art. Text is printed in green on black paper. Super cool! \$30
- Culture rebels would cherish a copy of *Fire Station* by **Charles Bukowski**. This scarce little book of his poems is one of only 100 copies that were printed and bound in red wraps by the Capricorn Press in 1970. \$200



- We have the surprisingly uncommon 1975 book, *Longing for Darkness: Kamante's Tales*, collected by Peter Beard, *From Out of Africa*. This small narrow folio contains photographs and captions by the author of *Out of Africa*, **Isak Dinesen** [Karen Blixen] Our copy is in near fine condition with a dust jacket that is much better than generally found. \$75



- Would you like a look at how this Salt Lake City and its Mormon founders were seen by Army Officer **John Williams Gunnison**, when it was still a

frontier town? Consider a well preserved 1856 edition of Gunnison's popular book, *The Mormons, or, Latter-Day Saints, in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake: A History of Their Rise and Progress, Peculiar Doctrines, Present Conditions and Prospects, Derived from Personal Observation, During a Residence Among Them*. Bound in blind embossed cloth. This good copy is a bit faded, has lightly

*Continued on page 6*

**"BEST WELLERS" SELECTION**

For December/January  
Reviewed by Bruce Christensen

**Missing Witness**

By Gordon Campbell

ISBN 9780061337512

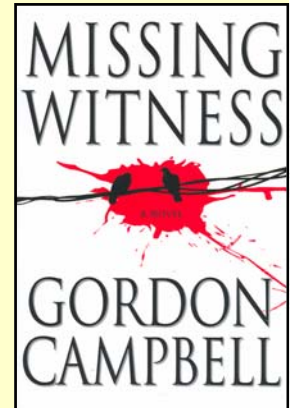
HarperCollins

\$24.95 (Best Wellers price: \$19.96)

I am not as familiar with the court room thriller as I should be. In fact, other than the old Perry Mason series, *Missing Witness* is my first sampling of this very popular subgenre of detective fiction. I could not have made a better choice. First-time local novelist **Gordon Campbell** works for the local law firm of Parsons Behle & Latimer, and his first hand experience enhances the verisimilitude of this exciting page turner.

The engrossing characters seem to be perpetually high on nicotine, caffeine, and alcohol as they attempt to uphold, break, stretch, use and abuse the law in the attempt of defending a mother accused of killing her husband in front of their daughter. The many plot twists in this book will keep you at the edge of your chair, and the characters will entertain, amuse, enrage and delight you. The descriptions of downtown Phoenix, the deserts of southern Arizona and the ski slopes of Utah will truly amaze you. *Missing Witness* would make an excellent gift for the discerning reader on your list, or maybe for yourself, especially during this hectic Christmas shopping season.

It is with great pleasure that I recommend this well-written book by an exciting new raconteur.



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"Best Wellers" titles are specially selected by our Book Buyers every other month and offered at a 20% discount.

Remember to ask about the current selection on your next visit.

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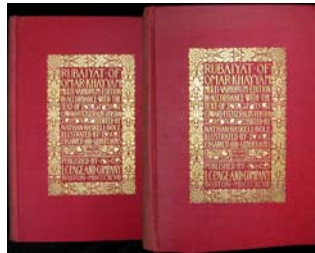
# Gift Ideas From the Rare Book Department

By Tony Weller

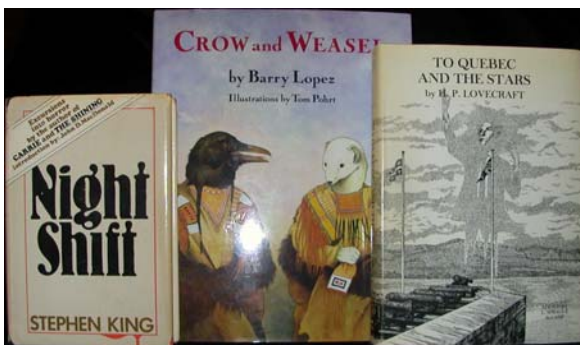
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soiled edges, a contemporary owner's name on the front pastedown, and subtly yellowed pages. \$150

- Rumor has it, that after the Bible and *Pilgrim's Progress*, *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam* is the next most printed book in history, this long poem is so well loved. We have an attractive 1898 two volume set bound in red cloth with nice gilt decorations. The illustrations by E. H. Garret and Gilbert James are guarded by tissue. Spines are evenly and gently faded. \$45



- Ooh. Would you like to offer a little harmless fear? Consider a first edition of **Stephen King's** fifth book, *Night Shift*. This book was not well made so finding copies in good condition is quite hard. Ours is not perfect, but better than usual in a dust jacket that is rubbed and chipped at the edges for \$450



- Or maybe an autographed copy of the touching juvenile story by **Barry Lopez**, one of our generation's best nature writers, *Crow and Weasel*. This 1990 North Point publication is illustrated in watercolor by Tom Pohrt. We have a fine 1<sup>st</sup> printing signed by Lopez on the half title for \$60
- A well made modern edition of **H. P. Lovecraft**. This small quarto edition, *To Quebec and the Stars*, was made by Donald M. Grant in 1976. Grant has

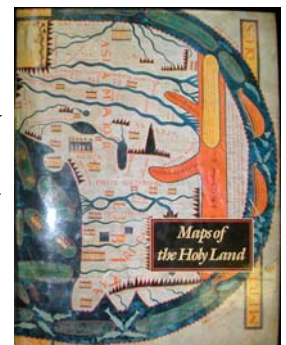
published many notable horror writers in nice editions. This copy has a dust jacket that is slightly yellowed. \$35

- William S. Burroughs** is quoted as saying that *The Wild Party* is the book that inspired him to become a writer. **Joseph Moncure March** authored this long jazz themed poem in the 1920's. I've handled two different 1929 printings and they are so scarce that I simply gave up figuring out which might be the first. The present copy is one of 200 printed by an unidentified printer most certainly because of fear of accusations of obscenity and decadence. It is bound in quarter black cloth with metallic gold paper covered boards and bright magenta endsheets. \$150



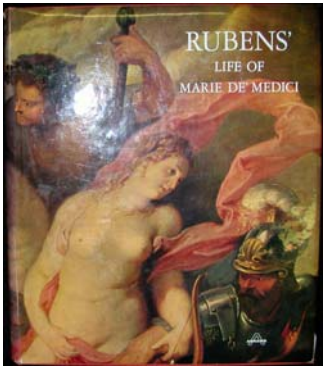
- My Book House* is the name of the set that included that wonderful collection of nursery rhymes and fairy tales, the title of which so many have forgotten. *My Book House* by **Olive Beaupre Miller** was issued numerous times since this original 1925 set was released. Most sets are lacking volume I or it is in terrible condition. Late sets had twelve thin volumes. This set is in the earliest design and very well preserved in its six thick black cloth bound volumes with color pictorial labels on front covers. \$400

- Also a near fine copy of the 1986 folio, *Maps of the Holy Land: Images of Terra Sancta through Two Millennia* by **Kenneth Nebenzahl**. This book contains many large color reproduc-



tions of maps spanning these 20 centuries. Mr. Nebenzahl's text helps us to understand their context and influence. \$60

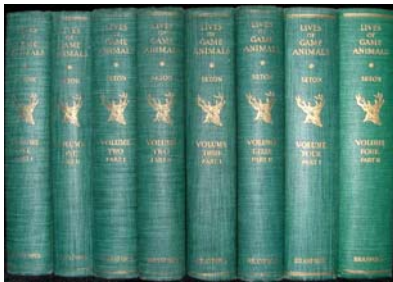
- For your friends with ranching interests or roots, or genealogists, consider the scarce *1950-51 Official Brand Book of the State of Utah*. This small cloth bound volume documents thousands of brands and the names and locations of the ranchers who used them. Very uncommon. \$225



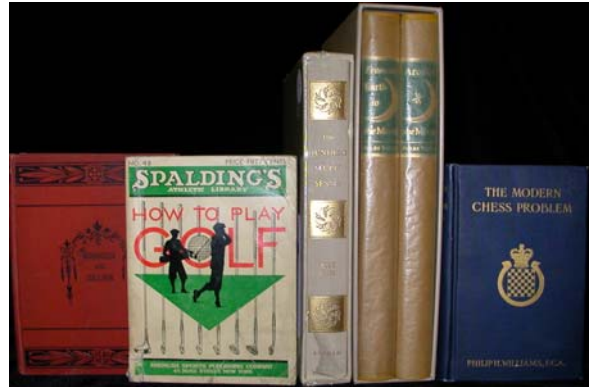
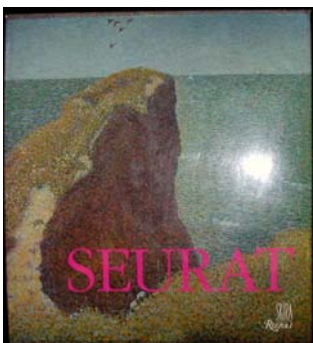
- Or how about the really big and really sumptuous, *Reubens' Life of Marie de' Medici*, published by Abrams in 1967. This jacketed folio volume measures 14" by 16" and is bound in heavy cloth covered boards. It is nicely printed on good paper and

boasts large, vividly colored, fold-out images of some of Rubens most amazing work. Text is by Jacques Thuillier. This one must be seen to be fully appreciated. \$250

- A nice cloth bound, eight volume set of **Ernest Thompson Seton's** *Lives of the Game Animals*, published in 1953. The first book has pencil notes on the front paste-down and a little marginalia. Seton wrote and illustrated numerous nature books around the turn of the last century. His Woodcraft League was a precursor to the Boys Scouts. \$400



- A nice small square folio collection of the pointilist paintings of **Georges Seurat**, by **Alain Madeleine-Perdrillat** is simply called, *Seurat*. It was made by Skira and Rizzoli in 1990 and contains numerous large format reproductions of Seurat's work. \$50



- Or maybe an 1880 small decorated cloth edition collecting the *Travels and Surprising Adventures of Baron Munchausen* and *Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World by Lemuel Gulliver*, more commonly known as *Gulliver's Travels*. These two classics of fantastic literature are by **Rudolph Raspe** and **Jonathan Swift** respectively. This compact and attractive edition is illustrated. \$50
- For the golfer, consider *How to Play Golf* from Spalding's Athletic Library. This small paperback guide was printed in 1933. It is illustrated with photos and little diagrams that remind me of Ripley's Believe it or Not. The edges are a bit worn but this depression era book has survived quite well. \$95
- A fan of **Amy Tan's** couldn't help but be thrilled with a perfect unopened signed limited edition of her 1995, *Hundred Secret Senses* of which only 175 were made. \$80
- A very attractive two volume set of the Limited Editions Club's 1970 production, *From Earth to the Moon and Around the Moon* by **Jules Verne**. This set is illustrated boldly and signed by artist Robert Shore. It was limited to an edition of 1500. It comes in a slipcase and it's in fine condition. \$80
- Is there a chess player on your shopping list? Consider a well kept 1922, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *The Modern Chess Problem* by **Philip H. Williams**. This small cloth bound book is titled in gilt with a small vignette of a chess board and crown on the front cover. It's pages are gently yellowed. \$25

And those are only 20 of the thousands of exciting books found in our rare book department.



## Sam Weller's Bookstore

254 S. Main St., Downtown SLC  
(At the Gallivan Plaza TRAX Stop)  
(801)328-2586  
(800)333-SAMW  
www.SamWellers.com

MEET BESTSELLING AUTHOR

**J.A. JANCE**

IN OUR STORE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH, AT 6:30PM

WHEN SHE WILL BE READING AND SIGNING  
HER NEWEST ALI REYNOLDS MYSTERY:

*HAND OF EVIL*