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Cover art by Klaus Voormann

Terry Southern’s *The Hipsters*, and other tastes, coming this spring

ANTIBOOKCLUB to release accessible trove of never-before-published and uncollected work by Terry Southern

THE HIPSTERS by Terry Southern
Edited by Nile Southern, with Gabriel Levinson


(BROOKLYN, New York) – This anthology of never-before-published and uncollected work charts the creative evolution of Terry Southern—from Quality-lit craftsman to visionary provocateur—through journal entries, short stories, an abandoned novel borne of his postwar Paris experience, a declaration of cinema’s triumph over the page, tastes of screenplays (including the first adaptation of *A Clockwork Orange*).
Orange and a sequel to Easy Rider), and a eulogy penned for Charlie Parker that reflects the author's own “mercilessly schizoid, uncompromising integrity.” Bursting from the pen of one of the most original American writers of the twentieth century, these previously unseen gems reveal a searching, fertile mind as he rewrites the boundaries of storytelling.

Contextualized with endnotes and an in-depth introduction by Nile Southern, this intimate collection is wrapped in cover art by legendary musician, artist, and graphic designer Klaus Voormann. When asked to create the cover, he replied, “I often witnessed Terry and Harry [Nilsson] hanging out in the studios or in a corner of a bar having a laugh and a drink (or two!).” Voormann's illustration, unveiled in this press release for the first time, calls to mind his Grammy Award–winning design for the cover of the Beatles Revolver. “Am I really predestined to design a book cover for a famous writer like Terry?” he asked. The cover leaves no room for doubt; the answer a resounding yes.

The Hipsters will publish on May 1, 2021—Terry Southern Day in Dallas, Texas—as a trade paperback original. Designed in the fashion of a vintage mass market paperback, complete with fore-edge staining, this accessible $16 volume will bring the genius of Terry Southern to a new generation of readers and film connoisseurs, and be equally sought after by longtime fans.

Terry Southern (1924–1995) was born in Alvarado, Texas, and grew up in Dallas. In 1937, on a middle-school class trip to the Dallas Public Library, an encounter with Edgar Allan Poe's “The Narrative of A. Gordon Pym” ignited Southern's passion for developing a fine prose style with what he later called "the capacity to astonish." He attended Northwestern's Great Books program, receiving a BA in 1948. He was enrolled at the Sorbonne on the GI Bill from 1948 to 1951, garnering certificates in medieval literature, modern French literature, and contemporary European philosophy. His stories were first published in Paris literary magazines, including The Paris Review's first issue. After living in Greenwich Village in the early 1950s, he married Carol Kauffman in 1956 and moved with her to Geneva, where he wrote Flash and Filigree and The Magic Christian (both published first in England) and, with Mason Hoffenberg, the sex satire Candy, which was first published in France and immediately banned there. Southern is also the author of the novels Blue Movie (1970) and Texas Summer (1992). In 1961, his first-person reportage "Twirling at Ole Miss" appeared in Esquire, launching what Tom Wolfe later described as "a new kind of journalism." Another semiautobiographical short story, “The Road Out of Axotle,” won the O. Henry Prize of 1963. Southern's film career began when he was hired by Stanley Kubrick to help transform Dr. Strangelove from arch melodrama into the nightmare comedy that the director envisioned. In 1964, Candy became a runaway bestseller in America and Dr. Strangelove's great success led to Southern working on many significant films of the 1960s, including The Loved One, The Cincinnati Kid, Barbarella, Easy Rider, and End of the Road. Southern lived with his longtime companion Gail Gerber for twenty-five years in a remote farmhouse in East Canaan, Connecticut. He is remembered as a unique figure in literature, journalism and film whose satirical voice prompted Gore Vidal to declare him "the most profoundly witty writer of his generation."

Nile Southern is a writer and filmmaker living in Boulder, Colorado. He is the author of The Candy Men: The Rollicking Life and Times of the Notorious Novel, Candy and coeditor of Yours in Haste and Adoration: Selected Letters of Terry Southern, Chicago 1968: The Whole World Is Watching, and Now Dig This: The Unspeakable Writings of Terry Southern, 1950–1995. His writing has appeared
in Black Scat, Please Kill Me, Stop Smiling, Black Ice, o·bîèk, Alt-X, and A Brief History of Authoterrorism. As a filmmaker in New York City, he worked for Jonas Mekas and D. A. Pennebaker, and created a mobile film installation for music clubs called The Exploding Limo Show. He is currently working on his personal documentary film about Terry Southern, whose working title is Dad Strangelove.