

## *Literary Journalism Studies*

### A HUNTER S. THOMPSON BIBLIOGRAPHY

PREPARED BY WILLIAM MCKEEN

#### BOOKS BY HUNTER S. THOMPSON

- Hell's Angels* (New York: Random House, 1967).
- Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (New York: Random House, 1972).
- Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail* (San Francisco: Straight Arrow, 1973).
- The Great Shark Hunt* (New York: Summit Books, 1979).
- The Curse of Lono* (New York: Bantam Books, 1983).
- Generation of Swine* (New York: Summit Books, 1988).
- Songs of the Doomed* (New York: Summit Books, 1990).
- Screwjack* (Santa Barbara, Calif.: Neville, 1991).\*
- Better than Sex* (New York: Random House, 1994).
- The Proud Highway* (New York: Villard Books, 1997).
- Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas and Other American Stories* (New York: The Modern Library, 1997).
- Mistah Leary, He Dead* (Pasadena, Calif.: X-Ray Publishing, 1997).\*
- The Rum Diary* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1998).
- Fear and Loathing in America* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000).
- Screwjack and Other Stories* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000).
- Kingdom of Fear* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2003).
- Hey Rube* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2004).
- Fire in the Nuts* (Tucson, Ariz.: Sylph Publications, 2004).\*
- Fear and Loathing at Rolling Stone* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2011).
- The Mutineer* (New York: Simon and Schuster, in press).

[\*] denotes limited edition

**BOOKS FEATURING HUNTER S. THOMPSON**

(as a character or with an example of his work), with occasional annotations.

Acosta, Oscar Zeta. *The Autobiography of a Brown Buffalo* (San Francisco: Straight Arrow, 1972). Acosta was the model for Dr. Gonzo in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*.

Amram, David. *Upbeat: Nine Lives of a Musical Cat* (Boulder, Colo.: Paradigm Publishers, 2007). Amram, the gifted musician, was a longtime friend. *Upbeat* contains his reminiscences of Thompson up through and including the blast-off funeral of August 2005.

Anson, Robert Sam. *Gone Crazy and Back Again* (New York: Doubleday, 1981). Includes rich detail of Thompson's early years at *Rolling Stone*.

Barger, Ralph "Sonny," with Keith and Kent Zimmerman. *Hell's Angel* (New York: Harper Collins, 2001). Barger offers his theory that Thompson provoked the Hell's Angels in order to get stomped and help the sales of his book.

Bingley, Will, and Anthony Hope-Smith. *Gonzo: A Graphic Biography of Hunter S. Thompson* (New York: Abrams, 2012). Bingley, the writer, and Hope-Smith, the artist, tell Thompson's life story in graphic format.

Brinkley, Douglas. *The Majic [sic] Bus: An American Odyssey* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1993). This cross-country trip led to Thompson's collaborations with Brinkley, the noted historian.

Carroll, E. Jean. *Hunter: The Strange and Savage Life of Hunter S. Thompson* (New York: Dutton, 1993). Carroll's odd take on Thompson's life was a combination of oral history and a false memoir.

Cleverly, Michael, and Bob Braudis. *The Kitchen Readings* (New York: HarperCollins, 2008). Cleverly is an artist who lived up the road from Thompson, and Braudis, the sheriff of Pitkin County, Colorado, was his closest friend the last three decades of his life. There are a lot of great stories in this book, and they are well told.

Clifford, Peggy. *To Aspen and Back* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1980). Foreword by Hunter S. Thompson.

Corday, Simone. *9 1/2 Years Behind the Green Door: A Mitchell Brothers Stripper Remembers her Lover Artie Mitchell, Hunter S. Thompson, and the Killing that Rocked San Francisco* (Minneapolis: Mill City Press, 2007).

Cowan, Jay. *Hunter S. Thompson: An Insider's View of Deranged, Depraved, Drugged Out Brilliance* (Guilford, Conn.: The Lyons Press, 2009). Cowan was the one-time caretaker of Owl Farm and a friend long thereafter. Few had such a vantage to witness Thompson at work.

- Crist, Steve, and Laila Nabulsi, eds. *Gonzo* (Los Angeles: Ammo Books, 2006). Features writing and photography by Hunter S. Thompson. Nabulsi lovingly produced this visual biography that contains words and pictures unavailable elsewhere.
- Crouse, Timothy. *The Boys on the Bus* (New York: Random House, 1973). Crouse was hired by *Rolling Stone* to “babysit” Thompson during the 1972 presidential campaign. Thompson ended up encouraging Crouse to cover the press, and this masterful book was the result. Thompson appears as one of the members of the campaign press corps, the “boys on the bus.”
- Dickstein, Morris. *Gates of Eden* (New York: Basic Books, 1977). The sociologist and historian sees Thompson as one of the avatars of change in the 1970s.
- Draper, Robert. *Rolling Stone: The Uncensored History* (New York: Doubleday, 1990). A thoroughly reported history of *Rolling Stone* that offers a decade more material and hindsight than the earlier book by Anson.
- Early, Gerald, ed. *The Muhammad Ali Reader* (New York: Ecco Press, 1998). Thompson’s Ali profile is reprinted.
- Hale, Dennis, and Jonathan Eisen, eds. *The California Dream* (New York: Collier Books, 1968). An excerpt from *Hell’s Angels* is included.
- Harrell, Margaret. *Keep This Quiet: My Relationship with Hunter S. Thompson, Milton Klonsky and Jan Mensaert* (Raleigh, N.C.: Saeculum University Press, 2011). Thompson loved Harrell’s work as the line editor on *Hell’s Angels* and she here details the nature of their relationship.
- Hart, Gary. *Right from the Start: A Chronicle of the McGovern Campaign* (New York: Quadrangle Books, 1973). Hart offers a view of the McGovern campaign that parallels Thompson’s *Campaign Trail* book.
- Kerrane, Kevin, and Ben Yagoda. *The Art of Fact: A Historical Anthology of Literary Journalism* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1998). Thompson’s “The Scum Also Rises” from 1974 is included.
- Love, Robert, ed. *The Best of Rolling Stone* (New York: Doubleday, 1993). An excerpt from *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* is included.
- Mailer, Norman. *The Fight* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1977.) Thompson went to Zaire to cover the fight between George Foreman and Muhammad Ali. Thompson never wrote a word about the fight, but Mailer, of course, wrote several. He also wrote about the press corps in Zaire, including Thompson.
- Mankiewicz, Frank. *Perfectly Clear: Nixon from Whittier to Watergate* (New York: Quadrangle Books, 1973). Another view of the McGovern campaign from the trail boss, a man for whom Thompson had the greatest respect.

- McKeen, William. *Hunter S. Thompson* (Boston: Twayne, 1991). This first book on Thompson is more of a study of his work than his life, though it has elements of biography.
- . *Outlaw Journalist: The Life and Times of Hunter S. Thompson* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2008). Built on the serious study of his work in the earlier book, this was the first full-length biography of Thompson to be published after his death.
- . *Mile Marker Zero: The Moveable Feast of Key West* (New York: Crown, 2011). This nonfiction narrative concerns the literary life of Key West in the seventies and primarily focuses on Thomas McGuane, Jim Harrison and Jimmy Buffett. But no party was over until Hunter S. Thompson showed up.
- McWilliams, Carey. *The Education of Carey McWilliams* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1979) McWilliams recounts giving Thompson his breakthrough assignment to write about the Hell's Angels.
- Miller, John. *San Francisco Stories* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1990). Thompson has two pieces in the book, "Generation of Swine" and "When the Beatniks Were Social Lions."
- Murphy, George, ed. *The Best of Key West's Writers, 1830-1990* (Marathon, Fla.: Tortugas Limited Publishing, 1990). Thompson's "The Gonzo Salvage Company" is included.
- National Observer* editors. *The Observer's World: People, Places, and Events from the Pages of The National Observer* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1965). These five Hunter S. Thompson pieces are included: "End of the Beatniks," "The Extinct Hitchhiker," "Across a Frozen Desert," "The 'Gringo' and Culture Shock," and "A Footloose American in a Smuggler's Den."
- Nocentia, Annie, and Ruth Baldwin, eds. *The High Times Reader* (New York: Nation Books, 2004). Contains a Hunter S. Thompson interview.
- Perry, Charles, ed. *Smokestack El-Ropo's Bedside Reader* (San Francisco: Straight Arrow, 1972). Two Thompson articles from the 1972 campaign appear in book form first in this anthology.
- Perry, Charles. *The Haight Ashbury* (New York: Random House, 1984). Thompson was there at ground zero for the birth of the counterculture. Perry's excellent book provides context.
- Perry, Paul. *Fear and Loathing: The Strange and Terrible Saga of Hunter S. Thompson* (New York: Thunder's Mouth, 1993). Perry started the ball rolling for what became *The Curse of Lono*. This is a more coherent attempt at biography than Carroll's, though both Thompson and his girlfriend, Laila Nabulsi, felt Perry abused their trust.

- Plimpton, George. *Shadow Box* (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1977). Thompson admired few people more than Plimpton. Plimpton writes elegantly about the Ali-Foreman fight and details Thompson's non-role in covering that fight. (Thompson chose to skip the fight and float in a swimming pool of marijuana instead.)
- Pollack, Richard, ed. *Stop the Presses, I Want to Get Off* (New York: Random House, 1975). Contains a brilliant profile of Thompson by a brilliant writer: "The Prince of Gonzo" by J. Anthony Lukas.
- Rolling Stone* editors. *The Rolling Stone Reader* (New York: Warner Books, 1974). Thompson's "Strange Rumbings in Aztlan" is included.
- Steadman, Ralph. *America* (San Francisco: Straight Arrow, 1974). Foreword (hilarious) by Hunter S. Thompson.
- . *The Joke's Over* (New York: Harcourt, 2006). A soul-searching autobiography by Steadman, during which he examines the complicated nature of his relationship with Thompson.
- Stephenson, William. *Gonzo Republic: Hunter S. Thompson's America* (London: Continuum, 2011). That rare thing, a serious academic study of Thompson.
- Thompson, Anita. *The Gonzo Way* (Golden, Colo.: Fulcrum Publishing, 2007). His widow collects wit and wisdom and some of her thoughts about her late husband.
- . *Ancient Gonzo Wisdom: Interviews with Hunter S. Thompson* (New York: DaCapo Press, 2009). Anita Thompson unearthed and transcribed long-forgotten interviews and commentaries, adding a great deal to our understanding of Thompson's philosophy.
- Thompson, Toby. *The 60s Report* (New York: Rawson Wade, 1979). Thompson (no relation to Hunter) checks in on some of the great cultural forces of the Sixties about a decade later, and Thompson is in the cast of characters.
- Torgoff, Martin. *Can't Find My Way Home* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2004). A book about the drug generation would be remiss for not including Thompson. This is an excellent book overall.
- Torrey, Beef, and Kevin Simonson. *Conversations with Hunter S. Thompson* (Jackson, Miss.: University Press of Mississippi, 2008). This collects most of the major interviews of Thompson's life, including his terrific Playboy 1974 interview with Craig Vetter.
- Trudeau, Garry. *Action Figure: The Life and Times of Doonesbury's Uncle Duke* (Riverside, N.J.: Andrews-McMeel Publishing, 2001). A bow to the caricature. The original edition came with an Uncle Duke action figure.
- Weingarten, Marc. *The Gang that Wouldn't Write Straight* (New York: Crown, 2005). An amusing historical account of the rise of Literary Journalism.

- Wenner, Jann, and Corey Seymour. *Gonzo* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 2007). An oral biography of Thompson's life and work that despite its disjointed nature, includes some great stories.
- Whittmer, Peter. *Aquarius Revisited: Seven Who Created the Sixties Counterculture that Changed America* (New York: Macmillan, 1987). Thompson appears as part of the cast of characters before he showed up as the main attraction in . . .
- . *When the Going Gets Weird* (New York: Hyperion, 1993). Of the first wave of Hunter Thompson biographies, this was probably the most coherent and conventional.
- Wolfe, Tom. *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1968). Thompson appears briefly and was, of course, the source of much of Wolfe's material on the *Hell's Angels*.
- . *The New Journalism* (New York: Harper and Row, 1973). Features two selections from Thompson, the only writer with more than one piece in the anthology.

## FILMS

- Ewing, Wayne, director. *Breakfast with Hunter* (Ewing Films, 2003).
- , dir. *When I Die* (Ewing Films, 2005).
- , dir. *Free Lisl* (Ewing Films, 2007).
- , dir. *Animals, Whores and Dialogue* (Ewing Films, 2010).
- Finch, Nigel, director. *Fear and Loathing on the Road to Hollywood* (British Broadcasting Corporation, 1978).
- Gibney, Alex, dir. *Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr. Hunter S. Thompson* (HDNet Films, 2008).
- Gilliam, Terry, dir. *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (Universal Pictures, 1998).
- Linson, Art, dir. *Where the Buffalo Roam* (Universal Pictures, 1980).
- Martin, Sharon, prod. *Biography: Hunter S. Thompson* (The Biography Channel, 2004).
- Robinson, Bruce, dir. *The Rum Diary* (Film District, 2011).
- Thurman, Tom, dir. *Buy the Ticket, Take the Ride* (Starz Entertainment, 2006).

## MAJOR INTERVIEWS

(compiled by Beef Torrey and Kevin Simonson)

Allis, Sam. "An Evening (Gasp!) with Hunter Thompson." *Time*, 22 January 1990.

- Anson, Robert Sam. "Hunter Thompson Meets Fear and Loathing Face to Face." *New Times*, 10 December 1976.
- Brinkley, Douglas, Terry McDonell, and George Plimpton, "The Art of Journalism I: An Interview with Hunter S. Thompson and his journal notes from Vietnam." *The Paris Review*, no. 156, Fall 2000.
- Felton, David. "Hunter Thompson Has Cashied His Check," *Rolling Stone College Papers*, 1980, no. 2.
- Glassie, John. "Hunter S. Thompson," *Salon.com*, 3 February 2003.
- Hahn, Matthew. "Writing on the Wall: An Interview with Hunter S. Thompson," *The Atlantic Online*, 26 August 1997.
- Hinkle, Warren. "Going for Gonzo," *The Nation*, 4 June 1990.
- Jarnow, Jesse. "Man of Action: Hunter S. Thompson Keep Moving," *Relix*, April–May, 2003.
- Kass, Jeff. "Still Gonzo After All These Years." *Denver Rocky Mountain News*. 31 December 2000, 7A, 11A, 13A.
- Keil, Richard. "Still Gonzo After All These Years." *American Journalism Review*, no. 18, 1 April 1996.
- . "An American Original," *American Journalism Review*, April/May 2005.
- Letterman, David. "The Late Show with David Letterman," CBS Television, 25 November 1988.
- Macdonald, Marianne. "The Soft Heart Within Literature's Hellraiser." *The Guardian*, 18 October 1998.
- McKeen, William. "Interview with Hunter S. Thompson," from *Hunter S. Thompson* (Twayne, 1991).
- Mnookin, Seth. "Fear and Writing." *Brill's Content*, January 2001.
- O'Brien, Conan. *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*. NBC, 6 November 2003.
- O'Rourke, P.J. "P.J. O'Rourke Interviews Hunter S. Thompson," *Rolling Stone*, 28 November 1996. [Illustrations by Ralph Steadman]
- . "Hunter S. Thompson." *Rolling Stone*, 5 November–10 December 1987 [double issue].
- Rentilly, J. "The Dr. Is In." *Pages*, January/February 2003.
- Rose, Charlie. "The Charlie Rose Show." Public Broadcasting Service, 13 June 1997.
- . "The Charlie Rose Show," 30 October 1998.
- . "The Charlie Rose Show," 6 February 2003.

- Rosenbaum, Ron. "Hunter Thompson: The Good Doctor Tells All." *High Times*, September 1977.
- Simonson, Kevin. "Exclusive Interview with Hunter S. Thompson." *SPIN*, May 1993.
- . "Fear and Loathing in Hollywood: A Strange and Terrible Saga of Guns, Drugs and Hunter S. Thompson." *Hustler*, August 1998.
- Stokes, Geoffrey, and Kevin Simonson. "Gonzo's Last Stand? The New Aspen Takes Aim at Hunter S. Thompson." *Village Voice*, 15 May 1990.
- Stratton, Richard. "Hunter Thompson The Last Outlaw." *High Times*, August 1990.
- Vetter, Craig. "The Playboy Interview: Hunter Thompson." *Playboy*, November 1974.
- Wertheimer, Linda, and Jacki Lyden. "All Things Considered: Interview with Hunter S. Thompson," National Public Radio, 7 August 1997.
- Whitmer, Peter. "Hunter Thompson: Still Crazy After All These Years." *Saturday Review*, January–February 1984.
- Wilkie, Curtis. "The Doctor is In," *The Boston Globe Magazine*, February 7, 1988.