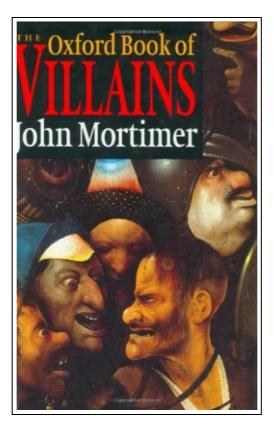
# The Oxford Book of Villains



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# Reviews

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(Maddison Becker)

### THE OXFORD BOOK OF VILLAINS



Oxford University Press, Oxford, London, New York, Toronto, Melbourne, &c., 1992. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. 1st Edition. SPLENDID, DELIGHTFULL, CHILLING: NEW: Unstated 1st Edition w/o no. line, handsome new mylar-protected jacket w/ sharp new edges & corners showing orig. \$24.00 price at bottom right inside front flyleaf, superb new traditional OUP midnight-blue library-durable fabric-over-boards cover w/ titles gilt engraved at top-center of front panel & gilt-bordered spine displaying gilt titles & OUP logo, immaculate smooth-cut text-block exterior, new sewn binding w/ tight signatures & crimson-gold-checked cloth bands at spine-caps, impeccable cream-white end-papers on heavy stock, pristine interior handsomely printed on excellent unblemished paper \* 9.50" x 6.36" x 1.48", 0.84 kg, 448 pp. \* The world may be short of many things," writes John Mortimer in his introduction to this marvelous volume, "rain forests, great politicians, black rhinos, saints, & caviar, but the supply of villains is endless. They are everywhere, down narrow streets & in brightly lit office buildings & parliaments, dominating family life, crowding prisons & law courts, & providing plots for most of the works of fiction that have been composed since the dawn of history."
Now, in the ultimate rogue's gallery, Mortimer (best known as the author of Rumpole of the Bailey) has captured an arresting collection of crooks, murderers, seducers, con men, traitors & tyrants: the world's greatest villains, both fictional & real. Here readers who love mayhem (at least in print) will find villainy in all its shapes & sizes, from pickpockets & pirates to tyrants & financiers. Billy the Kid rubs shoulders w/ Mac the Knife, Captain Hook w/ Casanova, Caligula w/ Rasputin, Fagin w/ Dr Fu-Manchu. There are master criminals (such as Dr No, Raffles, or Professor Moriarty), minor miscreants (such as P.G. Wodehouse's Ferdie the Fly, "who,...



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