



NERO WOLFE & THE TOFF

by Jean-Marc Lofficier
(<http://www.lofficier.com/nerowolfe.html>)

Translations of nine of the titles:

Ici, Radio New-York = And Be A Villain

Un Roman a Tue = Murder By the Book

Ca Arrive Dans les Meilleurs Familles = In the Best Families

Trois Femmes et un Homme = Prisoner's Base

La Voix du Mort = The Silent Speaker

Double Piege = Not Quite Dead Enough

Les Compagnons de la Peur = The League of Frightened Men

La Casette Rouge = The Red Box

Dans la Plus Stricte Intimite = contains "Omit Flowers" from Three Doors to Death and "Instead of Evidence" from Trouble in Triplicate. The French version turns the two separate stories into one continuous whole.

[HOME](#)[Article Page 1](#)[Article Page 2](#)[Article Page 3](#)[Article Page 4](#)[Article Page 5](#)[Bibliography](#)[Cover Gallery 1](#)[Cover Gallery 2](#)[Cover Gallery 3](#)[Cover Gallery 4](#)[Cover Gallery 5](#)[Cover Gallery 6](#)[Cover Gallery 7](#)[German covers](#)[by Regino](#)[Bernad](#)[Le Saint](#)[Detective](#)[Magazine 1](#)[Le Saint](#)[Detective](#)[Magazine 2](#)[Le Saint](#)[Detective](#)

The success of the Saint books even encouraged Fayard in 1948 to start publishing French editions of the Nero Wolfe (a.k.a. "L'Homme aux Orchidées" -- The Orchid Man) novels by Rex Stout, and John Creasey's The Toff, rechristened The Prince. Before the war, Fayard had also published five New Adventures of Raffles by Barry Perown. Later, in the 1950s, they would release a French edition of [***The Saint Detective Magazine***](#) as well.

It is interesting to observe that Fayard deliberately copied the design of its famous Saint covers, using the haloed stick figure designed and trademarked by Leslie Charteris, in order to attract readers to its other series: the Nero Wolfe covers featured a rotund, orchid-bearing, stick figure, while those of the Prince bore a top-hat-wearing, monocled one. Considering Charteris' well-documented attempts to protect his trademark, it is remarkable that no attempts were made to stop Fayard from doing this.

In any event, and in spite of this clever bit of cover design, the Nero Wolfe and Prince series failed to attract the same, huge following than that of the Saint books. They were abandoned in 1950, after more than twenty Nero Wolfes and fourteen Princes had been published. (It is also possible that Fayard simply lost the rights to publish them.)

Meanwhile, Fayard, having by then run out of original Leslie Charteris' Saint stories, embarked on an aggressive program to manufacture their own. From then on, the Saint would become, and remain until its own discontinuation in 1966, Fayard's premier crime/adventure series.

L'HOMME AUX ORCHIDEES [***NERO WOLFE***]

- 1 - L'homme aux Orchidées
- 2 - Ici, Radio New-York
- 3 - La bande élastique
- 4 - La sauce Zingara
- 5 - Les compagnons de la peur
- 6 - La cassette rouge
- 7 - Meurtre au vestiaire
- 8 - Double piège

Magazine 3

- 9 - Trop de femmes
- 10 - Sept millions de dollars

Le Saint

- 11 - La voix du mort

Detective

- 12 - La seconde confession

Magazine 4

- 13 - Ca arrive dans les meilleures familles
- 14 - Les orchidées noires
- 15 - Un roman a tué...

About Nero Wolfe & The Toff

- 16 - Je vous regarderai mourir
- 17 - Trois femmes et un homme
- 18 - Deux portes sur la mort

About artist

- 19 - Les araignées d'or

Regino Bernad

- 20 - Dans la plus stricte intimité
- 21 - La Montagne Noire

The Saint on French Radio

French-English Text Comparison

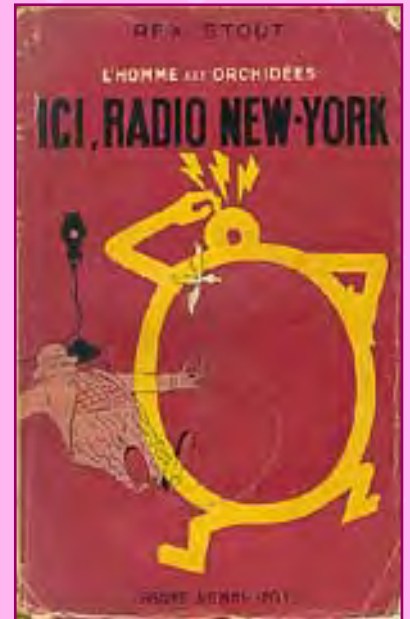
De Saint (The Dutch Saint)



Nero Wolfe No.1
(First Version)



Nero Wolfe No.1
(Second Version)



Nero Wolfe No.2

© 2001 Jean-Marc Lofficier.
This article first appeared in a slightly different form in the Summer '94 issue of The Epistle.

Thanks to Ian Dickerson for Research Assist.
Thanks to Dan

Bodenheimer, Marcel Bernadac, and Patrick Verdant for additional cover scans.

E-MAIL



Nero Wolfe No.3



Nero Wolfe No.4



Nero Wolfe No.5



Nero Wolfe No.6



Nero Wolfe No.7



Nero Wolfe No.8



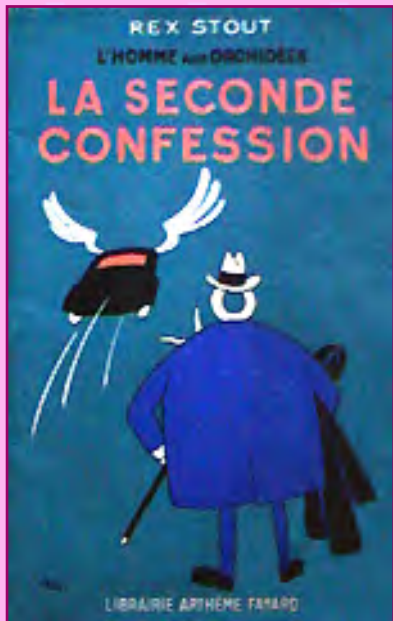
Nero Wolfe No.9



Nero Wolfe No.10



Nero Wolfe No.11



Nero Wolfe No.12



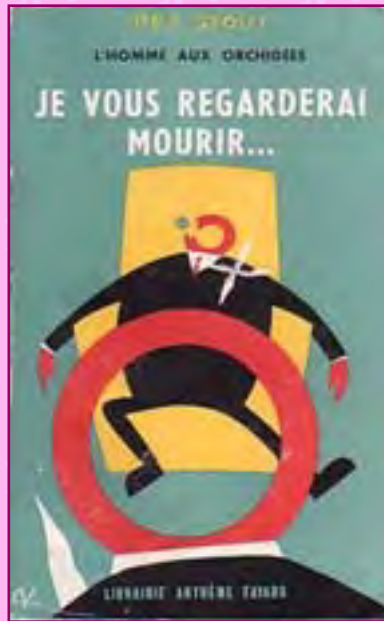
Nero Wolfe No.13



Nero Wolfe No.14



Nero Wolfe No.15



Nero Wolfe No. 16



Nero Wolfe No. 17



Nero Wolfe No.18



Nero Wolfe No.19



Nero Wolfe No.20



Nero Wolfe No.21

LE PRINCE (*THE TOFF*)

- 1 - Le Prince entre dans le bain
- 2 - Le Prince et la dame en noir
- 3 - Le Prince en uniforme
- 4 - Le Prince contre le marteau
- 5 - Le Prince contre Scotland Yard
- 6 - Le Prince en croisière
- 7 - Le Prince en perte de vitesse
- 8 - Le Prince et les barbus
- 9 - Le Prince découvre les Champs-Élysées
- 10 - Le Prince hors-la-loi
- 11 - Le Prince sonne l'hallali
- 12 - Le Prince joue avec Casque d'Or
- 13 - Le Prince, l'amour et les diamants
- 14 - Le Prince et les vestes rouges



Toff No. 1



Toff No. 2



Toff No. 3



Toff No. 4



Toff No.5



Toff No.6



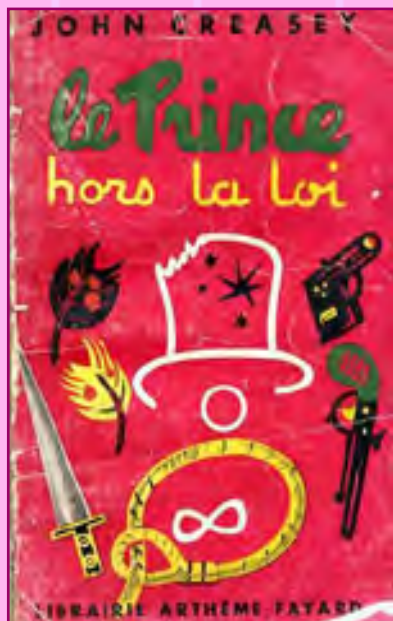
Toff No. 9



Toff No. 7



Toff No. 8



Toff No. 10



Toff No. 11



Toff No. 12



Toff No. 13



Toff No. 14