

# *The Wolfe Pack*

*The Nero Wolfe  
Literary Society*

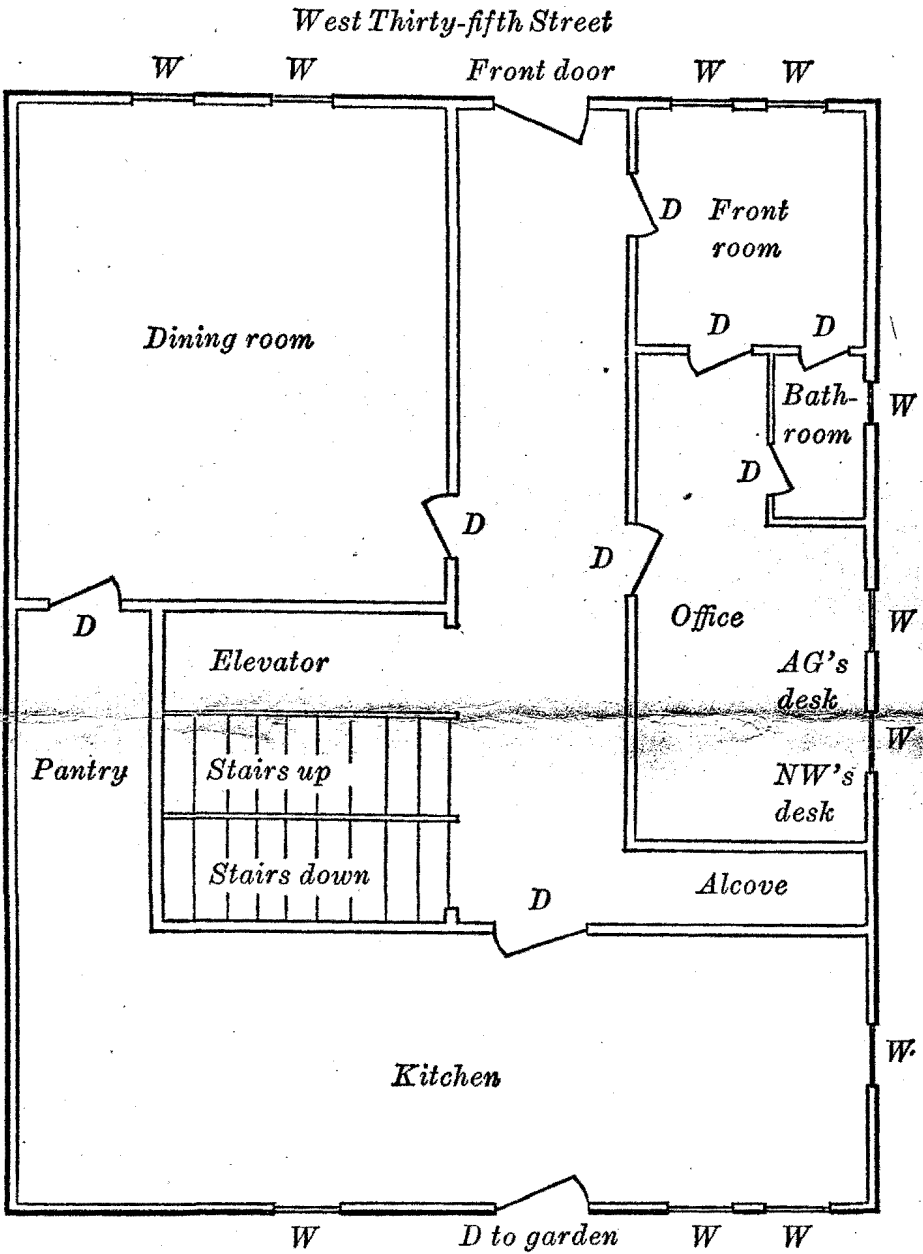


# NERO WOLFE OF WEST THIRTY- FIFTH STREET

by  
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The Life and  
Times of  
America's  
Largest  
Detective





*Ground Floor of Nero Wolfe's House*

## A Chronology of Nero Wolfe

"To Whom It May Concern: I hereby state and acknowledge  
that on Saturday, January 29, 1966 . . ."

—The Killer, *Death of a Doxy*

Late 1892 or early 1893

Nero Wolfe and his twin brother, Marko, born in Trenton, New Jersey.

Late 1890s or early 1900s

Wolfe's mother returns to Europe, taking Nero and Marko with her. She settles in Budapest, with occasional trips to Zagreb and Albania, marries a man named Vukcic, has a third child. Nero and Marko herd goats, "hunt dragonflies" in the mountains.

Late 1911 or early 1912

Marko, after working in Paris, returns to the United States.

Wednesday, October 23, 1912

Archie Goodwin born on a farm in Ohio.

1913

Wolfe is given a position in the Austro-Hungarian civil service. He soon enters the intelligence service of the Empire, goes to Catalonia on a confidential mission; the chase

- eventually takes him to Algiers, Egypt, and Arabia.
- 1914-1915 Wolfe becomes involved in a desperate episode in the Balkans, is jailed in Bulgaria, switches his allegiance to Montenegro, joins the Montenegrin army.
- 1916 Wolfe "starves to death" when the Serbo-Montenegrin army is wiped out, "fighting machine guns with fingernails."
- 1917-1918 The AEF lands in Europe and Wolfe walks 600 miles to join the American troops. He claims to have killed 200 Germans during this period. He is honorably discharged from the American forces, probably in France.
- 1918-1920 Wolfe "moves around." He eventually returns to the Balkans, where he "sheds another illusion."
- 1921 Wolfe, now in Montenegro, adopts the three-year-old orphan girl, Anna. Thinking he is leaving her in good hands, he returns to the United States.
- 1922-1928 For Wolfe, these are the Missing Years, those in which he may have journeyed much, read a great deal, and generally improved his knowledge of the world. He returns eventually to the United States. In 1927, even before he goes into prac-

tice as a private detective, he has a clash of some kind with Inspector Cramer.

Marko, who during this period married and lost Dina Rossi in London, returns to the United States and establishes Rusterman's restaurant in New York City.

1929

Wolfe goes back to Europe, visits Zagreb to learn the whereabouts of Anna, gets thrown into jail again, is given ten hours to leave the country. He returns to the United States.

1930

Wolfe buys the old brownstone house on West Thirty-fifth Street, hires Archie Goodwin as his assistant, enters upon his career as a private detective.

1930-1933

The Longren case.  
The Fashalt case.  
The Goldsmith case.  
The Williamson kidnaping.  
The Very Neat Blackmailing case.  
The Moschenden case.  
The Diplomacy Club business.  
The Pine Street case.  
The case of the Guy Named Hallowell.

1931

The first Anthony D. Perry case.

Late 1932-early 1933

The Bannister-Schurman business.  
The Hay Fever case.

- The Fairmont National Bank case.
- Wednesday, June 7–Wednesday, June 21, 1933 ✓ *Fer-de-Lance*, Nero Wolfe's first recorded case, published in book form in 1934.
- June 1933–October 1934 | The case of the Whittemore Bonds.  
The case of the Hardest Guy to Deal With.  
The case of the Highly Unremunerative Mission.
- February 1935 The Unrecorded Incident That Convinced Archie He Should Always Carry a Gun.
- Friday, November 2–Monday, November 12, 1934 — 2 *The League of Frightened Men*, published in book form in 1935.
- Monday, October 7–Wednesday, October 9, 1935 3 ✓ *The Rubber Band*, published in book form in 1936.
- Monday, March 30–Saturday, April 4, 1936 4 ✓ *The Red Box*, published in book form in 1937.
- Monday, April 5–Friday, April 9, 1937 5 ✓ *Too Many Cooks*, published in book form in 1938.
- July 1937 Inspector Cramer solves his own case in *Red Threads*, published in book form in 1939. SA
- Monday, September 12–Thursday, September 15, 1938 6 ✓ *Some Buried Caesar*, published in book form in 1939.
- November 1938 The Crampton-Gore case.
- 1938 Wolfe during this year gets his first knowledge of X.
- November 1938 7 ✓ *Over My Dead Body*, published in book form in 1939.
- Late 1938–early 1939 The Wetzler case.

- Friday, July 14–Sunday, July 16, 1939 8 *Where There's a Will*, published in book form in 1940.
- 1940 Another Missing Year.
- Thursday and Friday in March 1941 9 *Black Orchids*, published in book form in 1942.
- Monday, August 18–Wednesday, August 27, 1941 “Cordially Invited to Meet Death,” published in book form in *Black Orchids*, 1942.
- Early 1942 Archie, now Major Goodwin, straightens out the mess down in Georgia.
- Monday–Wednesday in early March 1942 10 *Not Quite Dead Enough*, published in book form in 1944.
- Wednesday, June 9, 1943 X telephones Wolfe for the first time.
- Monday, August 9–Tuesday, August 10, 1943 ~~“Booby Trap,”~~ published in book form in *Not Quite Dead Enough*, 1944.
- Tuesday–Friday in May 1944 11 “Help Wanted, Male,” published in book form in *Trouble in Triplicate*, 1949.
- Thursday–Saturday in October 1945 “Instead of Evidence,” published in book form in *Trouble in Triplicate*, 1949.
- A Tuesday in October 1945 12 “Bullet for One,” published in book form in *Curtains for Three*, 1950.
- Before March 1946 The Chesterton-Best affair.  
The Boedikker case.
- Tuesday, March 26–Saturday, April 6, 1946 13 *The Silent Speaker*, published in book form in 1946.
- April 1946 The Fremont case, and X's second phone call to Wolfe.



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- Monday, October 7–Tuesday, October 8, 1946 “Before I Die,” published in book form in *Trouble in Triplicate*, 1949.
- Tuesday, March 18–Saturday, April 5, 1947 ✓ *Too Many Women*, published in book form in 1947.
- Monday, June 9–Tuesday, June 10, 1947 ✓ *Man Alive*,” published in book form in *Three Doors to Death*, 1950.
- Saturday, March 18–Saturday, April 3, 1948 ✓ *And Be a Villain*, published in book form in 1948; X telephones Wolfe twice.
- Tuesday, July 6–Thursday, July 8, 1948 ✓ “Omit Flowers,” published in book form in *Three Doors to Death*, 1950.
- Sunday, December 5–Tuesday, December 7, 1948 ✓ “Door to Death,” published in book form in *Three Doors to Death*, 1950.
- Thursday, June 16–Monday, June 27, 1949 “The Gun with Wings,” published in book form in 1949. X telephones again, blasts Wolfe’s plant rooms.
- Sunday, August 14–Wednesday, August 17, 1949 → *Second Confession*, published 1949. ~~“The Gun With Wings,” published in book form in *Curtains for Three*, 1950.~~
- Thursday, April 6–Friday, September 8, 1950 ✓ *In the Best Families*, published in book form in 1950. Archie, solo, finishes up the Poison Pen job, handles the Hot Insurance case. When Wolfe returns to New York, Arnold Zeck dies.
- Monday–Wednesday in March 1950 ✓ “Disguise for Murder,” published in book form in *Curtains for Three*, 1950.
- January or early February 1951 The Little Mix-Up with a Gang of Hijackers.

- Monday, February 19—Monday, March 12, 1951 ✓ *Murder by the Book*, published in book form in 1951.
- Tuesday, July 31—Monday, August 6, 1951 ✓ "Home to Roost," published in book form in *Triple Jeopardy*, 1952.
- Summer 1951 The Pendexter case.  
"The Cop-Killer," published in book form in *Triple Jeopardy*, 1952.
- Monday—Wednesday in the winter of 1951—1952 "The Squirt and the Monkey," published in book form in *Triple Jeopardy*, 1952.
- Monday, June 24—Monday, June 30, 1952 ✓ *Prisoner's Base*, published in book form in 1952.
- A Friday in the latter half of 1952 ✓ "Invitation to Murder," published in book form in *Three Men Out*, 1954.
- A Wednesday in October 1952 ✓ "This Won't Kill You," published in book form in *Three Men Out*, 1954.
- Tuesday, May 19—Friday, May 29, 1953 ✓ *The Golden Spiders*, published in book form in 1953.
- A Wednesday in the latter half of 1953 ✓ "The Zero Clue," published in book form in *Three Men Out*, 1954.
- Thursday, March 11—Friday, March 19, 1954 ✓ *The Black Mountain*, published in book form in 1954.
- Tuesday—Wednesday in May 1954 ✓ "When a Man Murders," published in book form in *Three Witnesses*, 1956.
- Summer 1954 ✓ "The Next Witness," published in book form in *Three Witnesses*, 1956.

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- Wednesday–Thursday in late 1954 or early 1955 — “Die Like a Dog,” published in book form in *Three Witnesses*, 1956.
- Tuesday, April 12–Tuesday, April 19, 1955 ✓ *Before Midnight*, published in book form in 1955.
- Saturday, August 6–Thursday, August 11, 1955 — “A Window for Death,” published in book form in *Three for the Chair*, 1957.
- Autumn 1955 The Lamb and McCullough insurance case.  
— “Immune to Murder,” published in book form in *Three for the Chair*, 1957.
- Monday–Tuesday in early 1956 ✓ “Too Many Detectives,” published in book form in *Three for the Chair*, 1957.
- Monday, April 9–Monday, April 16, 1956 ✓ *Might as Well Be Dead*, published in book form in 1956.
- Wednesday, July 4–Thursday, July 5, 1956 ✓ 28 “Fourth of July Picnic,” published in book form in *And Four to Go*, 1958.
- Tuesday–Monday in the spring of 1957 ✓ “Easter Parade,” published in book form in *And Four To Go*, 1958.
- Monday, May 20–Tuesday, June 4, 1957 ✓ *If Death Ever Slept*, published in book form in 1957.
- October 1957 The Stolen Bottweil Tapestries.
- Wednesday, December 20–Saturday, December 23, 1957 ✓ “Christmas Party,” published in book form in *And Four to Go*, 1958.
- Monday, January 5–Tuesday, January 6, 1958 ✓ 30 “Eeny Meeny Murder Mo,” published in book form in *Homicide Trinity*, 1962.

- Tuesday-Sunday in March 1958 ✓ *Champagne for One*, published in book form in 1958.
- Tuesday, April 1-Thursday, April 3, 1958 ✓ "Poison à la Carte," published in book form in *Three at Wolfe's Door*, 1960.
- Monday, May 18-Wednesday, June 3, 1959 ✓ *Plot It Yourself*, published in book form in 1959.
- Tuesday-Wednesday in January 1960 ✓ "Death of a Demon," published in book form in *Homicide Trinity*, 1962.
- Monday, May 9-Saturday, May 14, 1960 ✓ *Too Many Clients*, published in book form in 1960.
- Monday-Wednesday in late August 1960 ✓ "The Rodeo Murder," published in book form in *Three at Wolfe's Door*, 1960.
- Monday-Tuesday in September 1960 ✓ "Method Three for Murder," published in book form in *Three at Wolfe's Door*, 1960.
- Monday-Friday in December 1960 ✓ ~~"Kill Now—Pay Later,"~~ published in book form in *Trio for Blunt Instruments*, 1964.
- Monday-Tuesday in the winter of 1960-1961 ✓ "Counterfeit for Murder," published in book form in *Homicide Trinity*, 1962.
- Tuesday, April 25-Monday, May 1, 1961 ✓ *The Final Deduction*, published in book form in 1961.
- Tuesday, September 12-Friday, September 15, 1961 ✓ "Murder Is Corny," published in book form in *Trio for Blunt Instruments*, 1964.
- Monday, February 12-Friday, February 16, 1962 ✓ *Gambit*, published in book form in 1962.
- Tuesday, June 5-Monday, July 9, 1962 ✓ *The Mother Hunt*, published in book form in 1963.

- Tuesday, August 7-Thursday, August 9, 1962 ✓ "Blood Will Tell," published in book form in *Trio for Blunt Instruments*, 1964.
- Monday, February 24-Friday, March 13, 1964 ✓ <sup>3</sup> *A Right to Die*, published in book form in 1964.
- Tuesday, January 5-Friday, January 15, 1965 ✓ *The Doorbell Rang*, published in book form in 1965.
- Saturday, January 29-Monday, February 7, 1966 ✓ *Death of a Doxy*, published in book form in 1966.
- Thursday, August 17-Friday, September 8, 1967 ✓ *The Father Hunt*, published in book form in 1968.

(To be continued)

✓ *Death of a Dude*  
*Please Pass the Salt*  
*4th the 2nd Confession*