

The River Heights Gazette

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News from Literarture®'s Nancy Drew® Dust Jacket Collection



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1950s *Password to Larkspur Lane* Makes American Debut

December at Literarture® witnesses the licensed American debut of the mysterious 1950s cover art for *The Password to Larkspur Lane*, which was utilized on British dust jacket editions in the early 1960s, but is alleged to have earlier, controversial stateside origins.

The art is believed by some to be either Bill Gillies' final or Rudy Nappi's premiere commissioned cover for the series in 1953, as certain aspects point to style attributes of both artists. Although demure by today's standards, the cover was allegedly shelved by Grosset and Dunlap due to the indiscreet display of Nancy's thigh. Given Nappi's vivid work in racy drug-

store paperbacks of the era, our money's on him. Let us know your opinion! Literarture® is presenting this cover art as a domestic 1957 dust jacket printing.

Also this month, we're debuting restorations of Rudy Nappi's gorgeous 1956 art for *The Hidden Window Mystery* as a first edition printing and the first licensed dust jacket of Nappi's 1962 reinterpretation of Russell Tandy's original painting for *The Whispering Statue*.

Coming at Christmas are *The Mystery at Lilac Inn*, *The Clue of the Black Keys* and more. Please visit us regularly at www.literarture.net for fresh details!

Make your vote count!

Later this month, we'll begin offering visitors to the www.literarture.net site monthly opportunities to vote on which art they'd like to see restored and formatted for our Dust Jacket Collection. First up will be *The Clue of the Broken Locket*. Which is your favorite? Bill Gillies' 1950 revision of the uncredited original? Or do you prefer Rudy Nappi's 1962 rendering, which supposedly includes a self-portrait? Or perhaps Nappi's own darker 1965 version for the revised story, still in print today?



Rudy Nappi, 1962



Rudy Nappi, 1965

Literarture® wishes you and yours a happy and healthy holiday season!