

FLANNER, Janet (1892-1978)

The American Library in Paris
Special Collections Department
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See *Archives Stories* website for details on the project:
<https://archivestoriesparis.wordpress.com/janet-flanner-collection/>

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1. **Biography**

Janet Flanner was born to Quaker parents in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1892. She was the middle of two sisters, Mary Emma (Marie), a pianist and composer, and Hildegarde, a poet. Janet and Hildegarde were quite close throughout their childhood and adult lives. Mary Flanner, the matriarch of the Flanner family, was also a poet. When Flanner was twenty years old, her father, Frank Flanner, committed suicide in his own mortuary. Flanner fled Indianapolis soon after to go to the University of Chicago, where she showed an interest in English and sociology--when she managed to go to class. Three years before her father's death, Janet had visited Europe for the first time and came away with a deep desire to return to the continent.

Europe must have seemed like a distant dream to Flanner in the years following Frank Flanner's suicide as she went to school. In 1918, Flanner, rather suddenly, married William Lane Rehm, a friend from school and moved to New York. Flanner left Rehm in 1921, and their marriage ended a few years later;

she later confided to a cousin that she married Rehm to get out of Indianapolis. Throughout the rest of her life, her romantic relationships were with women, beginning with Solita Solano, whom she met in New York in 1918.

Flanner settled in Paris with Solano in 1922, after *National Geographic* approached Solano with an offer of a European reporting assignment. After moving a few times, Flanner and Solano found a place in the 6th arrondissement, on the Left Bank, that they would call home for the next sixteen years. She became one of a group of writers and artists who lived in the city, such as Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, and Pablo Picasso. In October of 1925, Flanner published her first “Letter from Paris” in the brand-new magazine *The New Yorker*. Written under the pseudonym Genêt, the letters concerned politics, art, theatre, French culture, and various personalities. According to one of her biographers, Brenda Wineapple, Flanner crafted her material into “well-shaped vignettes edged in sharp humor.”

Her contributions to the “Profile” column, in which she wrote about figures as divergent as Adolf Hitler, Edith Wharton, and Jean-Paul Sartre also helped to establish her writing career. She wrote for *The New Yorker* for five decades. Flanner moved to New York once the Nazis invaded Paris, but she came back after the city was liberated in 1944. Readers return to Flanner because of how Paris appeared as a character in her work, at times scandalous, complaining, hungry, or disgusted, and yet, continuing to resist and persist. Janet Flanner again returned to New York in 1975, where she lived with her partner Natalia Danesi Murray until her death in 1978.

In a 1975 recorded interview titled “Writer in America: Janet Flanner,” director Richard O. Moore said to Flanner, “I’ve always thought of you as the most eminent of the foreign correspondents, not a female writer.” “Good,” replied Flanner, “I think I thought of myself rather in a similar manner.”

Flanner, Janet. *Paris Journal: 1944-1965*. Edited by William Shawn. New York: Atheneum, 1965.

“Janet Flanner.” Encyclopædia Britannica. Last modified March 09, 2019. Accessed May 23, 2019.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Janet-Flanner>

Moore, Richard O., dir. *The Writer in America*. Season one, “Janet Flanner.” Aired 1975 on KQED.
https://archive.org/details/thewriterinamericajanetflanner_201505

Wineapple, Brenda. *Genêt: A Biography of Janet Flanner*. New York: Ticknor & Fields, 1989.

“Women Come to the Front.” Library of Congress. Accessed May 23, 2019.
<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/wcf/wcf0011.html>

2. Items in the American Library in Paris Flanner Special Collection

Complacent Dictator

Hoare, Samuel.
Alfred A. Knopf, 1947
327.42 H651c
1100010263

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the cover page. The front page includes an inscription, in Flanner's handwriting, of her name and the words "Hotel Scribe Paris." An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is present on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book was processed by the library in December of 1984.

The American Political System

Brogan, D. W. (Denis William), 1900-1974.
Hamish Hamilton, 1943
342.733 B786a
1100056528

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the cover page. There is an inscription on the front page in Flanner's handwriting which reads "Janet Flanner *line break* from my dear publisher, Jamie Hamilton *line break* Paris August 1945." An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is present on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book was processed by the library in July of 1989.

Barnaby and Mr. O'Malley

Johnson, Crockett, 1906-1975.
Henry Holt and Company, 1944
741 J63b
1111056504

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: The inscription on the front page from the author reads: "For Janet Flanner, with warmest regards and all best wishes, [Crockett Johnson](#)." There are two stamps on the inside of the back cover on a slip of paper, one reading, "A.L.P. Director's Office" and the other reading, "OCT. 2001."

The Unknowable Gurdjieff

Anderson, Margaret, 1886-1973.
Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1962

197 G96IzA
1100056504

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription reads, "For my dear friends Janet and [Noël](#), with my love and thanks for many things. 'The Lolly,' October I, 1962." "The Lolly" may be Sylvia Townsend Warner, or [the author](#). An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is present on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated once in 1989 and was processed by the library in October of 1988.

The Painter's Eye

Grosser, Maurice, 1903-1986.
Rinehart, 1951
751 G914p
1100037714

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "Dear Janet, I hope you like this one. Love Maurice Grosser." Below an address written in the same hand appears, "219 West 14th N.Y.C." Below that is the date 01.28.1951. This book circulated in the library three times between 1986 and 1993. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover. This book was processed by the library in October of 1984.

The State of Music

Thomson, Virgil, 1896-1989.
Vintage, 1962
780.071 T387s
1111049156

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "For Noël *line break* love long time Janet too my loves [Virgil](#) Orgeral 9.63." There is also a small annotation likely from Flanner on p. 4, "NOTE: best definition yet," referring to Thomson's description of the New Deal. There are "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" and "OCT. 2001" on the inside of the back cover. This book was processed by the library in April of 1993.

The Seeming Real

Clapp, Frederick Mortimer, 1879-1969.
Harper & Brothers, 1947
811 C536s
1100071439

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "Solita's and Janet's book affectionately inscribed by Frederick Mortimer Clapp May 16. '47." This book was processed by the library in November of 1989. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover.

If There is Time

Flanner, Hildegard, 1899-1987.
New Directions, 1942
811 F614i
1100077319

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "For Janet--English is made much better by her fine use of it. From her sister - with love - Hildegard Altadena, August 24, 1942." This book was processed by the library in May of 1998. There are "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" and "OCT. 2001" on the inside of the back cover.

In Native Light

Flanner, Hildegard, 1899-1987.
1970
811 F614i2
1111056509

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: The book includes engravings from Hildegard's husband Frederick Monhoff. A written inscription from them reads, "For our dearest Janet from Hildegard Frederick February 10 1971." This book was processed by the library in October of 2001. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover.

Two: Gertrude Stein and Her Brother, and Other Early Portraits, 1908-12.

Stein, Gertrude, 1874-1946.
Yale University Press, 1951
818 St34t
1100044348

Bookplate: Presented by Miss Janet Flanner, 1952.

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the cover page. A added, typed inscription reads, "Miss Stein, who left her unpublished writings to Yale, authorized their publication. It is proceeding under the editorship of Carl Van Vechten and an advisory committee consisting of Thornton Wilder, Donald Sutherland, and Donald Gallup and will be known as the Yale Edition of the Unpublished Work of [Gertrude Stein](#). *Two*, the first volume to appear, contains the early prose portraits Miss Stein wrote in Paris. Janet Flanner, the 'Genet' of the *New Yorker*, provides an unusual portrait of Miss Stein as an introduction to this volume. She reports that a publisher once said, 'We want the comprehensible thing,

the thing the public can understand.' Miss Stein replied, 'My work would have no use to anyone if they had understood me early and fast.'" A stamp on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card reads "MARS 2003." This book circulated many times between 1952 and 2008. This book was processed by the library on January 25, 1952.

Truffle Hunt

Sitwell, Sacheverell, 1897-1988.

Robert Hale Limited, 1953

824 Si89It

1100084309

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the cover page. There is also an A.L.P.

Director's stamp on the back cover page. The book circulated 3 times in the library between 1991 and 2007. A written inscription in an unidentified hand reads, "Solita Solano--but not my book, not my choice nor markings." This book was processed by the library in July of 1991.

An Impersonation of Angels: A Biography of Jean Cocteau

Brown, Frederick, 1934-.

The Viking Press

841 C6472B

1100030856

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: The book is an unrevised and unpublished proof. A written inscription, likely from Flanner, reads, "[Erika Mann](#) Kilchberg, Zurich, Suisse (39, AlteLandstoafe)". There is also a typed description of the book on the inside front cover. This book circulated 5 times in the library between 1990 and 1993. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover as well as a perforated ALP stamp on the title page. This book was processed by the library in October of 1988.

Paris Journal : 1944-1965

Flanner, Janet, 1892-1978.

Atheneum, 1965

914.436 F614p

1100053765

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. An inscription written by Flanner reads, "To darling Noël, without whom I should have not known Paris enough to have put into words—with love and gratitude. Janet." A mark, written in the same pen, appears to correct a grammatical error on page 390. The book circulated seventeen times between 1987 and 2006. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is present on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This

book was processed by the library in April of 1987.

Paris Journal : 1944-1965

Flanner, Janet, 1892-1978.

Atheneum, 1965

914.436 F614p

1111021057

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. A written inscription on the front page reads, "[Maria Jolas](#) 106 bis rue de Rennes." There are pencil markings throughout, possibly from Jolas or from circulation. This book circulated 34 times between 1996 and 2006. A stamp reading "BASEMENT" appears on the inside of the back cover on an additional paper attached to the circulation card. This book was processed by the library in September of 1991. The ALP has other books from the Jolas collection. This book might eventually be moved with them.

Paris Was Yesterday: 1925-1939

Flanner, Janet, 1892-1978.

The Viking Press, 1972

914.436 F614pa

1111056493

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: On the front page there is an inscription of Flanner's initials above notes, written by Flanner herself. The notes appear to be written for an editor. This book is an uncorrected proof. The notes say, "to change = page 25 = first line 'original' (to replace 'thing') *line break* page 73-- 'permament' [sic] (insert) new star. *line break* Carmen-- page 100 = omit my [?] comment on merit of its music as viewed today--." On page xii, Flanner wrote, "with the same impetus that." There are occasional corrections and markings throughout the book of unrevised proofs. The back page has an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp. This book was processed by the library in October of 2001.

Elegant Wits and Grand Horizontals

Skinner, Cornelia Otis, 1901-1979.

Houghton Mifflin Company, 1962

914.436 Sk34e

1111056507

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reads, "To Janet-- *line break* with affectionate greetings *line break* Cornelia Otis Skinner." "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" and "OCT. 2001" stamps are present on the inside of the back cover on a piece of paper.

Paris Journal: Volume Two, 1965-1971

Flanner, Janet, 1892-1978.

Atheneum, 1971

914.436 F614p v.2

1100053674

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. Also on the title page, an inscription by Flanner reads, "This copy for Noël, my faithful amanuensis on the day of dictation of many years of these Paris letters--with appreciation, gratitude, and love, October 1971, New York." There are various underlines and markings throughout, likely from circulation. This book circulated in the library 11 times between 1987 and 1989 and there is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book was processed by the library in April of 1987.

Americans in Paris 1903-1939

Wickes, George, 1923-.

Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1969

914.436 W632a

1111028207

Bookplate: This book is the gift of Nancy Webster.

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "For Janet Flanner, The American in Paris, with great admiration, [George Wickes](#)." There is also a note likely from Flanner on the back cover jacket flap. It reads, "See page 170 for earnest's [sic] report on early publishing of his M.S... Sylvia died in 1962." The book circulated twice in the library between 1997 and 2006. There are underlines and notes throughout the book. This book was processed by the library in October of 1996. There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page.

European Crossroad: A Soviet Journalist in the Balkans

Ehrenburg, Ilya, 1891-1967.

Alfred A. Knopf, 1947

914.96 Eh83e

1100069057

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There are two notes on the front cover page. One, likely written by Janet Flanner, reads, "Do not lend or borrow/ Library 150 Janet Flanner". The other reads, "Embarrassing Book. cheap & written, dishonestly presents commonplace information." There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page.

The Sudden View

Bedford, Sybille, 1911-2006.
Victor Gollancz Ltd., 1953
917.2 B39s
1100058492

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page. The book was circulated twice in the library in 1991. An inscription by the author reads, "Noël, Dear, This Traveller's Tale, with love from E and Sybille. Paris, April 1953". "E" could refer to Esther Murphy Strachey, Sybille Bedford's lover. This book was processed by the library in September of 1989.

Inside South America

Gunther, John, 1901-1970.
Harper & Row, 1967
918 G958i
1111056510

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page, dated October 2001. An inscription on the front inside page reads, "For my dear red Janet Flanner, from Gunther".

The Scarlet Thread : Adventures in Wartime Espionage

Downes, Donald, 1903-1983.
Derek Verschoyle, 1953
940.5485 D758s
1100070640

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reads, "For Janet Flanner-- if it isn't presumptuous to send to the best reporter in the world-- With love Donald *line break* London July 13 1953." An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card along with a stamp of the date MARS 1990. This book was processed by the library in February of 1990.

The Development of Modern France (1870-1939)

Brogan, D. W. (Denis William), 1900-1974.
Butler Ltd., 1940
944.08 B786bd
1100059965

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an inscription from the author that reads, "To Janet Flanner from an old reader and admirer [?]. Denis Brogan." An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. There are annotations in pencil and red pencil throughout the book, likely from Flanner. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card along with a stamp of the date MAI 1988. This book circulated 9 times between 1988 and 1991. This book was processed by the library in July of 1971.

André Malraux : the Indochina Adventure

Langlois, Walter G.

Frederick A. Praeger, 1966

959.7 L266a

1100054620

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reads, "For Miss Janet Flanner, whose work I have long admired-- With cordial regards *line break* Walter Langlois" followed by, "New York *line break* June, 1966." An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. Two "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamps are on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated 10 times between 1973 and 1992. This book was processed by the library in July of 1971.

The Amnesty of [John David Herndon](#)

Reston, James, Jr., 1941-

McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1973

959.704 R313a

1100094912

Bookplate: This book is from the personal library of Janet Flanner

Other Information: There is an American Paris Library perforated stamp on the title page. Throughout the book, there are frequent and often frustrated marks, culminating in the comment "E for Effort. (But why so sloppy?)" on the final page. It is unknown who wrote these comments, although it is unlikely that it was Flanner herself. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card along with a stamp that says, "MARS 1993." This book was processed by the library in March of 1993.

A New History of the United States : Revised Edition

Miller, William, 1912-1992.

Dell Publishing Co., 1958

973 M619n

1111056506

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is a sheet of White House stationary tucked into the front cover, dated February

3, 1966, from the office of [Eric F. Goldman](#), Special Consultant to the President. The letter reads, "Dear Miss Flanner: Enclosed is an inscribed copy of a book of mine. Please accept it as a memento of our New York get-together. I am also inclosing [sic] a copy of what I consider the best book for your European friend. Since I seem to have misplaced her address, I would appreciate your giving or sending it to her with my compliments. Do come see us in Washington. Sincerely, E. F. Goldman." Underneath the body of Goldman's letter is Flanner's work address, 25 West 43rd Street New York, New York. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is on the inside of the back cover.

A Legacy

Bedford, Sybille, 1911-2006.

Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1956

B39

1100058394

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's stamp on the back inside cover page. An inscription on the front inside cover page reads, "For dear Noël, whose happy life at Orgeral is not so far from Landen, affectionately from Sybille, Landen March 1956." This book was processed by the library in September of 1989.

A Modern Hero

Bromfield, Louis, 1896-1956.

Cassell, 1932

B 788

1111056496

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Stamp on the back cover inside page, dated October 2001. An inscription from the author on the front inside cover page reads, "For Janet, this tale of America and the muddle [illegible] dipping our feet into the waters of the Novette, far from Indianapolis [illegible] Louis". This book was processed by the library in October of 2001.

Dorothy Caruso: A Personal History

Caruso, Dorothy, 1893-1955.

Hermitage House, 1952

B C2511d

1111047810

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reads, "For dear Janny, With full admiration and great love, Dorothy Caruso *line break* New York. March 7, 1952." There are two stamps on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card, one that reads, "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" and the other of the

date "OCT. 2001." This book was processed by the library in November of 1985.

Dorothy Caruso: A Personal History

Dorothy Caruso, 1893-1955.

Hermitage House, 1952

B C25IId

1111047811

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page. An inscription from the author reads, "To dear Noël, with much love, Dorothy, March 31, 1952." This book was processed by the library in November of 1984.

Nancy Cunard: Brave Poet, Indomitable Rebel 1896-1965

Ford, Hugh (editor), 1925-.

Chilton, 1968

B C914f

1100056512

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover inside page as well as a stamp of October 2001. An inscription from the editor reads, "To Janet Flanner, with many thanks and best wishes, Hugh Ford. June, 1968. Flanner also notes on the back cover flap that the poem "Parallax" is found on page 89. This book was processed by the library in January of 1989.

De Gaulle

Mauriac, François, 1885-1970.

Grasset, 1964

B G235M2

1111031892

Bookplate: From the library of Janet Flanner

Other Information: There are notes on the inside of the front cover, likely from Noël Haskins Murphy, along with Noël's name. There are annotations throughout the book in pencil. Tucked inside of page 184, there is a cut-out article from the column "Book Week" in the newspaper *The Sunday Herald Tribune*, a precursor to *The International New York Times*. Above the article written by Flanner, "La belle France's man of bronze," she has noted the date of the newspaper's publication, "March 6-66." This article is a review of the English translation of *De Gaulle*. The last few pages of the book that are filled with notes are nearly illegible, including notes on the "bridge betw bourgeoisie [?] of France and New World made by USA," and the "nouveau riche." There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the last page of the book. This book was processed by the library in January of 1997.

Queen Mary: A Life and Intimate Study

Woodward, Kathleen.

Hutchinson & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.

B M3695W

1100019877

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an American Paris Library perforated stamp on the title page. There is a signature, likely written by Janet Flanner, on the inside front cover page. Also included are three addresses. One, 37 Upper Berkeley St. London, has been crossed out and replaced with 73 Half Moon Street London. Below is the address 36 rue Bonaparte, Paris. There are many annotations from Flanner throughout the book, often commenting on the "job" of Queen Mary. This book was processed by the library in May of 1985.

Letters of Marcel Proust

Curtiss, Mina (translator and editor), Proust, Marcel, 1871-1922.

Random House, 1949

B Pg47Pr

1100021787

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an American Paris Library perforated stamp on the title page. A written inscription from the editor reads, "To Janet Flanner--In affection and admiration--Mina Curtiss, April 20, 1949." The book circulated in the library 6 times between 1987 and 1991. There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the last page of the book. This book was processed by the library in February of 1985.

The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas

Stein, Gertrude, 1874-1946.

Penguin Books, 1966

B St343

1100092023

Bookplate: Donation from the personal library of Janet Flanner

Other Information: The following is a transcription of Flanner's notes on the front and back covers, as well as on the last page in the autobiography. Transcriptions are approximate, and a question mark [?] is used to indicate illegible writing. There is also underlining and small marking throughout the book, likely made by Flanner. There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the last page of the book. This book was processed by the library in July of 1995.

The front cover reads:

"She took the corners cutting in close to the left side of the road, every so often Alice from the back seat would lean over Gertrude + honk the horn, her picture hat full over Gertrude's [?] face + eyes-- After 2

days Louis [Bromfield?] was so nervous he secretly sent a telegram back home to Senlis + said "wire me that my publisher is in Paris on important business demanding my immediate presence" - He told me one more drive with Gertrude + Alice + the picture hat + he would have been a nervous wreck ~

Gertrude loved the company of young men—whether she could enforce her personality onto a budding talent or human male being only Virgil [Thomson?] would know, but her interest in younger men was a patent fact ~

Gertrude was a strong personality interested in the [?] of other strong personalities which she was quick to detect in weaker moments ~ She was stalwart and gifted in so unusual a way as a writer, as to be the single figure in her school- founder, contributor.”

The last page reads,

“In 2nd year of war Gertrude sent Noel [Murphy] a postal card from Bellay [sic] saying, dear Noel, you and I will continue to ignore this silly war"- She + Alice came out to lunch, about 1 month before Gertrude died, she looked as usual + said she felt as she usually did, ate less than normal + 5 weeks later was dead. At Noel's house she always asked questions about the 4 cows + the half dozen Barbary silent ducks that do not quack + the chickens - it seemed part of her literary American grass roots that were in her Paris tradition though as a San Franciscan she was not rural - Alice on the other hand was not interested”

The back cover reads,

“page 85-- remarks are not literature

page 86-- Gertrude ‘was one of a group of Harvard men--’

46 = Alices [sic] description of Matisses [sic] painting method- Bonheur de Vivre

in Noel's animals but in her extensive herb garden- her estragon [sic], thyme, sage, chives, cerfeuil [scratched out] chervil, oregano, sarriett [sic] so much like thyme Noel gave it up, Gertrude was not interested in what Alice did with them in making delicious food xxxx Gertrude respected as a vital function of life-

One could often see the two ladies driving down the Blvd St Germain in the Ford, Gertrude at the wheel, Alice in back holding on to her large picture hat - Maybe basket the poodle sat in front with Gertrude - Alice certainly never did - Louis Bromfield was once invited down to Bellay [sic] and was very happy about it till he started going driving with Gertrude”

Virgil Thomson: His Life and Music

Hoover, Kathleen, and Cage, John.

Thomas Yoseloff, 1959

B T387H

1100024978

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an American Paris Library perforated stamp on the title page. An inscription by the book's subject reads, "For Janet Flanner longtime friend, Virgil T. Paris June, 1959." The book circulated in the library one time in 1987. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp is on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book was processed by the library in March of 1985.

Bullivant and the Lambs

Compton-Burnett, I. (Ivy), 1884-1969.

Alfred A. Knopf Inc., 1939

C739

1100003273

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: The inscription on the inside front cover page reads, "Janet Flanner from Blanche Knopf Rome 1939." The book circulated in the library 14 times between 1984 and 2007. There is an American Library perforated stamp as well as a "STACKS" stamp in the back of the book. This book was processed by the library in November of 1983.

Two Worlds and Their Ways

Compton-Burnett, I. (Ivy), 1884-1969.

Alfred A. Knopf, 1949

C739

1100003280

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an inscription on the front page that reads, "Janet Flanner from Blanche Knopf *line break* Rome 1949." An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. An "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated 8 times between 1984 and 1989. This book was processed by the library in November of 1983.

The Wine of Astonishment

Gellhorn, Martha, 1908-1998.

Charles Scribner's Sons, 1948

G283

1100023232

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. director's stamp dated February 2002 on the back cover page. There is also an American Paris library stamp on the title page. A note by Flanner on the front inside cover page reads, "from Martha to me, Paris October 1948, Janet Flanner." Included on the title page is another bookplate which reads, "with the compliments of the author." This book was processed by the library in March of 1984.

A State of Change

Gilliatt, Penelope, 1932-1993.

Panther, 1970

G414

1111056505

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: There is an A.L.P. Director's Office stamp on the back cover page, dated October 2001. A written inscription from the author reads, "To Janet and to Solita, with love, Penelope."

Busman's Honeymoon : A Love Story with Detective Interruptions

Sayers, Dorothy L. (Dorothy Leigh), 1893-1957.

Victor Gollancz Ltd., 1939

M Sa99

1100022448

Bookplate: This book is the gift of Janet Flanner

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. An inscription reading, "Eliot's This is the dead land p. 239" is on the inside of the back cover and is likely written by Flanner. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated 6 times between 1988 and 1989. This book was processed by the library in October of 1983.

55 Short Stories from *The New Yorker*

Simon and Schuster, 1949

N4201

1100011953

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reads, "Janet *line break* from K.S.W. *line break* A big flaw in this volume is the absence of a flower story." An additional note adds, "Katharine Sergeant Angell White, 1892-1977 fiction editor for *The New Yorker*. Simon [Gallo, the American Library's collections librarian]." An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover. This book was processed by the library in March of 1984.

Killers of the Dream

Smith, Lillian, 1897-1966.

Sm615

1111056503

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: A written inscription from the author reads, "For Genêt whose letters from Paris I have been a devoted [?] admirer these many years--Most sincerely yours, [Lillian Smith](#)." She also includes her address, Old Screamer Mountain, Clayton, Georgia. here are two stamps on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card, one that reads, "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" and the other of the date "OCT. 2001."

Before My Time

Tucci, Niccolò, 1908-1999.

Simon & Schuster, 1962

T7901

1100013579

Bookplate: The American Library in Paris

Other Information: An inscription on the front page reading, "To Janet Flanner with great affection" is accompanied by the author's signature. An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page. There is an "A.L.P. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE" stamp on the inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated 8 times between 1989 and 1999. This book was processed by the library in May of 1985.

Journal of a Visit to Europe and the Levant

Melville, Herman, 1819-1891.

Princeton University Press, 1955

TRVL 914 M497j

1100049228

Bookplate: This book is the gift of Miss Solita Solano 1961.

Other Information: An ALP perforated stamp is present on the title page and on page 55. There is a "BASEMENT" stamp inside of the back cover on the circulation card. This book circulated 5 times between 1965 and 1999. This book was processed by the library in November of 1961.

3. References to Janet Flanner in the American Library in Paris Institutional Archives

There are a few pieces of evidence indicating a definite relationship between Janet Flanner and the American Library in Paris. This evidence generally comes in boxes of archival material organized chronologically at the library. No information on Flanner's books or their arrival has been found.

Notice of Annual Meeting 27 March 1962, March 10, 1961 includes Janet Flanner on the list of members to send the notice to.

- a. Archives Box 9: E1
 - i. Minutes of the annual meetings of members. 1944-1995.

44th Report of the American Library in Paris, 1964. Janet Flanner, France listed as a Sustaining member

of the library (donation between \$100 - \$500).

b. Archives Box 10: File F1.1

- i. ALP Annual Reports and Yearbooks. 1921-1923, 1926-1930, 1945-1946, 1951, [1952?] “Books as Ambassadors,” 1953 “Books as Ambassadors,” 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1975-1977 (combined), 1985-1989

The New Yorker March 11, 1972. “That Was Paris. The Greatest Refreshment” written by Janet Flanner (original). She mentions Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas having moved their membership to the ALP out of spite after Sylvia Beach began publishing James Joyce’s book, *Ulysses*.

c. Archives Box 20: File K2

- i. Works about the ALP. Miscellaneous articles, essays, magazines, and texts.

4. References to Flanner using the American Library in Paris Circulation

There are ten books in the Library’s catalog that concern Janet Flanner and her writing significantly, not including the books in the Special Collection. These titles include:

4.1 Six books written by Janet Flanner

See: *An American in Paris*; *Profile of an Interlude Between Two Wars*, Simon and Schuster, 1940; *The Cubical City*, Carbondale, Southern Illinois University Press, 1974; *Darlinghissima*, Random House, 1985; *Janet Flanner’s World: Uncollected Writings, 1932-1975*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979; *London Was Yesterday: 1935-1939*, Viking Press, 1975; and *Men and Monuments*, Harper, 1957

4.2 Two books with contributions by Janet Flanner

See: “Bums at Sunset” in *Bohemians, Bootleggers, Flappers, and Swells: The Best of Early Vanity Fair* (Penguin Press, 2014) and “Ping-Pong” in *Short Stories from the New Yorker* (Simon & Schuster, 1940)

4.3 Two books written about Janet Flanner

See: *Janet, My Mother, and Me: A Memoir of Growing Up With Janet Flanner and Natalia Denasi Murray* by William Murray (Simon & Schuster, 2000) and *Perspectives of Four Women Writers on the Second World War: Gertrude Stein, Janet Flanner, Kay Boyle, and Rebecca West* by Zofia P. Lesinska (Peter Lang, 2002)

5. Provenance of Special Collection at the American Library in Paris

On the inside cover of three books in the Special Collections, the bookplate indicates that they came from the personal library of Janet Flanner. The bookplate inside *Two and Other Early Portraits*, by Gertrude Stein, reads: “Presented by Miss Janet Flanner 1952.” The bookplate inside *Busman’s Honeymoon: A Love With Detective Interruption* notes that this book is “the gift of Janet Flanner.” This evidence indicates a relationship between Flanner and the library beginning as early as 1952. Many of the books in the Special Collection have penciled-in dates inside of the front cover, courtesy of the librarian who

processed the shipment of books. Those from the Flanner Collection were processed over the course of several decades, from 1952 to 2001. Although we did not find explicit proof, it is generally accepted that many books in the Collection were given to the Library in 1983 by the executor of Noël Haskins Murphy's will after she passed away in 1982. Beyond these dates and the theory concerning Murphy's will, it is not clear why or how these books came to the American Library in Paris.

6. Other Resources

Archives for *The New Yorker*. <https://www.newyorker.com/archive>

Flanner, Janet. *Paris Journal: 1944-1965*. Edited by William Shawn. New York: Atheneum, 1965.

Flanner, Janet. *Paris Journal: 1965-1971*. Edited by William Shawn. New York: Atheneum, 1971.

"Janet Flanner." Encyclopædia Britannica. Last modified March 09, 2019. Accessed May 23, 2019. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Janet-Flanner>

Loy, Mina. "Janet Flanner." *Navigating the Avant-Garde*. Accessed May 23, 2019. <https://mina-loy.com/biography/janet-flanner/>.

Moore, Richard O., dir. *The Writer in America*. Season one, "Janet Flanner." Aired 1975 on KQED. https://archive.org/details/thewriterinamericajanetflanner_201505

Wineapple, Brenda. *Genêt: A Biography of Janet Flanner*. New York: Ticknor & Fields, 1989.