

# On the Printing History of Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan Novels in Dutch.

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## 1. First editions

Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan novels have appeared in Dutch translation since 1920.

By 1923, volumes 1 through 9 had been published by Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven (Rijswijk), who also produced first editions of volumes 10 and 14 through 15 in the early 1930s. (Volumes 1 through 5 were published in combination with J.C. Dalmeijer (Amsterdam).)

First editions of volumes 11 through 13 were published by Allert de Lange (Amsterdam) around the year 1930; these first editions are extremely rare.

Volumes 17 through 19 and 21 were first put out by V.A. Kramers (The Hague) in the years 1935-1940.

Volume 22, set in the Dutch Indies, was translated in 1948 as *Tarzan op Sumatra* by Westfriesland (Hoorn).

A series of 22 novels was published in a new translation the mid 1960s by Westfriesland (Hoorn). The series includes the first Dutch translation of volume 20. This is the first time a complete series of 22 novels was published in a single format.

An alternative version of volume 20, known as *The Red Star of Tarzan*, henceforth indicated as volume 20', was translated and published in 1938 by De Combinatie (Rotterdam).

Volumes 23 and 24 have never appeared in Dutch translation.

The following table summarizes the history of Dutch first editions of Tarzan novels.

| Volume | Publisher                                   | Year |
|--------|---|------|
| 1      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven -- J.C. Dalmeijer | 1920 |
| 2      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven -- J.C. Dalmeijer | 1920 |
| 3      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven -- J.C. Dalmeijer | 1920 |
| 4      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven -- J.C. Dalmeijer | 1921 |
| 5      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven -- J.C. Dalmeijer | 1921 |
| 6      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven                   | 1922 |
| 7      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven                   | 1921 |
| 8      | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven                   | 1921 |

|     |                           |      |
|-----|---------------------------|------|
| 9   | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven | 1923 |
| 10  | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven | 1931 |
| 11  | Allert de Lange           | 1929 |
| 12  | Allert de Lange           | 1930 |
| 13  | Allert de Lange           | 1933 |
| 14  | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven | 1932 |
| 15  | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven | 1933 |
| 16  | Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven | 1934 |
| 17  | V.A. Kramers              | 1935 |
| 18  | V.A. Kramers              | 1936 |
| 19  | V.A. Kramers              | 1937 |
| 20  | West-Friesland            | 1968 |
| 20' | De Combinatie             | 1938 |
| 21  | V.A. Kramers              | 1940 |
| 22  | West-Friesland            | 1948 |
| 23  | *                         | *    |
| 24  | *                         | *    |

## 2. Translators

The first Tarzan translator was W.J.A. Roldanus Jr, who took care of most of the Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven and V.A. Kramers editions. The exceptions include volumes 3 and 7 (W.J. Ankersmit & K. Jorissen), 5 (Faja), 10 (K. Jorissen), and 21 (G.W.E. van Balen).

Translators for Allert de Lange were A.D. Hildebrand (12), Ad Vorstman (13), and presumably A.M.M.J. Bijvoet (11).

The remaining titles were first translated by Parma van Loon (20), Frits Hoogewerff (20'), and Piet van As (22).

The West-Friesland series produced a number of new translations by Ton Stam. Some of these appear to be mere modernizations of the original translations. Volumes 11 (Bijvoet), 20 (van Loon), and 22 (van Loon) are credited to different translators. Volumes 17 through 19 and 21 are uncredited; the translations are the original ones, with slight modernizations (18 and 19), or even cuts (21).

## 3. Translations

Though readable, the translations are a far cry from the original. The detached sophistication of Burroughs' prose is generally completely missed,

especially by Stam, and so is Burroughs' hilarious use of register. Consider the following fragments by way of illustration:

### From *Tarzan the Invincible*

| Burroughs   | Roldanus   | Stam  |
|---|--|---|
| He wondered if they intended leaving him there without food or water, or if, perchance, the ceremony which was to see him offered in sacrifice upon that grim, brown-stained altar was scheduled to commence so soon that they felt it unnecessary to minister to his physical needs. | Hij vroeg zich af of zij van plan waren hem daar zonder voedsel of water te laten of dat hij al zó spoedig als slachtoffer op dat grimmige, bruinrood gevlekte altaar zou vallen dat zij het onnodig achtten in zijn lichamelijke behoeften te voorzien. | Hij vroeg zich af of ze van plan waren hem daar zonder eten of drinken te laten zitten of dat hij al zo gauw als slachtoffer op dat grimmige, roestbruin gevlekte altaar zou vallen, dat ze het onnodig achtten in zijn lichamelijke behoeften te voorzien. |

### From *Tarzan of the Apes*

| Burroughs   | Roldanus  | Stam   |
|---|---|--|
| "Wy, hasn't ye seen wats goin' on? Hasn't ye 'eard that devil's spawn of a captin an' 'is mates knockin' the bloomin' lights outen 'arf the crew? (..)"<br>"You mean, my man, that the crew contemplates mutiny?" asked Clayton.<br>"Mutiny!" exclaimed the old fellow. "Mutiny! They means murder, sir, an' mark my word for it, sir." | "Nou, hebt u dan niet gezien wat er broeit? Hebt u dan niet gehoord, dat dat duivelsgebroed van een kapitein en z'n officieren de helft van het scheepsvolk de hersens in slaat? (..)"<br>"Bedoel je, vriend, dat de bemanning over muiterij denkt?" vroeg Clayton.<br>"Muitelij!" riep de oude man uit. "Muitelij! Ze zijn van plan te moorden, Sir; let op wat ik zeg, mijnheer..." | "Nou, hebt u dan niet gezien wat er broeit? Hebt u dan niet gehoord dat die ellendeling van een kapitein en zijn officieren de helft van de bemanningsleden overhoop slaan? (..)"<br>"Bedoel je dat de bemanning aan muiterij denkt?" vroeg Clayton.<br>"Muitelij!" riep de oude matroos uit. "Muitelij! Dat wordt moord en doodslag, meneer. Let op wat ik zeg, moord en doodslag..." |

The first fragment shows the sympathetic American agent Wayne Colt trapped in the death cell at Opar. The detached style (*perchance, scheduled to commence, minister*) is completely glossed over in the translations. This fragment also shows how heavily Stam relies on Roldanus.

The second fragment pits two different social registers against one another, which is completely lost in translation.

#### 4. Titles.

The following table shows the titles of the Dutch translations. The titles of the first editions are shown in modern orthography. The third column only lists deviations in the titles of the Westfriesland series from the earlier editions.

| original                        | first edition                                | West-Friesland                     |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Tarzan of the Apes              | Tarzan van de apen                           |                                    |
| The Return of Tarzan            | De terugkeer van Tarzan                      |                                    |
| The Beasts of Tarzan            | De wilde dieren van Tarzan                   | Tarzan en zijn dieren              |
| The Son of Tarzan               | De zoon van Tarzan                           |                                    |
| Tarzan and the Jewels of Opar   | Tarzan en de juwelen van Opar                |                                    |
| Jungle Tales of Tarzan          | Tarzan's verhalen uit de tropische wildernis | Tarzan in het oerwoud              |
| Tarzan the Untamed              | Tarzan de ongetemde                          | Tarzan de ontembare                |
| Tarzan the Terrible             | Tarzan de verschrikkelijke                   |                                    |
| Tarzan and the Golden Lion      | Tarzan en de gouden leeuw                    |                                    |
| Tarzan and the Ant Men          | Tarzan en het mieren-volk                    | Tarzan en het mierenvolk           |
| Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle      | Tarzan, heer der wildernis                   | Tarzan, heerser van het oerwoud    |
| Tarzan and the Lost Empire      | Tarzan en het verloren keizerrijk            | Tarzan en het verloren rijk        |
| Tarzan at the Earth's Core      | Tarzan in de onderwereld                     |                                    |
| Tarzan the Invincible           | Tarzan de onoverwinnelijke                   | Tarzan de onoverwinnelijk          |
| Tarzan Triumphant               | Tarzan triumphator                           | Tarzan triomfeert                  |
| Tarzan and the City of Gold     | Tarzan en de gouden stad                     | Tarzan in de gouden stad           |
| Tarzan and the Lion Man         | Tarzan en de leeuw-man                       | Tarzan en de leeuwman              |
| Tarzan and the Leopard Men      | Tarzan en het luipaardenvolk                 | Tarzan en het luipaardvolk         |
| Tarzan's Quest                  | Tarzan's waagstuk                            |                                    |
| Tarzan and the Forbidden City   | *  | Tarzan en de verboden stad         |
| The Red Star of Tarzan          | Tarzan en de rode ster                       | *                                  |
| Tarzan the Magnificent          | Tarzan de geweldige                          |                                    |
| Tarzan and the 'Foreign Legion' | Tarzan op Sumatra                            | Tarzan en het vreemdelingenlegioen |
| Tarzan and the Madman           | *  | *                                  |
| Tarzan and the Castaways        | *  | *                                  |

Incidental reprints show the following deviating titles:

1. Tarzan (Loeb, Amsterdam -- Udim, Gilze. 1989.)
2. Tarzan's terugkeer (Classics Lektuur, Naarden. 1976.)
3. De dieren van Tarzan (Classics Lektuur, Naarden. 1976.)
6. Tarzan's liefde (Cinema Romans. 1923.)

5. Later editions.

The following table shows production information of later editions of Dutch translations of the Tarzan novels.

Many later editions of the Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven portfolio were produced by Gebroeders Graauw's Uitgevers Maatschappij (Amsterdam-Soerabaia, after January 1949 Amsterdam). See 7.

Westfriesland does not provide edition information. Technically, the green paperback series produced around 1966 includes first editions of new translations (or of adaptations of old translations), so that the later white paperback series involves second editions of those versions. We will regard the white series as a reprint. See 6. See 8 on series characteristics.

The following abbreviations are used: B = Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven, K = Kramers, G = Gebr. Graauw, A = Allert de Lange.

|        | edition | 2                  | 3                 | 4                 | 5      | 6                 | 7                  |
|--------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------------------|
| volume |         |                    |                   |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 1      |         | B 1921             | B 1923            | G 1941            | G 1946 | G 1948?           |                    |
| 2      |         | B 1921?<br>B 1923? | B 1936            | G 1938            | G 1941 | G 1948            | G 1949?<br>G 195x? |
| 3      |         | B 1923?            | G 1938            | G 1941            | G 1946 | G 1948?           |                    |
| 4      |         | B 1923?            | G 1938            | G 1941            | G 1948 | G 1949?<br>G 195x |                    |
| 5      |         | B 1924             | G 1938            | G 1941            | G 1948 | G 1949?<br>G 195x |                    |
| 6      |         | G 1946             | G 1948?           |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 7      |         | B 1924?            | G 1938            | G 1941            | G 1948 |                   |                    |
| 8      |         | G 1936             | G 1938?           | G 1941            | G 1948 |                   |                    |
| 9*     |         | G 1941             | G 1946<br>G 1948? |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 10     |         | G 1946             | G 1949            | G 1949?<br>G 195x |        |                   |                    |
| 14     |         | G 1946             | G 1948            | G 1949?<br>G 195x |        |                   |                    |
| 15     |         | G 1946             | G 1949            | G 1949?<br>G 195x |        |                   |                    |
| 16     |         | G 1946             | G 1948?           |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 17     |         | K 1953             |                   |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 18     |         | K 1953             |                   |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 19     |         | K 1953             |                   |                   |        |                   |                    |
| 21     |         | K 1953<br>K 1959   |                   |                   |        |                   |                    |

#### Notes:

- \* The third edition is incorrectly marked as the second edition on the title page. The third edition is reprinted inside the cover of what should have been the fourth edition, the date of which is uncertain.

#### 6. Reprints

In 1923, volumes 1 through 6 were reprinted in the series Cinema Romans. These were presumably magazine like publications, no surviving copies of which I have seen. The printing information is extracted from Brinkmans yearly review of books in print.

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Tarzan van de apen             | Cinema Romans 10 |
| 2. De terugkeer van Tarzan        | Cinema Romans 19 |
| 3. De wilde dieren van Tarzan     | Cinema Romans 36 |
| 4. De zoon van Tarzan             | Cinema Romans 25 |
| 5. Tarzan en de juweelen van Opar | Cinema Romans 52 |
| 6. Tarzan's liefde                | Cinema Romans 14 |

In 1951, Allert de Lange published a reprint of volume 1. (Since I have never seen this publication, I cannot exclude that it actually involves a new translation.)

In 1971-1973, Westfriesland reprinted volumes 1 through 12 from its earlier series of 22 novels. The art work is borrowed from the British Flamingo Books edition.

Volumes 1 through 5 were subsequently reprinted by Classics Lektuur (Naarden), sometimes with differing titles. See 4.

In 1982, volumes 1 and 2 were reprinted in a single volume by Loeb (Amsterdam). In 1989, Loeb (together with Udima (Gilze)) reprinted volumes 1 and 2 in separate volumes. Volume 1 is called *Tarzan* in these editions.

The following table shows the complete chronology of the printings and reprintings of the Westfriesland series. The following abbreviations are used: G = Westfriesland, green series; W = Westfriesland, white series; C = Classics Lektuur; L = Loeb; LU = Loeb/Udima.

|        | publisher | G    | W    | C    | L    | LU   |
|--------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| volume |           |      |      |      |      |      |
| 1      |           | 1966 | 1971 | 1975 | 1982 | 1989 |
| 2      |           | 1966 | 1971 | 1976 | 1982 | 1989 |
| 3      |           | 1966 | 1971 | 1976 |      |      |
| 4      |           | 1966 | 1971 | 1978 |      |      |
| 5      |           | 1966 | 1971 | 1976 |      |      |
| 6      |           | 1967 | 1971 |      |      |      |
| 7      |           | 1966 | 1971 |      |      |      |
| 8      |           | 1967 | 1971 |      |      |      |
| 9      |           | 1967 | 1972 |      |      |      |
| 10     |           | 1967 | 1972 |      |      |      |
| 11     |           | 1968 | 1973 |      |      |      |
| 12     |           | 1966 | 1973 |      |      |      |
| 13     |           | 1966 |      |      |      |      |
| 14     |           | 1968 |      |      |      |      |
| 15     |           | 1968 |      |      |      |      |
| 16     |           | 1968 |      |      |      |      |
| 17     |           | 1965 |      |      |      |      |
| 18     |           | 1965 |      |      |      |      |
| 19     |           | 1965 |      |      |      |      |
| 20     |           | 1968 |      |      |      |      |
| 21     |           | 1965 |      |      |      |      |
| 22     |           | 1968 |      |      |      |      |

In 1948, De Combinatie reprinted volume 20' in modern orthography.

## 7. The Graauw editions.

N.V. Gebr. Graauw's Uitgevers Maatschappij published several editions of the Tarzan novels that were in the Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven fund. These publications appeared between 1936 and somewhere in the 1950s.

Dating the Graauw volumes is sometimes difficult. After the second world war, paper supply was insufficient, and for several years it proved impossible to bring out a uniform series. As a result, the appearance of the

Tarzan novels published between 1946 and 1950 is a mixed bag, where even two copies of the same volume in the same edition may look different. Moreover, Graauw does not always seem to have updated the edition numbering in a consistent way.

Two criteria may be helpful in dating the post war editions. First, modern orthography was introduced officially in 1947. We may assume that from 1948 on, all books are in modern orthography (although occasional reprints may violate the rule). Second, the independence of Indonesia in 1949 apparently forced Graauw to abandon its Soerabaia office. At some point, Soerabaia disappears from the title page, but we do not know exactly in what year (not before January 1949).

The following series can be distinguished:

1. Yellow 165mm hardcover pocket books.  
Published between 1936 and 1938.

2<sup>3</sup> (1936), 2<sup>4</sup>, 3<sup>3</sup>, 4<sup>3</sup>, 5<sup>3</sup>, 7<sup>3</sup> (1938), 8<sup>2</sup> (1936), 8<sup>3</sup>.

2. Yellow 185mm hardcover pocket books.  
Published in 1941 and 1946.

1941: 1<sup>4</sup>, 2<sup>5</sup>, 3<sup>4</sup>, 4<sup>4</sup>, 5<sup>4</sup>, 7<sup>4</sup>, 8<sup>4</sup>, 9<sup>2</sup>.

1946: 5<sup>4</sup>, 6<sup>2</sup>, 10<sup>2</sup>, 14<sup>2</sup>, 15<sup>2</sup>, 16<sup>2</sup>.

The 1946 volumes are not nearly as nice as the 1941 volumes, but the art work is the same, and since the two series cover the complete Blankwaardt & Schoonhoven fund, I assume that they belong together (publication of the entire series at once may have been hampered by the occupation). I suspect that the 1946 series, unlike the 1941 series, never appeared with a dust jacket, as they have a green hued sheet of paper pasted on the front cover cloth featuring detailed publisher information.

3. The mixed bag series. These are generally about 195mm hardcover books, presumably without dust jacket. I assume that they belong together since they share the same lettering and art work on the cover and spine (in particular, the peculiar spine print of the type BURROUGHS, TARZAN OF THE APES). Since they all mention Soerabaia, I assume that they date from January 1949 or before (for some we have printing information from Brinkmans). The modern orthography was adopted in the middle of the production of this series.

old orth.: 1<sup>5</sup> (1946), 3<sup>5</sup> (1946?), 9<sup>3</sup> (1946; the title page says 9<sup>2</sup>, but the printing is different from the earlier edition of 1941).

mod. orth.: 4<sup>5</sup> (1949), 5<sup>5</sup> (1948), 7<sup>5</sup> (1948), 8<sup>5</sup> (1948),  
10<sup>3</sup> (1949), 14<sup>3</sup> (1948), 15<sup>3</sup> (1949).  
Presumably also: 2<sup>6</sup> (1948) and 6<sup>3</sup> and 16<sup>3</sup>.

The dark blue 1949 volumes (at least 4<sup>5</sup>, 5<sup>5</sup>, 8<sup>5</sup>, 9<sup>3</sup> (see above),  
10<sup>3</sup>, 14<sup>3</sup>, 15<sup>3</sup>) probably constitute a separate series.

The 'Gestaag Groeiende' logo appears in 1<sup>5</sup>, 3<sup>5</sup>, 4<sup>5</sup>, 7<sup>5</sup>, 8<sup>5</sup>, 10<sup>3</sup>,  
14<sup>3</sup>, 15<sup>3</sup>.

The volumes in old orthography do not mention the original  
title.

4. The grey/blue series. These are clearly recognizable by the emblem of Tarzan battling an ape in the bottom right corner of the hard cover. They are all 195mm hardcover books with dust jackets. The publication dates are unclear, but it seems that we must distinguish two subseries. Subseries A has 'Amsterdam-Soerabaia', it generally has the name Burroughs on the spine, and it employs a remarkably elegant font, to be recognized by the perpendicular double hyphens. Subseries B has dropped 'Soerabaia', generally does not have the name Burroughs on the spine, and employs a more ordinary font. I suspect that subseries B contains all and only the volumes that were (simultaneously?) published in 185mm paperback format. The paperback art work is matched by the art work on the hard back dust jacket. These are all clearly later than the mixed bag series, so much so that I would like to locate them in the early 1950s. A problem with the dating is that the edition numbers are not always updated on the title page, so that printing information about the mixed bag volumes could be erroneously carried over to the grey volumes.

A: 1<sup>6</sup>, 3<sup>6</sup>, 6<sup>3</sup>, 9<sup>3</sup> (the title page says 9<sup>2</sup>, but this is a direct reprint of the 1946 edition identified as 9<sup>3</sup>; although the orthography is not modern, the art work betrays this as a post 1949 edition; possibly the elegant font used here was used as a model for the entire grey series), 16<sup>3</sup>. In the same series, but not with the elegant font: 2<sup>6</sup>, 7<sup>5</sup>, 8<sup>5</sup>.  
B: 4<sup>6</sup>, 5<sup>6</sup>, 10<sup>4</sup>, 14<sup>4</sup>, 15<sup>4</sup>. Presumably also: 2<sup>7</sup>.

A different partitioning appears to be possible on the basis of whether the name BURROUGHS is printed on the spine:

+BURROUGHS: 1<sup>6</sup>, 2<sup>6</sup>, 3<sup>6</sup>, 4<sup>6</sup>, 7<sup>5</sup>, 8<sup>5</sup>, 9<sup>3</sup> (see above), 16<sup>3</sup>.  
-BURROUGHS: 5<sup>6</sup>, 6<sup>3</sup>, 10<sup>4</sup>, 14<sup>4</sup>, 15<sup>4</sup>.

Note that the [-BURROUGHS] series matches the 1946 yellow 185mm hard cover series, with the exception of 16<sup>3</sup>.

All except 2<sup>6</sup>, 5<sup>6</sup>, 9<sup>3</sup> (see above) feature the 'Gestaag Groeiende' logo on the title page. (Note that the mixed bag volume 5<sup>5</sup> does feature the 'Gestaag Groeiende' logo.)

All except 5<sup>6</sup>, 9<sup>3</sup> (see above) mention the original title on the verso page, opposite the title page (with the exception of 4<sup>6</sup>, which prints the original title on the back of the title page). (Note that 5<sup>5</sup> in the mixed bag series does mention the original title.)

5. The paperback series. 185mm companion series to 4B. Exact reprints, presumably published simultaneously.

2<sup>7</sup>, 4<sup>6</sup>, 5<sup>6</sup>, 10<sup>4</sup>, 14<sup>4</sup>, 15<sup>4</sup>.