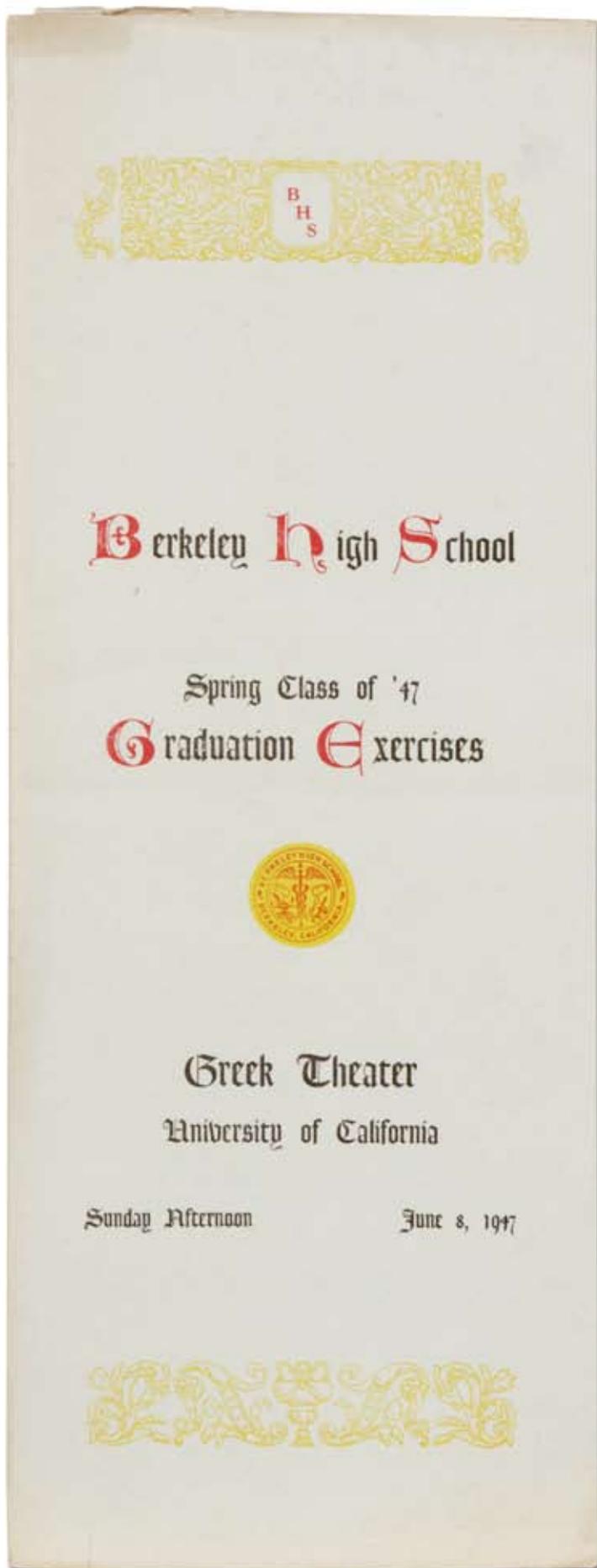


BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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Philip K. Dick, Ursula K. Le Guin *Berkeley High School Spring Class of '47 Graduation Exercises*

Berkeley: Berkeley High School 1947

\$450

One tall leaf folded to make eight pages. Small tears at the extremities, folds a trifle tender, still very good or better. About half of the pamphlet is devoted to the program of the graduation, the other half lists the graduating class, which included Philip K. Dick and Ursula Le Guin (here listed as Ursula Kroeber). In her "Art of Fiction" interview with John Wray in the *Paris Review* in 2013, Le Guin notes the influence Dick's work had on her approach to writing and the curious case of the invisible classmate:

Le Guin: Yes. And his style - he's a real puzzle stylistically. But oh man, of course he was a huge influence on me.

Wray: What was it about Dick's work that caught your attention?

Le Guin: Partly it was that he and I had similar interests in certain things, such as Taoism and the I Ching - after all we were both Berkeley kids of the same generation. And then, his sci-fi novels were about ordinary, unexceptional, confused people, when so much sci-fi consisted of Campbellian or militaristic heroes and faceless multitudes. Mr. Tagomi, in *The Man in the High Castle*, was a revelation to me of what you could do with sci-fi if you really took it seriously as a novelist. Did you know we were in the same high school.

Wray: You and Philip K. Dick? Really?

Le Guin: Berkely High, thirty-five hundred kids. Big, huge school. Nobody knew Phil Dick. I have not found one person from Berkeley High who knew him. He was the invisible classmate.

Wray: That could almost be taken from one of his novels.

A curious cultural confluence. [\[BTC#400327\]](#)

DICK Dewey
Philip Dick

Ursula Kroeber