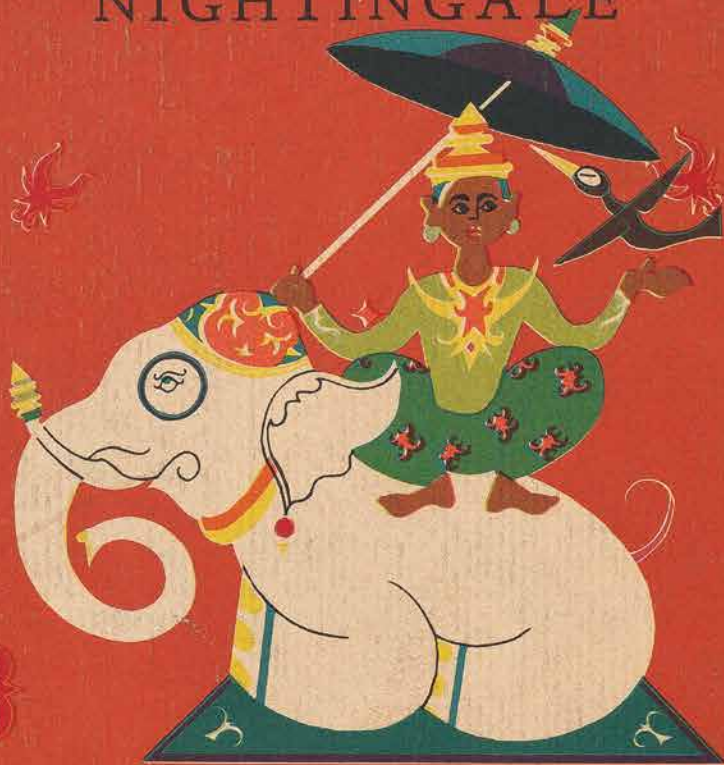


PRINCESS SEPTEMBER  
AND THE  
NIGHTINGALE



By *W. Somerset Maugham*

*Illustrated by Richard C. Jones*

Princess September and the Nightingale



**W. Somerset Maugham**

[Brass binding die-stamp for the spine of]: *Princess September and the Nightingale*

New York: Oxford University Press 1939

\$1250

Brass die-stamp. 8½" x ½". Original patina, else about fine. The binder's stamp for the spine of the thin children's book with the lettering ("Maugham / Princess September and the Nightingale / Oxford") in reverse. Although published by Oxford, the book was designed and printed in the U.S. during the War, when the English presumably had other concerns. The book was designed by Eunice Blake, printed by the Jersey City Printing Company, and bound by the H. Wolff Book Manufacturing Company for the Oxford University Press.

Accompanied by a first edition. Private library stamp on half-title, with no other library markings else near fine edgeworn, very good dustwrapper.

The provenance presents a mildly interesting story: a local colleague was buying books out of the trunk of a gentleman's car and came across a bag of wartime brass die-stamps from the Oxford University Press. My colleague inquired and the gentleman revealed that his next stop was the scrap yard where he was going to sell the dies to be melted down for the brass. My colleague paid him double the scrap price for them. We paid a bit more. A unique artifact from the author's uncommon children's book. *Stott* 41 (for the book). [\[BTC#403260\]](#)

[*die-stamp image reversed*]

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ILLUSTRATED BY RICHARD C. JONES

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