

## *Ernest J. Gaines' First Published Story*

**(Ernest J. Gaines, Leonard Gardner, and others)**

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Octavo. 38pp., plus two page centerfold on thinner paper with a three color lithograph illustration signed in pencil by M. Carlson. Stapled illustrated wrappers. Age-toning on the wrappers, very good or better. Includes early student work by two important American authors: the first story published by Ernest J. Gaines, author of *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* and *A Lesson Before Dying* and whose nine page story "Turtles" is the featured piece in the magazine; as well as a poem and an illustration by Leonard Gardner, future author of *Fat City*. A rare literary magazine, apparently the only issue published. OCLC locates just two copies. [\[BTC#420589\]](#)

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# *The Turtles*

*By Ernest J. Gaines*

When we got to Mr. James's house, my old man leaned the fishing poles against the fence and he went into the yard. Mr. James and Benny were sitting on the porch. Mr. James was fanning his face with his straw hat.

"It's coming down," my old man said. He put his foot on the step and leaned upon one knee. "You and Benny about ready?"

"Aren't you and Max going to rest a while?" Mr. James asked.

"Better not stop too long," my old man said. "You don't feel like starting again."

"I see what you mean," Mr. James said. "Get the poles, Benny."

# *Lizards*

*By Leonard Gardner*

lizards are quick in reacting  
they are keen of eye  
and accurate in their observations  
they enjoy sunshine and solitude  
and they mind their own business  
they have long tails  
and vibrant blue bellies  
they eat bugs  
lizards would make good people

W M. O'CONNORISMS

here is nothing superficial about a life devoted t