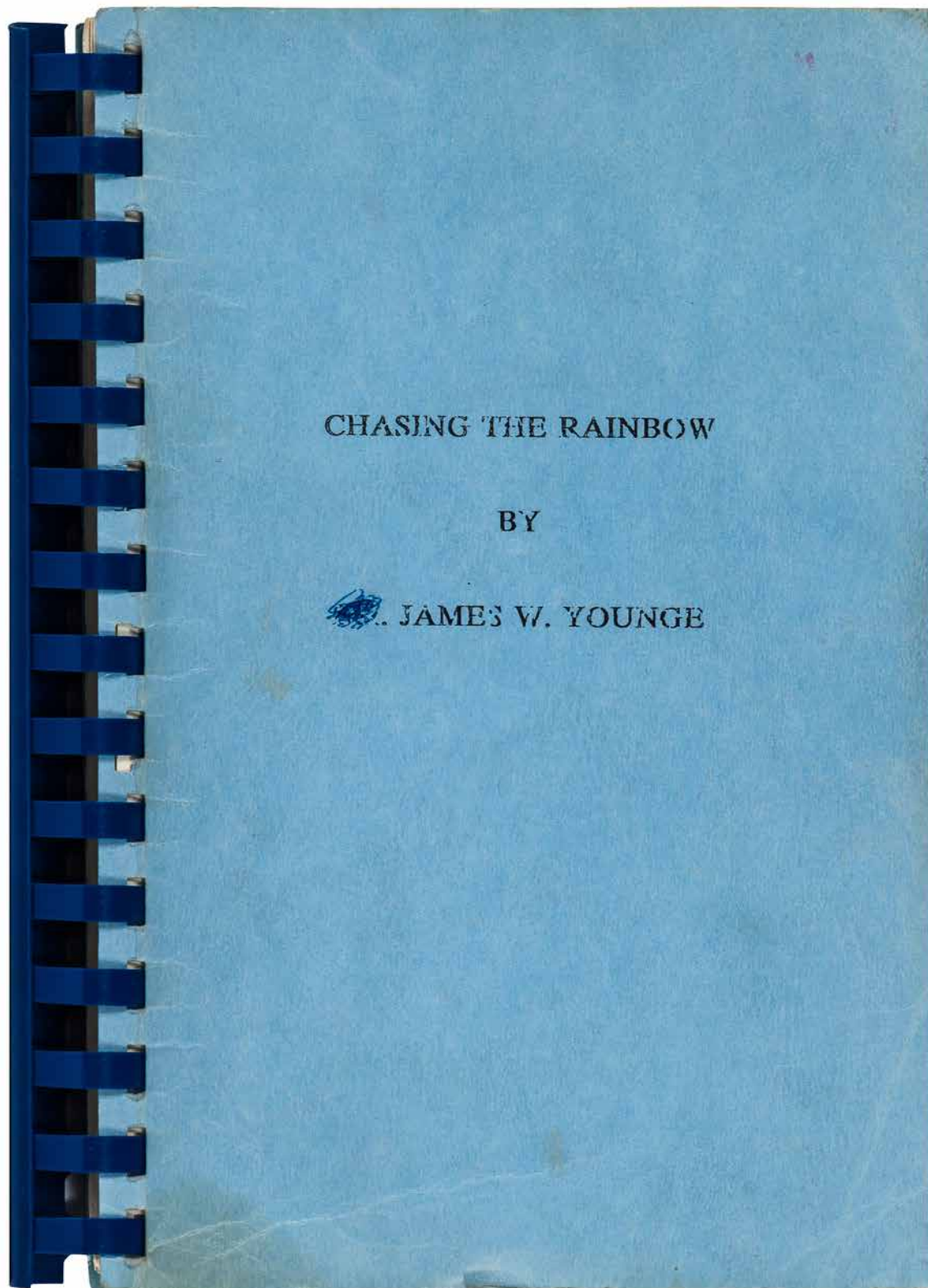


James W. Younge

Chasing the Rainbow

[No place]: James W. Younge 1989

\$750



First edition. Octavo. iv, 157 photomechanically printed leaves printed rectos only. Spiral bound in printed blue wrappers. A couple of random ink notes on rear wrap, one letter in the author's name intentionally inked out on the front wrap, numerous ink corrections, almost certainly by the author, a little soiling and evidence of light handling, very good or better. Self-published and very thinly-veiled autobiographical novel of an African-American WWII vet from Greenville, Tennessee in the Great Smokey Mountains.

"Joe", a black hillbilly grows up in Tennessee, moves with his family to North Carolina, becomes a football star, gets a partial scholarship to and graduates from college just weeks after WWII begins. He gets a construction job at Ft. Bragg at the beginning of WWII, later joins the mostly black 92nd Infantry Division (Buffalo Division). He writes about discrimination, particularly in the South and on the trains, and writes a damning indictment of the commanding officer at Fort Huachuca in Arizona. He writes of the convoy to Europe and his participation in the invasion of Italy, where he spent the duration of the War. About a third of the book is dedicated to "Joe's" war experiences, the last third is largely devoted about his experiences and observations about segregation, discrimination, and civil rights. The specifics of Younge's (1918-1991) life, as closely as they can be determined from public records, closely mirror those of "Joe", his protagonist. Presumably rare. *OCLC* locates only two copies.

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