

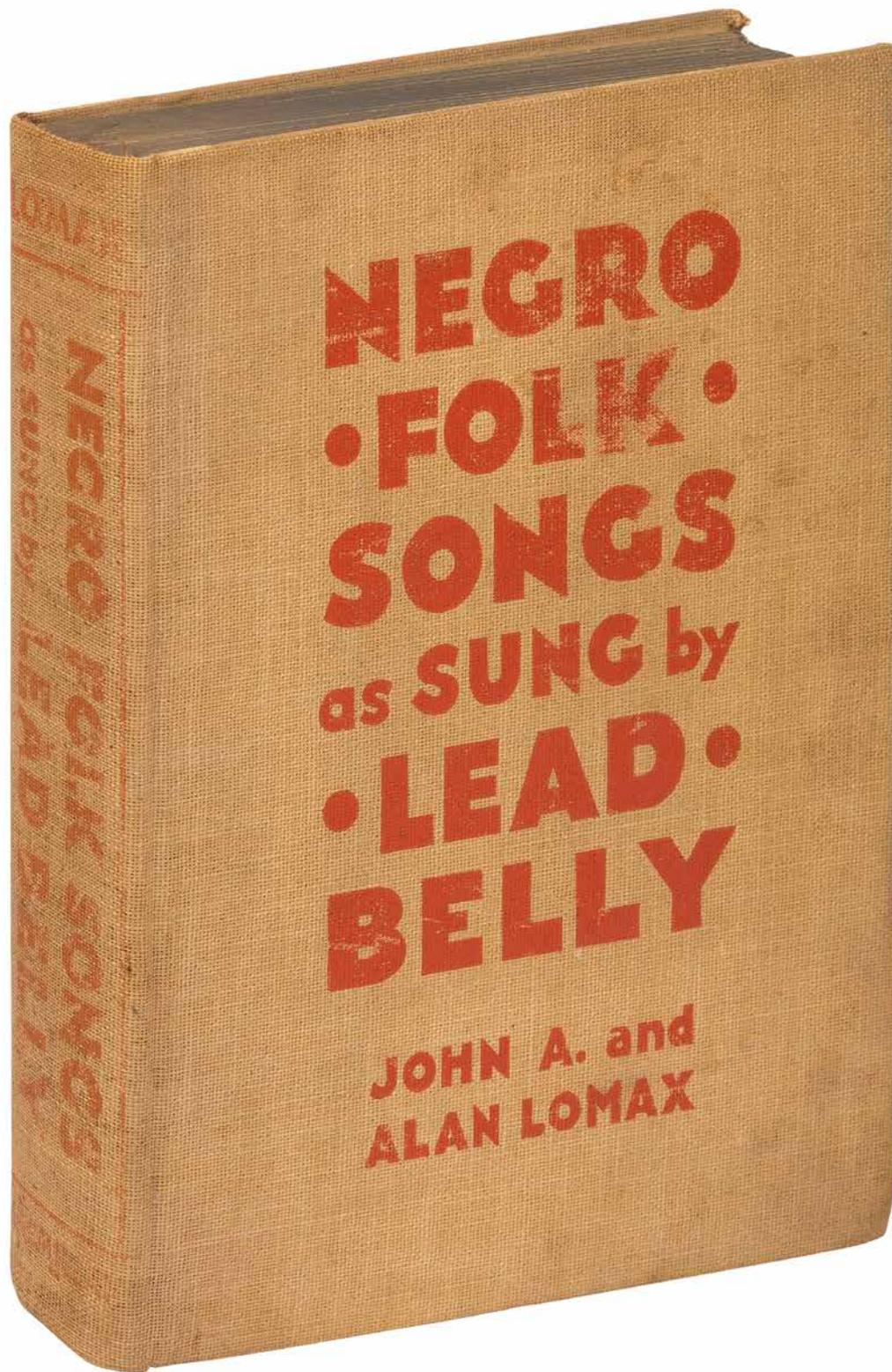


John A. Lomax and Alan Lomax

Negro Folk Songs as Sung by Lead Belly: "King of the Twelve-String Guitar Players of the World," Long-Time Convict in the Penitentiaries of Texas and Louisiana

New York: The Macmillan Company 1936

\$2500



First edition. Small quarto. 242pp. Frontispiece portrait. Tan cloth lettered in red. A bit of foxing on the titlepage and facing frontispiece, and on a few leaves in the text, some rubbing and spotting on the boards, an about very good copy lacking the dustwrapper. This copy warmly Inscribed by co-author John A. Lomax: "To Ruth Evans, A sunshiney interlude in Washington, With grateful esteem. John A. Lomax. Washington, D.C. December 11, 1936."

Laid in is a Typed Letter Signed to the recipient on WPA stationery from Sam K. Cowan, author of the bestselling biography *Sergeant York's Own Story*: "Mine Herr Doktor: We have learned with real regret of the trouble you have had, and rejoice in your improvement. To the youthful and inspired 'Doctor' John Lomax is left ther expression of our regrets in verse (He'll know better when a little older, So forgive him.) You must hurry and get well. I am leaving for California the early part of next week, and cannot miss the promised farewell. With the best wishes to you - Sam K. Cowan." Cowan was apparently being facetious, as Lomax was nearing the age of 70 at the time. Also laid in is an apparently unpublished Typed Poem Signed ("John A. Lomax"), eight line poem with hand-corrections entitled "Ruth".



An interesting copy. Inscribed by Lomax, the man probably more responsible than any other for preserving black and cowboy folk music, at the time of his ten affiliation with the Library of Congress collecting songs, and while he was assigned as an advisor on folklore collecting for both the Historical Records Survey and the Federal Writers' Project. [BTC#437103]

Negro Folk Songs As Sung by Lead Belly

to Ruth
"KING OF THE TWELVE-STRING GUITAR PLAYERS
OF THE WORLD," LONG-TIME CONVICT IN THE
PENITENTIARIES OF TEXAS AND LOUISIANA

A fine string of interludes
TRANSCRIBED, SELECTED AND EDITED BY

Washington, D.C. grateful to J.A. Lomax
JOHN A. LOMAX

AND

ALAN LOMAX

Compilers of "American Ballads and Folk Songs"

Washington, D.C. 11, 1936.
New York · The Macmillan Company · MCMXXXVI

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

WALKER-JOHNSON BUILDING
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

HARRY L. HOPKINS
ADMINISTRATOR

November 9.

Mine Herr Doktor:

We have learned with real regret of the trouble you have had, and rejoice in your improvement.

To the youthful and inspired "Doctor" John Lomax is left the expression of our regrets in verse. (He 'll know better when a little older. So forgive him.)

You must hurry and get well. I am leaving for California the early part of next week, and cannot miss the promised farewell.

With the best of wishes to you -

Sam W. Cowan