



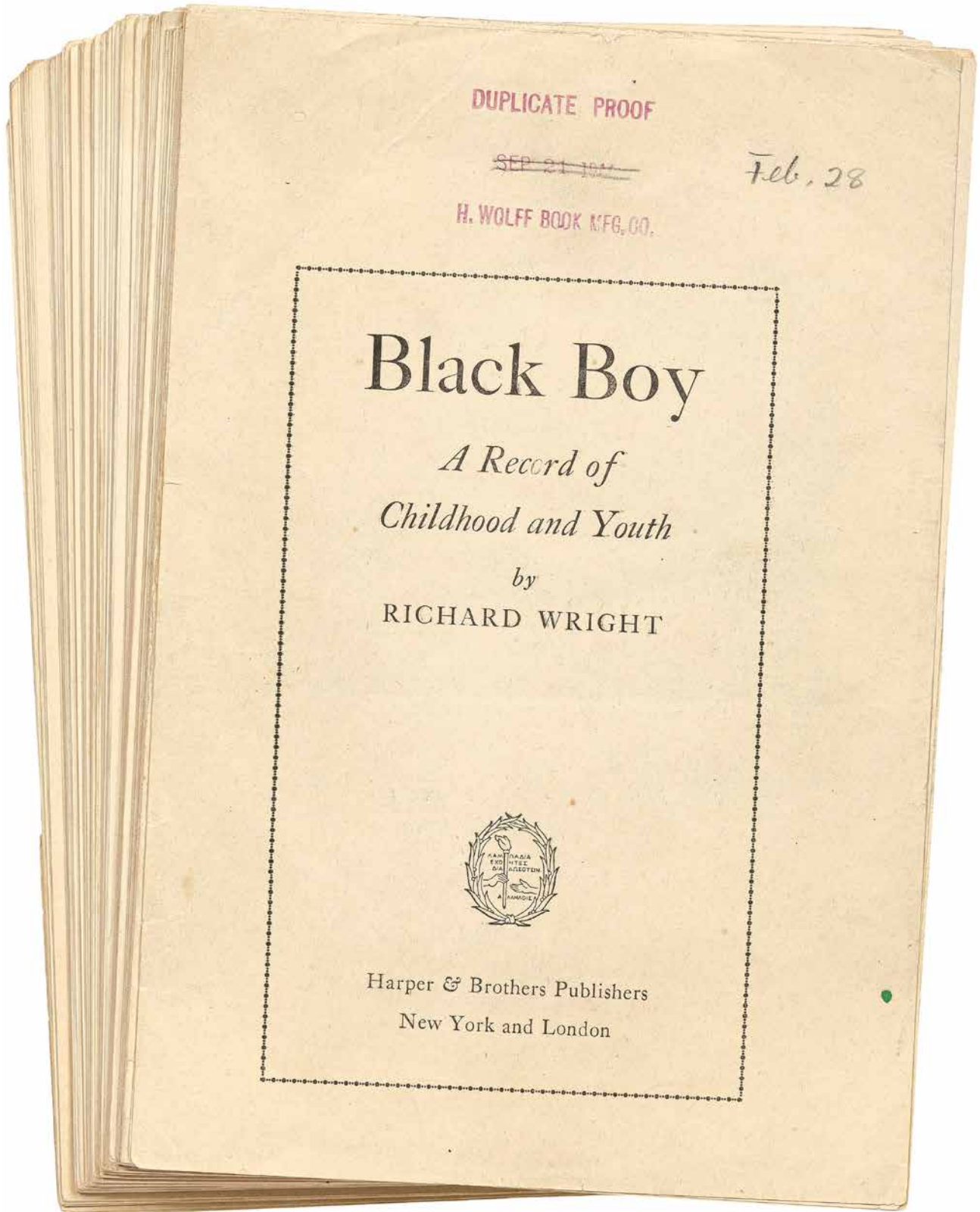
*The Printer's Final Setting Copy*

**Richard Wright**

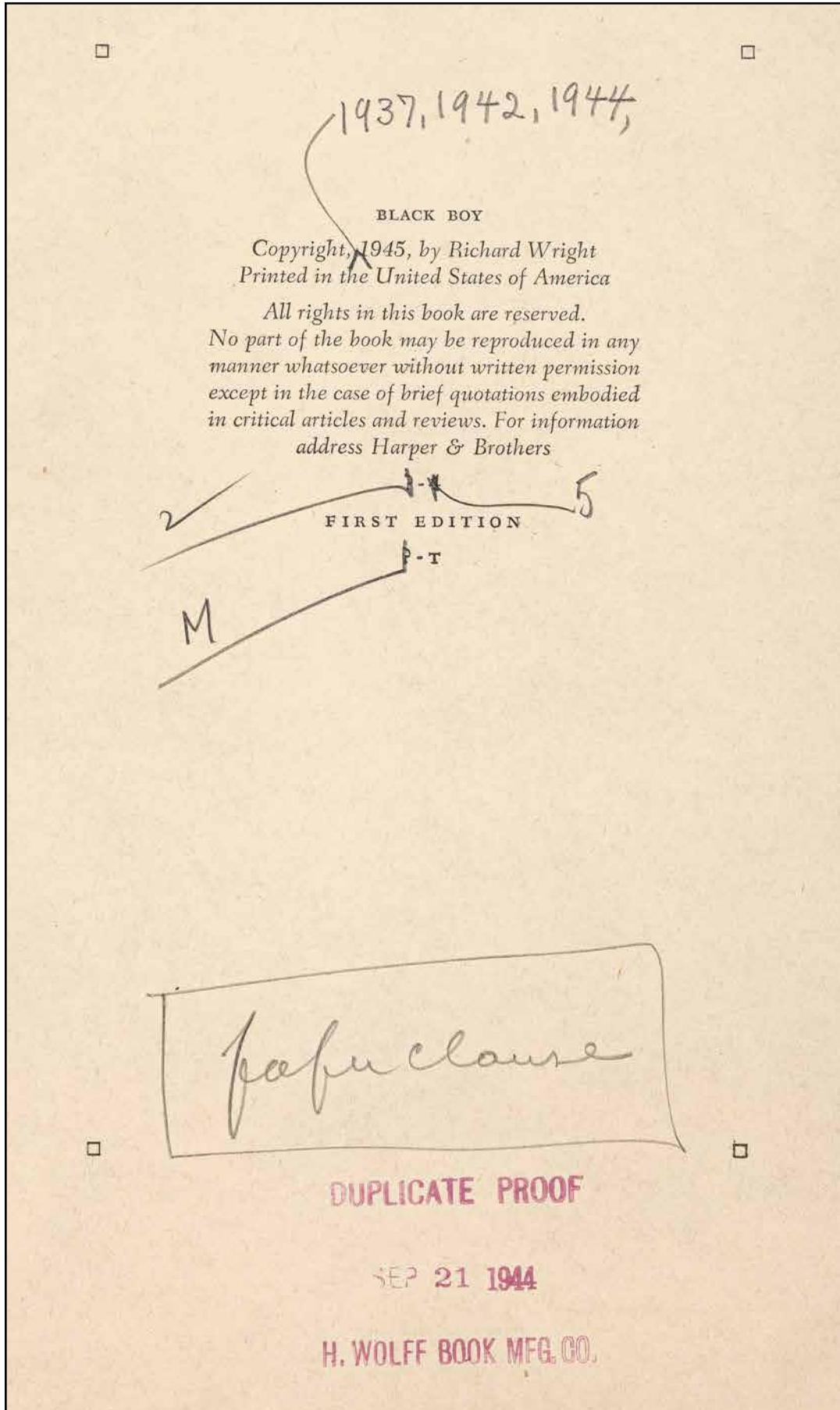
*Black Boy: A Record of Childhood and Youth*

New York: Harper & Brothers (1945)

**\$8500**

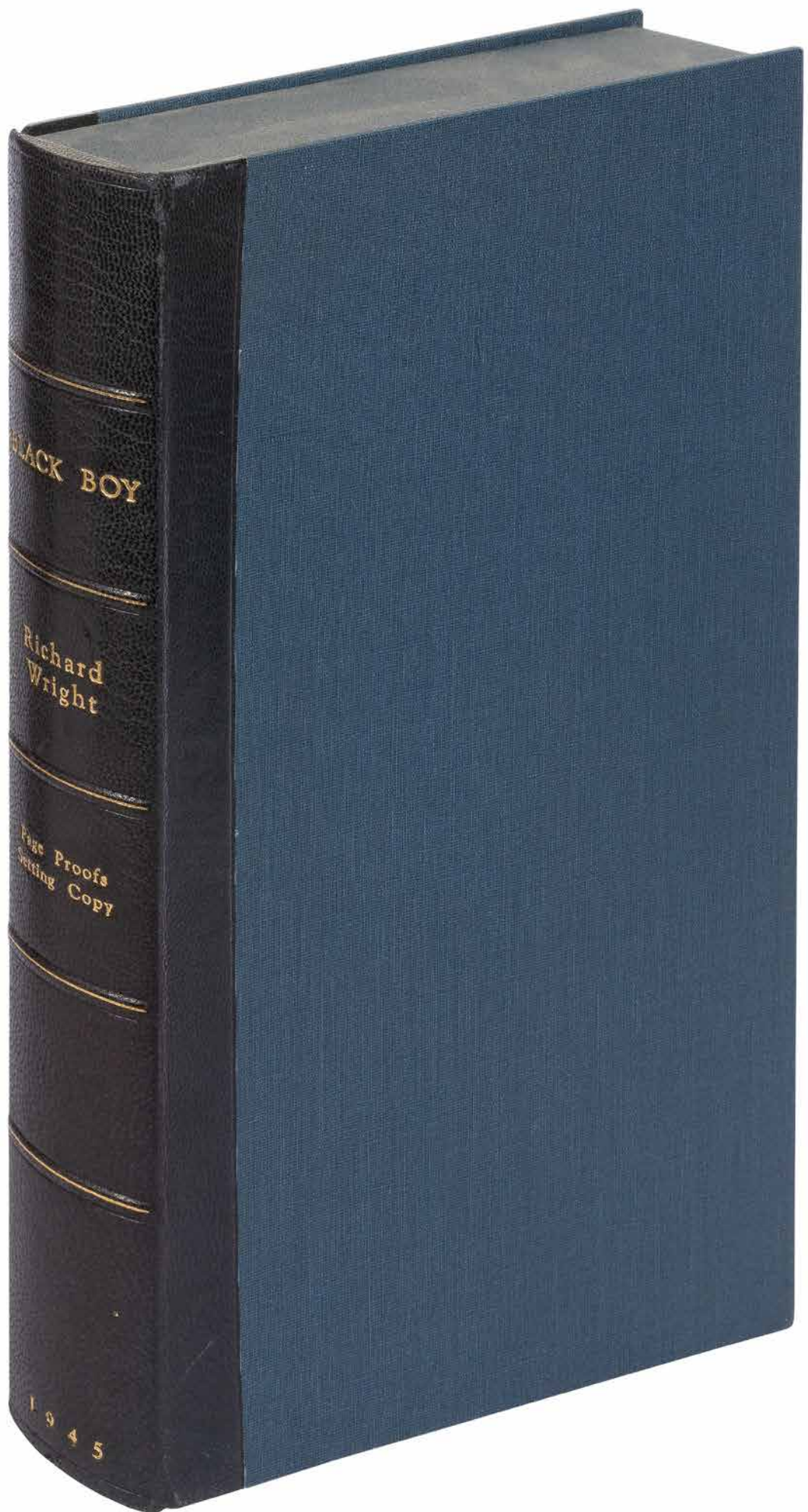


Printer's unbound page proofs. [8], 3-228 quarto leaves printed rectos only. Pencil corrections, mostly editorial in nature; stamp of printer H. Wolff Book Mfg. Co. on a few pages, one dated "Feb. 28", another dated "Sep 21 1944", and marked "Duplicate Proof". A few marginal nicks and tears on final leaf affecting no text, near fine, housed in a custom blue quarter morocco and cloth clamshell case.



The printer's setting copy and file copy of the corrected page proofs. Indicative of the finalization of the text, the copyright page has been revised in pencil, and the quotation from Job has been added as a paste-up. Perhaps of most interest is the blank cover leaf that indicates that the original title, *American Hunger* was crossed out and replaced with *Black Boy* at the last minute. This precedes any public distribution of the text of the novel by the publisher in the form of uncorrected proofs or advance reading copies, and was almost certainly preserved in no more than a handful of copies, representing an appealing "in house" provenance. At this juncture, likely a unique format of what became the bestselling book by any African-American author up until that time. [BTC#437908]





BLACK BOY

Richard  
Wright

Page Proofs  
Setting Copy

1945

Final

7 1/2 feet wide  
1/2 in.

Manu fooduring  
Dept.

American Hunger  
BL note

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DUPLICATE PROOF

~~SEP 21 1941~~

Feb. 28

H. WOLFF BOOK MFG. CO.

# Black Boy

*A Record of  
Childhood and Youth*

by

RICHARD WRIGHT



Harper & Brothers Publishers

New York and London