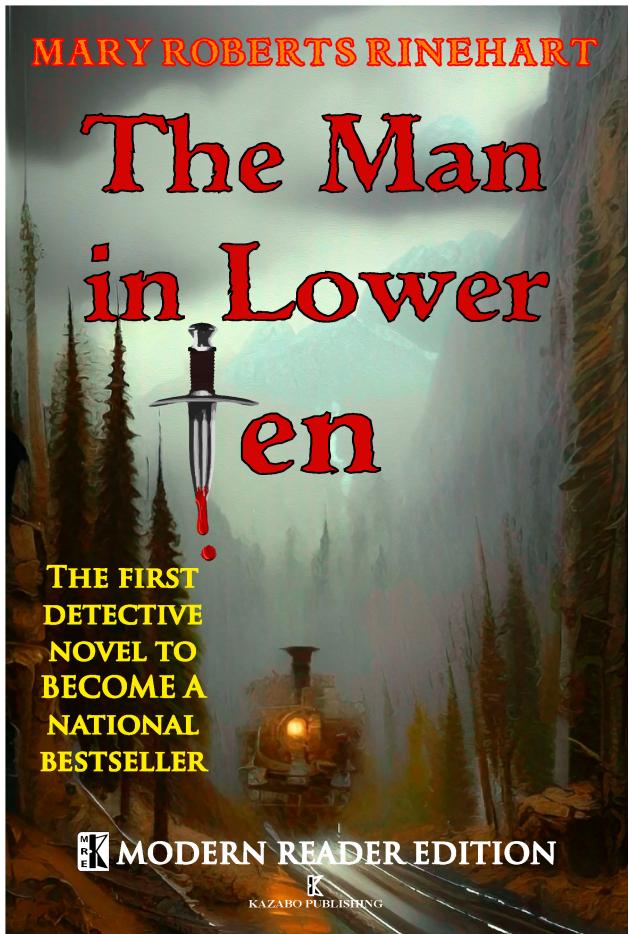


**Kazabo Publishing Announces
Modern “Translation” of America’s First Best-Seller,
*The Man in Lower Ten***



--- San Diego, Kazabo Publishing announced today that it will publish the first volume of its Modern Reader Edition series, *The Man in Lower Ten* by best-selling author Mary Roberts Rinehart, on **April 30th, 2024**.

Kazabo, which publishes best-sellers that have never before been translated into English, is breaking new ground with its Modern Reader Editions by “translating” best-sellers from earlier eras into contemporary English and providing new context that help modern readers enjoy these works just as they would have been enjoyed when they were originally written.

“There were some fantastic stories written in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The plots and the characters are as good as anything being written today but the language and the cultural references can sometime be distracting for modern readers.” says Chiara Giacobbe, Director of New Authors at Kazabo Publishing.

“Our Modern Reader Editions modernize the language while preserving the spirit of these older works. Our goal is to make these great books just as much fun to read today as they were when they were originally written.”

Obscure cultural references are also a problem in older works. “Of course, back in 1909, these references were not obscure, they were common knowledge. But nowadays, they can really interfere with our enjoyment of these novels and even our understanding of the plot,” explains Giacobbe. “We’ve addressed this with a unique system that includes short paragraphs at the beginning of chapters that briefly explain any references that might trip up modern readers. We have found this to be much more satisfying than long introductions full of facts that you have to remember and much less disruptive to the reader’s experience than footnotes. The great thing with this approach is that you get the jokes ‘in real time’ just as you would have done if you had been reading this book in 1910.”

The first of Kazabo’s Modern Reader Editions, *The Man in Lower Ten*, is a perfect example of what Kazabo is trying to accomplish. *The Man in Lower Ten* was a blockbuster novel when it

was published in 1909 and the first mystery novel to sell a million copies in the United States. The novel begins when Attorney Lawrence Blakely finds an unknown man in his berth – the ‘lower ten’ of the novel’s title – on the Ontario sleeper train bound for Washington DC. When the mystery man in lower ten is murdered and the train is wrecked, Blakeley is forced to solve the murder to prove his innocence, in a *tour de force* combining breakneck adventure, suspense, mystery and romance, that keeps readers guessing at the edge of their seats. The novel was so popular at the time that people refused to book lower ten berths on sleeper trains for several years after its publication.

The author, Mary Rinehart, while little known today, was one of the most successful American authors of the early twentieth century. By the time she died in 1958 – her last novel, *The Swimming Pool*, was published in 1952 – she had published three dozen novels and numerous other works. Rinehart was often called “the American Agatha Christie” but that hardly seems fair. If anything, Agatha Christie, who began writing 15 years later, was the British Mary Roberts Rinehart.

The Man in Lower Ten by Mary Roberts Rinehart

FICTION/MYSTERY & DETECTIVE/GOLDEN AGE MYSTERY

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