James Leslie Mitchell/ Lewis Grassic Gibbon Bibliography

Major Works

A Chronological Bibliography by William K Malcolm

Full details of the major works, together with extracts and a thematic concordance, are available in *Lewis Grassic Gibbon: The Reader*, selected and edited by William K Malcolm (Edinburgh: Capercaillie Books, 2016).

First Published in UK by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co. Ltd, London Price 2/6 and in USA by E P Dutton & Co., New York, June 1928

Genre : essay/ exploration

Dedication : none


Subject : essay in a romantic vein examining the impact of global exploration and positing the prospect of inter-planetary travel


First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, September 1930

Genre : novel/ social realism

Dedication : ‘Dedication of these Old Foes with New Faces to the laughter and pity of one who has known them in other guises : My Wife, RHEA MITCHELL’

Republished : Polygon, Edinburgh, 1993, with an introduction by Brian Morton
Polygon, Edinburgh, 2000, with introductions by Brian Morton and Ian Campbell

Subject : ironic novel dealing with contemporary social and political issues affecting lightly autobiographical main characters living in London between the wars;
characterisation of heroine Thea Mayven represents a precursor of Chris Guthrie, and scenes set in the Mearns look forward to the Grassic Gibbon fiction


First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, January 1931

Genre: novel/magical realism

Dedication: ‘To My Daughter RHEA SYLVIA’


Subject: heavily autobiographical early chapters draw upon Mitchell’s upbringing in the Mearns and his unhappy stay in Glasgow; later portions dealing with the hero’s geographical and spiritual quest in Central America reveal the influence of the author’s developing interest in Diffusionism

4. J Leslie Mitchell, *The Calends of Cairo*, Introduced by Mr H G Wells and Dr Leonard Huxley

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, July 1931

Published in USA as *Cairo Dawns: A Story Cycle with a Proem* by The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1931 Price $2.50

Genre: story cycle/magic realism

Dedication: ‘To MY FATHER and MOTHER’
Subject: polished versions of Mitchell’s *Polychromata* story cycle from the *Cornhill* magazine focusing on Cairo and the Middle East, locations of which the author had first-hand experience on his army travels; plots and characterisation are lightweight and wooden, although the best stories have a magic realist-style imaginative zest, and Mitchell’s radical political views surface periodically.

5. J Leslie Mitchell, *Three Go Back*

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, January 1932
Published in USA by The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1932 Price $2.00

Genre: novel/romantic fantasy

Dedication: ‘To R.L. MÉGROZ’

Galaxy Science Fiction Novel No. 15, Galaxy Publishing, New York, 1953
Greenhill Science Fiction & Fantasy, Lionel Leventhal Ltd, London, 1986, with an Afterword by Brian Stableford
Polygon, Edinburgh, 1995, with an introduction by Ian Campbell

Subject: time-travelling fantasy promoting Mitchell’s conviction of the superiority of primitive society over modern civilisation.
6. J Leslie Mitchell, *The Lost Trumpet*

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, July 1932  
Published in USA by The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1932 Price $2.00  

Genre: novel/ romantic fantasy  

Dedication: ‘To COLONEL GRIGORI SALIAEFF on whom I modelled Saloney and ARTHUR JOHN HALL whom the portrait pleased’  

Republished: Polygon, Edinburgh, 2001, with an introduction by Ian Campbell  

Subject: fantasy adventure of the search for the legendary lost trumpet of Joshua which brought down the walls of Jericho, drawing upon the author’s army experiences of Egypt, reflecting his awareness of world affairs and expressing his revolutionary idealism  

7. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Sunset Song*

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, August 1932  
Published in USA by The Century Co., New York, 1933  

Genre: novel/ Scottish rural realism  

Dedication: ‘To JEAN BAXTER’  

Republished: Jarrolds’ Jackdaw Library No.16, Jarrolds, London, February 1937  
Pan, London, 1973  
Canongate Classics 12, Canongate Books, Edinburgh, 1988, edited with an introduction by Tom Crawford
Polygon, Edinburgh, 2006, edited with an introduction by Ian Campbell
Dodo Press, Gloucester, 2008

Subject: romantic saga tracing the growth of Chris Guthrie from child through to wife, mother and widow and exploring the social impact of the First World War on a small Northeast community

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, November 1932  Price 7/6

Genre: story cycle/ magic realism

Dedication: ‘To H.G.WELLS’

Republished: Polygon, Edinburgh, 1998, with an introduction by Ian Campbell

Subject: two heavily romanticised story-cycles republishing short fiction originally appearing in literary magazines such as *The Cornhill Magazine* and *The Millgate Monthly* drawing on the author’s knowledge of the Middle East


First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, March 1933

Genre: novel/ picaresque

Dedication: ‘For JOHN LINDSEY and his STRICKEN GODS in friendship’
Subject: protagonist Gershom Jezreel endeavours to overcome his excoriation by traumatic experiences of twentieth century atrocities, ranging from trench warfare in France to race killings in America

10. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Cloud Howe*

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, May 1933  
First published in USA by Doubleday & Co. Inc., New York, 1934  
Genre: novel/ Scottish realism  
Dedication: ‘To GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON’  
Republished: Jarrolds’ Jackdaw Library No.19, Jarrolds, London, June 1937  
Pan, London, 1973  
Canongate Classics 19, Canongate Books, Edinburgh, 1988, edited with an introduction by Tom Crawford  
Dodo Press, Gloucester, 2008  
Subject: continuing saga of Chris Guthrie focusing on her second marriage, to Rev. Robert Colquohoun, as they face up to social and political pressures of the twenties


First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, August 1933  
Price 7/6  
Genre: novel/ historical  
Dedication: ‘For DOROTHY E. TWEED’
12. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Niger: The Life of Mungo Park*

First published in UK by The Porpoise Press, Edinburgh and Faber and Faber Ltd, London, February 1934
First published in USA by The Ryerson Press, New York, 1934

Genre: biography

Dedication: ‘To COMPTON MACKENZIE’

Republished: -

Subject: vivid account of the life story of Scottish explorer Mungo Park and of his exploration of Africa


First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, February 1934  Price 18/-
Genre: history
Dedication: ‘To ALEXANDER GRAY, M.A.’

Republished: -

Subject: scholarly Diffusionist reinterpretation of the history of the two civilisations of the ancient Maya, written with imaginative flair


First published in UK by William Heinemann Ltd, London, May 1934

Genre: novel/ dystopian fantasy

Dedication: ‘For CHRISTOPHER MORLEY’

Republished: Polygon, Edinburgh, 1989, with an introduction by Edwin Morgan

Subject: light romance of three politically contrasting characters propelled into the primitive past, that has implicit social and political themes, especially facing up to the nascent evils of Fascism

15. Lewis Grassic Gibbon (and Hugh MacDiarmid), *Scottish Scene: or The Intelligent Man’s Guide to Albyn*


Genre: miscellany/ essay/ polemic/ fiction

Dedication: ‘For HELEN B. CRUICKSHANK with our affection and admiration’

Republished: Cedric Chivers Ltd, Bath, 1974

Subject: described by Gibbon as ‘a perfect haggis of a book’, the collection represents an incisive portrait of contemporary Scottish society

**16. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Grey Granite***

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, November 1934  

Genre: novel/urban realism

Dedication: ‘To HUGH MacDIARMID’

Republished: Jarrolds’ Jackdaw Library No.2, Jarrolds, London, October 1937  
Pan, London, 1973  
Canongate Classics 34, Canongate Books, Edinburgh, 1990, edited with an introduction by Tom Crawford  
Dodo Press, Gloucester, 2008

Subject: completion of Chris Guthrie’s life story, as she makes her way through the troubled landscape of the Scottish industrial city of Duncairn in the thirties

**17. J Leslie Mitchell and Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Nine Against the Unknown: A Record of Geographical Exploration***
First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, November 1934 Price 18/-
Price $3.50

Genre : essay/ history/ biography

Dedication : ‘For IVOR BROWN’

Republished : Garden City Press, New York, 1936
Polygon, Edinburgh, 2000, with an introduction by Ian Campbell

Subject : colourful portrait of nine key figures in the history of exploration, from Leif Ericsson to Fridtjof Nansen, collectively illuminated by the author’s humanitarian sensibilities

Posthumous Works

1. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, A Scots Quair, A Trilogy of Novels: Sunset Song, Cloud Howe and Grey Granite, with a Foreword by Ivor Brown

First published in UK by Jarrolds, London, April 1946

Republished : Schocken Books, New York, 1977
Lomond Books, Broxburn, 1999
Penguin Modern Classics, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 1990, with an introduction by David Kerr Cameron
Canongate Classics 59, Canongate Books, Edinburgh, 1995, edited and introduced by Tom Crawford
Polygon, Edinburgh, 2006, edited with an introduction by Ian Campbell

2. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *A Scots Hairst, Essays and Short Stories*, edited and introduced by Ian S Munro

   First published in UK by Hutchinson, London, 1967

3. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Smeddum: Stories and Essays*, with commentary and notes by D M Budge (The Heritage of Literature Series)


4. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *The Speak of the Mearns*, with an introduction by Ian Campbell

   First published in UK by The Ramsay Head Press, Edinburgh, 1982

   Republished: as *The Speak of the Mearns with Selected Short Stories and Essays*, with an introduction by Ian Campbell and introduction to three stories by Jeremy Idle, Polygon, Edinburgh, 1994

5. Lewis Grassic Gibbon, *Smeddum: A Lewis Grassic Gibbon Anthology*, edited and introduced by Valentina Bold, Canongate Classics 97

   First published in UK by Canongate Books, Edinburgh, 2001