

# Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

## Lolita

### A28.1

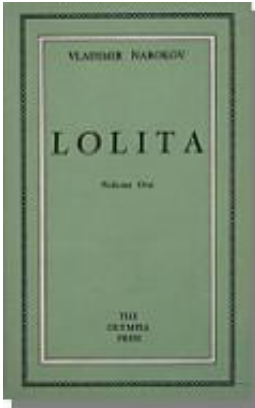
#### FIRST EDITION (THE OLYMPIA PRESS)

¶ First printing, issue a, 15-Sep-1955

#### POINTS

Issue a is priced at 900 francs; issue b is repriced in various ways to 2400 francs.

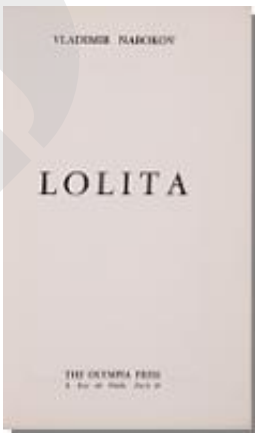
There were various production mistakes throughout the first printing. One error, a misnumeration, left all copies of vol. 1 without pages 11 and 12.



A28.1 First printing, issue a, 1955, vol. 1, cover, front



A28.1 First printing, issue a, 1955, vol. 2, cover, front



**Collation:** Vol. 1: (17.8 X 11.2 cm): \*1–\*6<sup>16</sup>, 96 leaves, pp. [i–ii] [1–6] 7–10 [11–12 skipped numeration] 13–188 [190–192]. Vol. 2: (17.8 X 11.2 cm): \*\*1–\*\*7<sup>16</sup>, 112 leaves, pp. [1–8] 9–223 [224].

**Title page:** Vols. 1 & 2: VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | THE OLYMPIA PRESS | 8, Rue de Nesle, Paris 6<sup>e</sup>

**Copyright page:** Vols. 1 & 2: *All rights reserved in all countries.* | Copyright 1955 by V. Nabokov and The Olympia Press

**Colophon:** Vols. 1 & 2: PRINTED IN FRANCE | Printed in August 1955 by S.I.P., Montreuil, France | *Dépot légal* : 3<sup>e</sup> trimestre 1955

**Binding:** Vol. 1 [2]: White wrappers printed green. All edges trimmed.

**Front cover:** \green background, outside black interlooping border, inside white border highlighted with black rules\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | Volume One [Two] | THE | OLYMPIA | PRESS. **Back cover:** \green background\ Francs : 900. **Spine:** \white strip bordered with heavy black rules on green background, running up\ \single star [double star] \ LOLITA.

**Contents:** Vol. 1: pp. [i] signature, [ii] blank, [1] half-title, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, [5] “PART ONE”, [6] blank, 7–10 foreword:, [11–12] skipped numeration, 13–188 text, [189] blank, [190] colophon, [191–192] blank. Vol. 2: pp. [1] signature, [2] blank, [3] half-title, [4] blank, [5] title page, [6] copyright page, [7] “PART TWO”, [8] blank, 9–223 text, [224] colophon.

**Price:** 900 francs

**Press run:** Probably 5000 copies

**Description:** All copies contain the skipped numeration of pp. 11–12 in vol. 1. Other manufacturing imperfections appearing in random copies are:

- The cover of vol. 2 (and possibly vol. 1) printed without the outside black interlooping border and without the black rules around the white border;
- Vol. 1 with an uninked impression of the inner form (the verso) of the fifth signature.
- Vol. 1 with an uninked impression of the inner form (the verso) of the sixth signature.
- Vol. 2 with the first 14 pages blank.

**Works:**

- 1) Lolita

A28.1 First printing, issue a,  
1955, title page



A28.1 First printing, issue a,  
1955, copyright page



A28.1 First printing, issue a,  
1955, colophon

#### POINTS

Issue b was reprinted in various ways.



A28.1 First printing, issue b,  
1955, vol. 1, cover, back

¶ First printing, issue b, 15-Sep-1955

*As first printing, issue a, except*

**Binding:** With a repricing done in various ways: a printed rectangular sticker on the back of one or both of the volumes, “inside of ruled border\ NEW PRICE | FRANCIS 1.200 | PER VOLUME | \wiggly rule\ | THE OLYMPIA PRESS”; a round sticker on one or both volumes with a handwritten price of 1200; the old price on one or both volumes crossed out in ink and the new price of 1200 handwritten in.

**Price:** 2400 francs

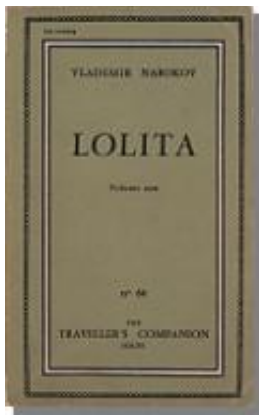
**Description:** As notoriety and sales increased through 1956, Maurice Girodias, Olympia Press’ publisher, smelling the extra franc, bumped the price for the two volumes from 900 francs to 2400 francs.

¶ Second printing, Nov-1958

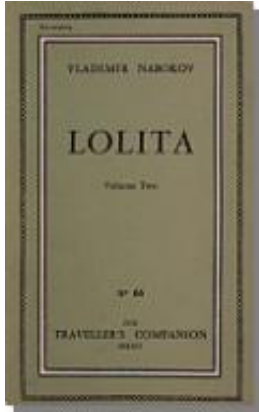
**Collation:** Vol. 1: (17.4 X 10.6 cm): (66-1-1)–(66-1-6)<sup>8</sup> [66-1-7]<sup>8</sup> (66-1-8)–(66-1-12)<sup>8</sup>, 96 leaves, pp. [1-4] 5–190 [191–192]. Vol. 2: (17.4 X 10.6 cm): (66-2-1)–(66-2-14)<sup>8</sup>, 112 leaves, pp. [1–8] 9–223 [224]

**Title page:** Vols. 1 & 2: \green decorative border\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | THE TRAVELLER’S COMPANION | *SERIES* | published by | THE OLYMPIA PRESS | 7, Rue Saint-Séverin, Paris

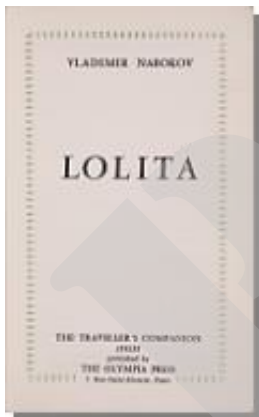
**Copyright page:** Vols. 1 & 2: First printing : September 1955 | Second



A28.1 Second printing, 1958,  
vol. 1, cover, front



A28.1 Second printing, 1958,  
vol. 2, cover, front



A28.1 Second printing, 1958,  
vol. 1, title page



A28.1 Second printing, 1958,  
vol. 1, copyright page

printing : November 1958 | PRINTED IN FRANCE | Copyright ©  
by Vladimir Nabokov, 1955. | *Library of Congress Catalog, No. 58-10755.*

**Colophon:** Vols. 1 & 2: PRINTED IN FRANCE | Printed November  
1958 by S.I.P., Montreuil, France | *Dépôt légal : 4<sup>e</sup> trimestre 1958*

**Binding:** Vol. 1 [2]: White wrappers. **Front cover:** \green background,  
outside black interlooping border, inside white border highlighted with  
black rules\ 2nd printing \between the two borders\ | \within the borders\  
VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | Volume One [Two] | n° 66 | THE |  
TRAVELLER'S COMPANION | **SERIES.** **Back cover:** \green  
background\ 2 vols. : Francs 2.400 | NOT TO BE SOLD | IN U.S.A. OR  
U.K. **Spine:** \white strip bordered with heavy black rules on green  
background, running up\ \single star [double star] \ LOLITA.

**Contents:** Vol. 1: pp. [1] half-title and signature, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4]  
copyright page, 5–8 “PUBLISHER’S DIGRESSION”, 9–12  
“FOREWORD”, [13] “PART ONE”, [14] blank, 15–190 text, [191] blank,  
[192] colophon. Vol. 2: pp. [1] signature, [2] blank, [3] half-title, [4] blank,  
[5] title page, [6] copyright page, [7] “PART TWO”, [8] blank, 9–223 text,  
[224] colophon.

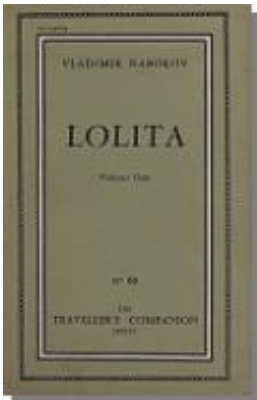
**Series and Number:** The Traveller’s Companion Series, 66

**Price:** 2400 francs

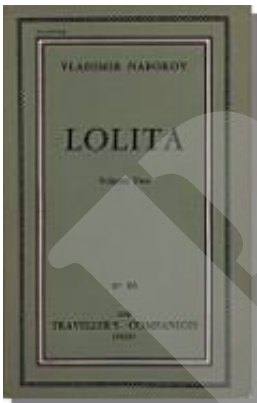
**Description:** Includes an unsigned “Publisher’s Digression”, the shorter four-  
page version.



A28.1 Second printing, 1958, vol. 1, colophon



A28.1 Third printing, 1959, vol. 1, cover, front



A28.1 Third printing, 1959, vol. 2, cover, front



A28.1 Third printing, 1959, vol. 1, title page

¶ Third printing, Apr-1959

*As second printing, except*

**Collation:** Vol. 1: (17.6 X 11.2 cm): 66.1\*-66.12\*<sup>8</sup>, 96 leaves, pp. [1-4] 5-189 [190-192]. Vol. 2: (17.6 X 11.2 cm): 66.1\*\*~66.14\*\*<sup>8</sup>, 112 leaves, pp. [1-6] 7-221 [222-224]

**Title page:** Vols. 1 & 2: \green decorative border\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | Part One [Two] | THE TRAVELLER'S COMPANION | SERIES | published by | THE OLYMPIA PRESS | 7, Rue Saint-Séverin, Paris 5

**Copyright page:** Vols. 1 & 2: First printing: September 1955 | Second printing : November 1958 | Third printing: April 1959 | PRINTED IN FRANCE | \rule\ | Copyright by Vladimir Nabokov, 1955. | *Library of Congress Catalog, No. 58-10755.*

**Colophon:** Vols. 1 & 2: Printed April 1959 by S.I.P., Montreuil, France | *Dépôt légal : 2<sup>e</sup> trimestre 1959*

**Binding:** Vols. 1 & 2: **Front cover:** \between the two borders in the upper left\ 3rd printing. **Back cover:** \green background\ 2 vols. : Francs 2.400 | NOT TO BE SOLD | IN U.S.A. U.K. | OR PHILIPPINES.

**Contents:** Vol. 1: [1] half-title and signature, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, 5-10 "PUBLISHER'S DIGRESSION", 11-14 "PART ONE" and "FOREWORD", 15-189 text [190] end of text and colophon, [191-192] ads. Vol. 2: [1] signature, [2] blank, [3] half-title, [4] blank, [5] title page, [6] copyright page, 7-221 "PART TWO" and text, [222] colophon, [223-224] blank.

**Description:** With a "Publisher's Digression", the longer six-page version.

Some copies have the sheets from the third printing of vol. 1 bound in the fourth printing covers.



A28.1 Third printing, 1959, vol. 1, copyright page



A28.1 Third printing, 1959, vol. 1, colophon

**POINTS**

State a is bound in green wrappers; state b is bound in wrappers with a stained-glass butterfly background.



A28.1 Fourth printing, state a, 1959, vol. 1, cover, front

¶ Fourth printing, state a, Sep-1959

*As third printing, except*

**Collation:** Vol. 1: (17.6 X 11.2 cm): 66.\*1-66.\*12<sup>8</sup>, 96 leaves, pp. [1-4] 5-189 [190-192]. Vol. 2: (17.6 X 11.2 cm): 66.\*\*1-66.\*\*14<sup>8</sup>, 112 leaves, pp. [1-6] 7-221 [222-224]

**Copyright page:** Vols. 1 & 2: First printing: September 1955 | Second printing : November 1958 | Third printing: April 1959 | Fourth printing: September 1959 | PRINTED IN FRANCE | Copyright by Vladimir Nabokov, 1955. | *Library of Congress Catalog, No. 58-10755.*

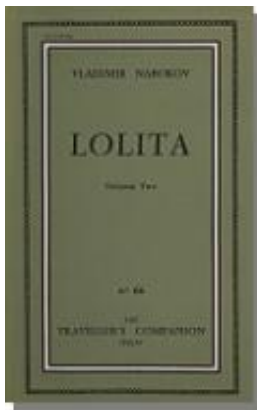
**Colophon:** Vols. 1 & 2: Printed September 1959 by S. I. P., Montreuil, France | *Dépôt légal : 3<sup>e</sup> trimestre 1959*

**Binding:** Vols. 1 & 2: White wrappers. **Front cover:** \between the two borders in the upper left\ 4th printing. **Back cover:** \green background\ 2 vols. : Francs 2.400 | NOT TO BE SOLD | IN U.S.A., U.K. | OR PHILIPPINES. **Spine:** \running across at bottom\ 66.

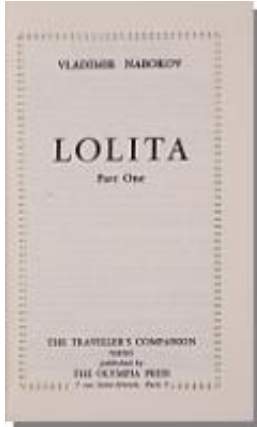
**Contents:** Vol. 1: [1] half-title and signature, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, 5-10 “PUBLISHER’S DIGRESSION”, 11-14 “PART ONE” and “FOREWORD”, 15-189 text [190] end of text and colophon, [191-192] ads. Vol. 2: [1] signature, [2] blank, [3] half-title, [4] blank, [5] title page, [6] copyright page, 7-221 “PART TWO” and text, [222] colophon, [223-224] blank.

**Description:** Some copies have the sheets from the third printing of vol. 1 bound in the fourth printing covers of vol. 1.

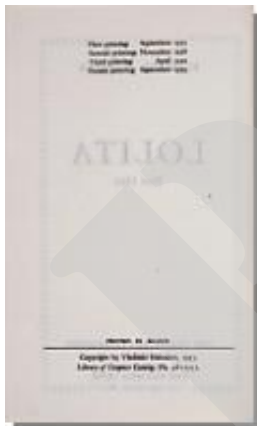
Some copies have a stamped price change on the back cover of volume 1: “\within a rectangular box\ NEW PRICE | 6 NF | 2 VOLS | \double-rule\”.



A28.1 Fourth printing, state a, 1959, vol. 2, cover, front



A28.1 Fourth printing, state a, 1959, vol. 1, title page



A28.1 Fourth printing, state a, 1959, vol. 1, copyright page



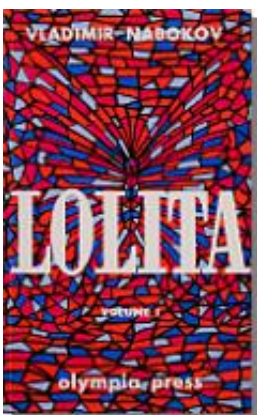
A28.1 Fourth printing, state a, 1959, vol. 1, colophon



A28.1 Fourth printing, state b, 1959, vol. 2, cover back, repriced

#### POINTS

This is the first of the printings to be bound in the stained-glass butterfly wrappers.



A28.1 Fourth printing, state b, 1959, vol. 1, cover, front



A28.1 Fourth printing, state b, 1959, vol. 2, cover, front

¶ Fourth printing, state b, Sep-1959

*As fourth printing, state a, except*

**Binding:** Vols. 1 & 2: White wrappers. **Front cover:** \stained-glass style butterfly background\ \white\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | VOLUME I [II] | olympia press. **Back cover:** \black-bordered box\ \blurb\ | U.S. \$0.75 IN 2 VOLS. N.F. 3,75 | \outside of box in white\ olympia press. **Spine:** \running up, white\ LOLITA I [II].

**Price:** \$0.75, N.F. 3,75

¶ Fifth printing, Jan-1960

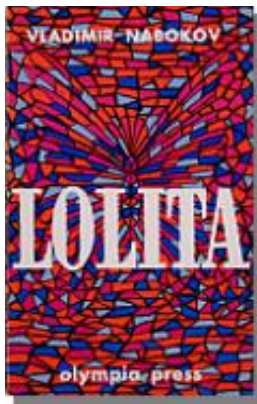
**Collation:** (17.5 X 10.9 cm), [66-1]<sup>16</sup> 66-1–66-10<sup>16</sup>, 160 leaves, pp. [1–4] 5–319 [320]

**Title page:** \black decorative border\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | THE TRAVELLER'S COMPANION | SERIES | published by | THE OLYMPIA PRESS | 7, Rue Saint-Séverin, Paris 5

**Copyright page:** First printing: September 1955 | Second printing: November 1958 | Third printing: April 1959 | PRINTED IN FRANCE | \rule\ | Copyright © by Vladimir Nabokov, 1955 | Dépôt légal : 1<sup>er</sup> trimestre 1960

**Colophon:** Printed in France | by Imp. G. Frère, Paris. January 1960 —

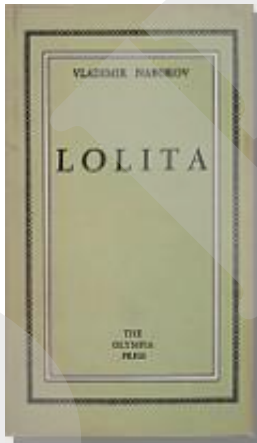




A28.1 Fifth printing, 1960, cover, front

#### POINTS

Variant a is bound in blue cloth; variant b is in wrappers.



A28.1 First Israeli printing, variant a, 1959, cover, front

Dépôt légal n° 27693 - 1<sup>er</sup> trimestre 1960

**Typography/Paper:** Bulks about 1.5 cm.

**Binding:** White wrappers. **Front cover:** \stained-glass style butterfly background\ \white\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | olympia press. **Back cover:** \black-bordered box\ \blurb\ | U.S. \$0.75 N.F. 3,75 | \outside of box in white\ olympia press. **Spine:** \running up in white\ LOLITA.

**Contents:** pp. [1-2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, 5-7 “PART ONE” and “FOREWORD”, 8–144 text, 145–312 “PART TWO” and text, 313–319 ads, [320] ads and colophon

**Price:** \$0.75, N.F. 3,75

**Description:** This fifth printing is erroneously marked as a third printing on the copyright page.

The paper here is less pulpy and acidic than that of the sixth printing.

¶ Sixth printing, Feb-1961

*As fifth printing, except*

**Collation:** (17.5 X 11.1 cm)

**Copyright page:** First printing: September 1955 | Second printing: November 1958 | Third printing: April 1959 | Fourth printing: February 1961 | PRINTED IN FRANCE | \rule\ | Copyright © by Vladimir Nabokov, 1955 | Dépôt légal : 1<sup>er</sup> trimestre 1961

**Colophon:** Printed in France | by Imp. G. Frère, Paris. February — Dépôt légal n° 30880 - 1<sup>er</sup> trimestre 1961

**Typography/Paper:** Bulks about 2.1 cm.

**Price:** \$0.75, N.F. 3,75

**Description:** This sixth printing is erroneously marked as the fourth printing on the copyright page.

The paper here is pulpier and more acidic than that of the fifth printing.

¶ First Israeli printing, variant a, 1959

**Collation:** (18.6 X 10.7 cm), [1–16]<sup>12</sup>, pp. [1–4] 5–12 [13–14] 15–190 [7–8] 9–223 [224]

**Title page:** VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | THE TRAVELLER’S COMPANION | *SERIES* | published by | THE OLYMPIA PRESS | 7, Rue Saint-Séverin, Paris

**Copyright page:** Printed in Israel | for OLYMPIA PRESS, Paris | by Steimatzky’s Agency. | Export of this edition from Israel is | prohibited. | All rights reserved in all countries. | Copyright 1955 by V. Nabokov and | the Olympia Press. | *Plates by E. Pikovsky Ltd., | Printed by Offset Sh. Monson, | Jerusalem*

**Binding:** Navy blue cloth over boards. White endpapers. All edges trimmed.

**Front and back covers:** \blank\ . **Spine:** \silver stamping, running across\ NABOKOV | \rule\ | LOLITA | THE | OLYMPIA | PRESS.

**Covering:** White dust jacket. **Front cover:** \green background, outside black interlooping border, inside white border highlighted with black rules\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | LOLITA | THE | OLYMPIA | PRESS. **Back cover:** \green\ blank. **Spine:** \white strip bordered with heavy black rules on green background, running up\ LOLITA. Front and rear flaps: \blank, except, usually with number stamped in ink\

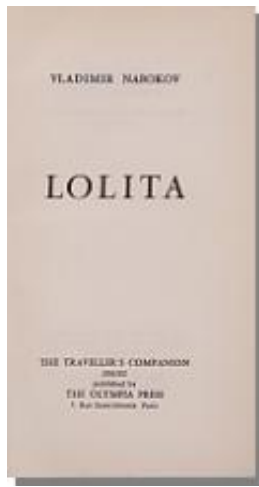
**Contents:** Two volumes bound as one: [1] title page, [2] copyright page, [3] half-title, [4] blank, 5–8 “PUBLISHER’S DIGRESSION”, 9–12 foreword, [13] “PART ONE”, [14] blank, 15–190 text, [7] “PART TWO”, [8] blank, 9–223 text, [224] blank

**Description:** Includes the shorter four-page “Publisher’s Digression”.

The Steimatzky’s printing is similar to the Olympia Press second printing and may have been printed and issued in 1959.

Every copy examined has a number stamped on a flap of the dust jacket (the hardcover variant, if the jacket is still present) or on one of the inside





A28.1 First Israeli printing, variant a, 1959, title page



A28.1 First Israeli printing, variant a, 1959, copyright page

covers of the wrappers variant. The highest number I've seen is 1808.

A letter dated 20-Jan-1959 from Nabokov to Walter Minton, president of G.P. Putnam's, the American publisher of *Lolita*, mentions authorizing Steimatzky's to publish the book. The accompanying footnote says the book was illegally authorized (through Maurice Girodias?). It is not clear whether this edition was authorized or not.

According to Michael Handelzalts writing in the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* on 6-Aug-2004, "Eri Steimatzky was in high school at the end of the 1950s. He remembers that at that time, Israel had no foreign currency to spare. Importing books was out of the question. His father, Yehezkel, came up with the idea of printing English best-sellers in Israel. The first book in the series was *Dr. Zhivago*. The second book was *Lolita*." Eventually 70 titles were published in the series.

¶ First Israeli printing, variant b, 1959

*As variant a, except*

**Binding:** Wrappers printed as the variant a dust jacket.

# Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

## Lolita

### A28.2

#### FIRST AMERICAN EDITION (G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS)

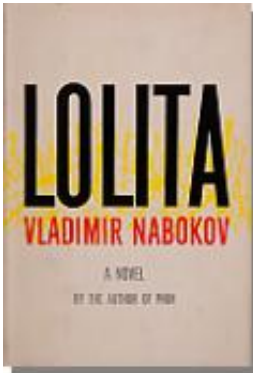
¶ First printing, 21-Jul-1958

#### POINTS

The first printing makes no mention of printing or impression on the dust jacket or the copyright page.

The "Complete and unabridged" line on the front cover of the dust jacket first appears on the third printing.

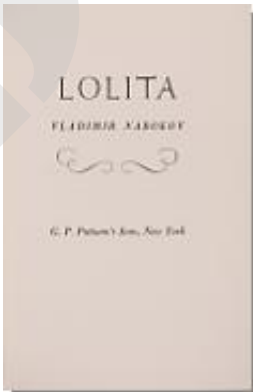
The common binding is quarter-bound in cloth with red endpapers and a red-stained top edge. Variations are scattered throughout the printings.



A28.2 First printing, 1958, cover, front



A28.2 First printing, 1958, binding, front



**Collation:** (21.5 X 14.6 cm), [1–10]<sup>16</sup>, 160 leaves, pp. [1-4] 5-8 [9-10] 11-144 [145-146] 147-311 [312] 313-319 [320]

**Title page:** LOLITA | VLADIMIR NABOKOV | \fancy rules\ | G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York

**Copyright page:** © 1955 BY VLADIMIR NABOKOV | All rights reserved. This book, or part thereof, must | not be reproduced in any form without permission. | Published simultaneously in the Dominion of Canada | by Longmans, Green & Company, Toronto. | All names, characters and events in this book are | fictional and any resemblance to real persons which | may seem to exist is purely coincidental. | Library of Congress Catalog | Card Number: 58-10755 | MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | VAN REES PRESS \bullet\ NEW YORK

**Binding:** Quarter bound in black cloth and gray patterned paper over boards. Red endpapers. Top and bottom edges trimmed. Fore-edge untrimmed. Top edge stained red. **Front and back covers:** \blank\ . **Spine:** \gilt stamping running across\ Vladimir Nabokov | LOLITA | Putnam | \decoration\.

**Covering:** Dust jacket of white paper. **Front cover:** LOLITA | \red\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV | \gray\ A NOVEL | \gray\ BY THE AUTHOR OF PNIN. **Back cover:** Photo of Nabokov by Maclean Dameron, blurb from Time Magazine and excerpt from the afterword. **Spine:** \running across\ LOLITA | \red\ NABOKOV | \gray\ PUTNAM. **Front flap:** LOL. | \$5.00 | \book description\ . **Back flap:** \book description continued\ | G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS | PRINTED | IN | U.S.A.

**Contents:** [1] half-title, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, 5–8 foreword, [9] "PART ONE", [10] blank, 11–144, [145] "PART TWO", [146] blank, 147–311 text of the novel, [312] blank, 313–319 author's afterword, [320] blank

**Price:** \$5.00

**Description:** This edition includes the Nabokov postscript or afterword that has been included in almost all editions in English and in translation since.

The first two printings do not include "Complete and unabridged" on the front of the dust jacket.

All printings after the first give the impression number at the top of the front flap of the dust jacket (always as a "printing") and on the copyright page (always as an "impression"). Many copies were issued with unmatched impression numbers on the dust jacket and the copyright page. Among citations and those examined are (the first number indicates the printing according to the copyright-page, the second the printing according to the front flap of the dust jacket): 1/2, 3/9, 5/6, 6/7, 8/11, 11/12, 12/13, 14/13, 14/15, 15/16. There are minor differences in the type size used for the printing number on the front flaps of different dust jackets.

At some point during the 17th printing, the binding changed from quarter binding in cloth (paper over boards on the front and back covers with cloth on the spine wrapping around to the front and back covers about 3 cm.) to full binding in cloth and continued that way through the 18th and 19th printings.

The common binding details of red endpapers and red top-edge stain persist through most printings. Some number of printings, however, have variant bindings of red or white endpapers and stained or unstained top

A28.2 First printing, 1958, title page

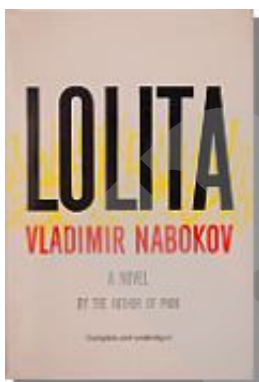


A28.2 First printing, 1958, copyright page

**POINTS**

The third printing is the first one with "Complete and unabridged" on the front of the dust jacket.

Variant a, as with most printings, has red endpapers and its top edge stained red; variant b has white endpapers and no top-edge stain.



A28.2 Third printing, variant a, cover, front

edges. Such variant bindings examined so far are printings 3, 11, 15, and 17–19.

The 19th printing saw a raise in price to \$6.00.

**Works:**

- 1) Lolita
- 2) On a Book Entitled *Lolita*
  - The afterword to the novel first appeared translated into French in the 1957 *L'Affaire Lolita*. This is its first appearance in English. Since then, it has usually appeared with the novel, whether in its original English or in translation.

¶ Second printing, unknown date

*As first printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Second Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Second Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Third printing, variant a, unknown date

*As first printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Third Impression | ...

**Covering: Front cover:** \at bottom\ Complete and unabridged. **Front flap:** LOL. *Third Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Third printing, variant b, unknown date

*As third printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** White endpapers. Top edge unstained.

¶ Fourth printing, unknown date

*As third printing, variant a, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Fourth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. *Fourth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Fifth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Fifth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. *Fifth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Sixth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Sixth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. *Sixth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Seventh printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Seventh Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Seventh Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Eighth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Eighth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Eighth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Ninth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Ninth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Ninth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Tenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Colophon:** ... | Tenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Tenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Eleventh printing, variant a, Feb-1959

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Eleventh Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Eleventh Printing* \$5.00 | ...

#### POINTS

Variant a, as with most printings, has red endpapers and its top edge stained red; variant b has white endpapers and no top-edge stain.

¶ Eleventh printing, variant b, unknown date

*As eleventh printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** White endpapers. Top edge unstained.

¶ Twelfth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Twelfth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Twelfth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Thirteenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Thirteenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Thirteenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Fourteenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Fourteenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Fourteenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Fifteenth printing, variant a, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Fifteenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Fifteenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

#### POINTS

Variant a, as with most printings, has red endpapers and its top edge stained red; variant b has white endpapers and no top-edge stain.

¶ Fifteenth printing, variant b, unknown date

*As fifteenth printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** White endpapers. Top edge unstained.

¶ Sixteenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Sixteenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Sixteenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Seventeenth printing, variant a, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Seventeenth Impression | ...

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Seventeenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Seventeenth printing, variant b, unknown date

*As seventeenth printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** Full black cloth. White endpapers. Top edge unstained.

¶ Eighteenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Eighteenth Impression | ...

**Binding:** Full black cloth. Red endpapers. Top edge unstained

**Covering: Front flap:** LOL. | *Eighteenth Printing* \$5.00 | ...

¶ Nineteenth printing, unknown date

*As fourth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | Nineteenth Impression | ...

**Binding:** Full black cloth. Red endpapers. Top edge unstained.

**Covering: Front flap:** *Nineteenth Printing* \$6.00 | ...

¶ First book club printing, 1958, distributed by The Literary Guild

*As first American trade printing, except*

**Binding:** White endpapers. Top edge unstained.

**Covering:** White dust jacket. **Front flap:** \$5.00 | ... | \at foot, in red\ BOOK CLUB EDITION

**Description:** This book club edition, most likely from The Literary Guild, has no back cover blind stamp, last page gutter code, or common book club identifying markings. It does have "BOOK CLUB EDITION" in red at the foot of the front flap of the dust jacket, a common marking of The Literary Guild.

#### POINTS

This variant of this printing marks the changeover from quarter binding in cloth to full binding in cloth.

#### POINTS

The price rises to \$6.00.

#### POINTS

The first book club edition is identified by the front flap of the dust jacket stating at the bottom in red letters "BOOK CLUB EDITION", the white endpapers and the unstained top edge. It is in all other respects identical to the first printing of the first American edition from Putnam.



A28.2 First book club printing, 1958, dust jacket, front flap



A28.2 Second book club printing, cover, front

¶ Second book club printing, unknown date, distributed by unknown book club  
*As first trade printing, except*

**Binding:** Black cloth over boards. Fore-edge trimmed. Top edge stained red. White endpapers. **Front cover:** \blank\. **Back cover:** \square book club blind stamp\. **Spine:** \gilt stamping running down\ Lolita NABOKOV | Putnam.

**Covering:** White dust jacket with green and blue lettering. Front and back flap copy set differently than for the trade edition. Photo of author smaller and different than for the trade edition.

**Description:** This book club edition is physically a different book than the earlier book club edition. Similar editions of *Speak*, *Memory* and *Pale Fire* were bound in the exact same manner and had sister dust jackets, differing only in coloring. The *L'Arc* 1964 French journal devoted to Nabokov has a bibliography in which it gives citations for the Marboro Book Club, 1958, the Reader's Subscription Service, 1958, and Bestselling Books for the Blind, 1958.

This book club edition has a gutter code of "HB2H" on p. 320.

The publication date is unknown. But the fact that the three Nabokov works were published in the same format and with almost the same gutter codes implies that they were published at roughly the same time, and no earlier than the spring of 1962.

¶ Third book club printing, variant a, 1983, distributed by unknown book club  
*As first trade printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | COPYRIGHT RENEWED 1983 | BY VERA NABOKOV AND DIMITRI NABOKOV | ...

**Binding:** Quarter-bound in black cloth with softly-mottled white paper. White endpapers. Top and bottom edges trimmed. Fore-edge untrimmed. Top edge stained red.

**Covering: Front flap:** \without "LOL." or price.

**Description:** This book club edition has a gutter code on p. 320 of "HB 12 Y" and no blind stamp on the back cover. That could mean that it is from a Doubleday book club such as The Literary Guild and printed in March 1983. But the Book-of-the-Month club also used gutter codes and this issue and its variant are similar in many respects to the 1988 book club issue.

¶ Third book club printing, variant b, 1983, distributed by unknown book club  
*As third book club printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** White wrappers as the front and back covers and the spine of the third book club printing, variant a, dust jacket. **Back cover:** \bottom right\ PRINTED IN U.S.A.

**Description:** This wrappers variant has a gutter code on p. 320 of "HB 7 T".

¶ Fourth book club printing, variant a, 1988, distributed by Book-of-the-Month Club

*As third book club printing, variant a, except*

**Copyright page:** \at bottom\ \rule\ BOMC offers recordings and compact discs, cassettes | and records. For information and catalog write to | BOMR, Camp Hill, PA 17012.

**Binding:** Red endpapers. Top edge unstained.

**Description:** Issued with a booklet containing an introduction to *Lolita* by Erica Jong, "Lolita Turns Thirty". Its copyright is 1988.

These two 1988 book club variants were issued in marketing celebration of the 30th anniversary of the American publication of the novel. They are physically very similar to the 1983 book club issues. In fact both variants have the same gutter code "HB 7 T" as the 1983 variant b. But from the copyright page it is totally clear that these were issued by Book-of-the-



Month Club.

¶ Fourth book club printing, variant b, 1988, distributed by Book-of-the-Month Club

*As fourth book club printing, variant a, except*

**Binding:** White wrappers as the front and back covers and the spine of the fourth book club printing, variant a, dust jacket. **Back cover:** \bottom right\  
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

**Description:** The gutter code on p. 320 is “HB 7 T”.

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(Draft of 1 Aug 2013)

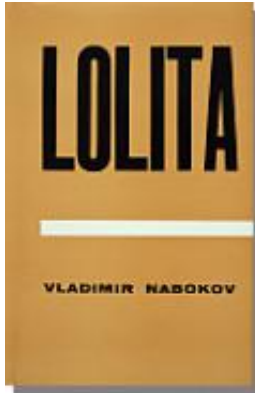
# Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

## Lolita

### A28.3

#### FIRST BRITISH EDITION (WEIDENFELD & NICOLSON)

¶ First printing, 6-Nov-1959



A28.3 First printing, 1959, cover, front



A28.3 First printing, 1959, title page



A28.3 First printing, 1959, copyright page

**Collation:** (19.8 X 13.0 cm), [A]<sup>16</sup> B–K<sup>16</sup>, 160 leaves, pp. [1–4] 5–7 [8–10] 11–140 [141–142] 143–307 [308–310] 311–319 [320]

**Title page:** *LOLITA* | by | *VLADIMIR NABOKOV* | WEIDENFELD AND NICOLSON | 7 CORK STREET LONDON W1

**Copyright page:** © 1955 by Vladimir Nabokov | First published in Great Britain in 1959 | PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN | BY THE SHENVAL PRESS | LONDON, HERTFORD AND HARLOW | R. 6701

**Binding:** Black cloth over boards. White endpapers. All edges trimmed. Red stain on top edge. Front & back covers: \blank\. **Spine:** \silver stamping\ *LOLITA* | *VLADIMIR* | *NABOKOV* | WEIDENFELD | & NICOLSON.

**Covering:** White dust jacket. **Front cover:** \grayish gold ground\ *LOLITA* | \white bar\ | *VLADIMIR NABOKOV*. **Back cover:** \photo of Nabokov\ \biographical description\. **Spine:** *LOLITA* | *VLADIMIR* | *NABOKOV* | WEIDENFELD | & NICOLSON. **Front flap:** \criticism excerpts\ | *Jacket designed by Eric Ayers* | 21S net. **Back flap:** \criticism excerpts continued\.

**Contents:** [1] half-title, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, 5–7 foreword, [8] blank, [9] “PART ONE” [10] blank, 11–140 text, [141] “PART TWO”, [142] blank, 143–300 text, 301–307 afterword, [308] blank, [309] “APPENDIX”, [310] blank, 311–319 text, [320] blank.

**Price:** 21/

**Additional Works:** Appendix titled “Some Critics’ opinions about ‘Lolita’”.

#### **Works:**

- 1) *Lolita*
- 2) On a Book Entitled *Lolita*

¶ Second printing, Dec-1959

*As first printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | *Second Impression 1959* | ...

**Binding:** No stain on top edge.

¶ Third printing, Jan-1960

*As first printing, except*

**Title page:** \last line changed to\ 20 NEW BOND STREET LONDON WI

**Copyright page:** ... | *Second Impression 1959* | *Third Impression 1960* | ...

¶ Fourth printing, Oct-1960

*As first printing, except*

**Title page:** \last line changed to\ 20 NEW BOND STREET LONDON WI

**Copyright page:** ... | *First published in Great Britain in November 1959* | *Second Impression December 1959* | *Third Impression January 1960* | *Fourth Impression October 1960* | ...

¶ Fifth printing, Jan-1961

*As first printing, except*

**Title page:** \last line changed to\ 20 NEW BOND STREET LONDON WI

**Copyright page:** ... | *First published in Great Britain in November 1959* | *by arrangement with the Olympia Press, Paris* | *Second Impression December 1959* | *Third Impression January 1960* | *Fourth Impression October 1960* | *Fifth Impression January 1961* | ... | \last line changed\ 17/6701

**Covering: Dust jacket:** Photo of Sue Lyon across front and spine. **Front cover:** \red\ LOLITA | \white\ VLADIMIR NABOKOV. **Spine:** \red\ LOLITA | VLADIMIR | NABOKOV | \white\ WEIDENFELD | \white\ & NICOLSON.

#### POINTS

With a photo of Sue Lyon on their covers, the fifth and sixth printings marked a film tie-in.



A28.3 Fifth printing, 1961, cover, front

¶ Sixth printing, Sep-1965

*As fifth printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | *Sixth Impression September 1965* | PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN BY | D. R. HILLMAN & SONS, LTD. | FROME, SOMERSET

**Covering: Dust jacket:** Front flap title and author lines at top in red.

¶ Seventh printing, Jan-1978

*As first printing, except*

**Collation:** (21.5 X 13.8 cm)

**Title page:** LOLITA | VLADIMIR NABOKOV | Weidenfeld and Nicolson | London

**Copyright page:** ... | *Seventh Impression January 1978* | ... | ISBN 0 297 16762 6 | ...

**Binding:** Top edge not stained red.

**Covering: Dust jacket:** Red background. **Front cover:** \white\ VLADIMIR | NABOKOV | \dark peach\ LOLITA. **Back cover:** \list of books by Nabokov\ **Spine:** \running down\ \white\ NABOKOV \dark peach\ LOLITA | \white\ Weidenfeld | & Nicolson.

**ISBN/ISBN-13/SBN:** 0-297-16762-6

**Price:** £5.25

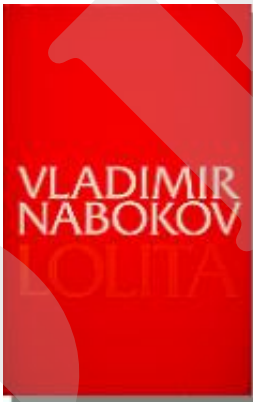
¶ Eighth printing, Jan-1984

*As seventh printing, except*

**Copyright page:** ... | *Eighth Impression January 1984* | ...

**Covering: Back cover:** \photo of Nabokov by Philippe Halsman\.

**Price:** £8.95



A28.3 Seventh printing, 1978, cover, front

DRAFT