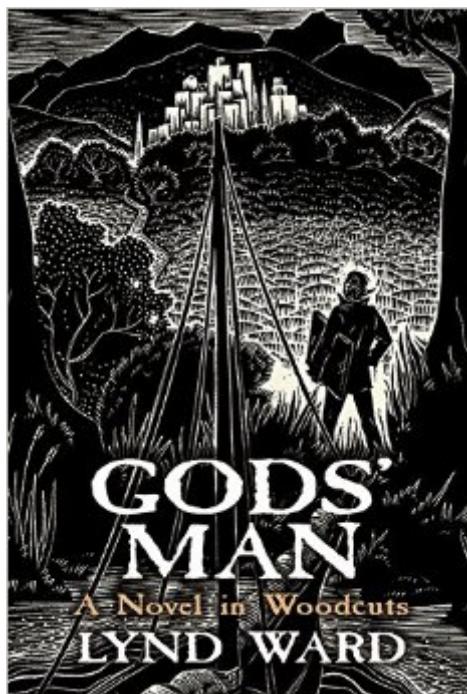


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# Gods' Man: A Novel In Woodcuts (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



## Synopsis

The most important work of American artist and illustrator Lynd Ward, *Gods' Man* is a powerfully evocative novel, told entirely through woodcuts. Ward (1905–85), in employing the concept of the wordless pictorial narrative, acknowledged his predecessors the European artists Frans Masereel and Otto Nückel. Released the week of the 1929 stock market crash, *Gods' Man* was the first of six woodcut novels that Ward produced over the next eight years. It presents the artist's struggles in a world characterized by both innocence and corruptions and can be considered a forerunner of the contemporary graphic novel, popularized by artists such as Daniel Clowes. Although best known for his "novels in woodcuts," Ward was also a successful illustrator of children's books. In 1953 he won the Caldecott Medal for *The Biggest Bear*, which he both wrote and illustrated. His illustrations also appeared in numerous books that received the Newbery Medal. Ward's final work was the acclaimed wordless novel *The Silver Pony* (1973). Until now, *Gods' Man* has only been widely available in high-priced original editions. This top-quality, low-cost republication of Ward's masterpiece will be welcomed by collectors of his work as well as by readers new to his achievement.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Is Mr. Lier's review of *God's Man* for real, or is it just a left over piece from the McCarthy era?

Doesn't it seem a little strange that someone's mental illness and the eventual suicide is blamed on the inner workings of a single book, especially when the content of that book is grossly

misunderstood by all parties involved? Golly, why don't we just go ahead and imprison Galileo again for saying the earth revolves around the sun. Or maybe simply agree with Charley Manson that the Beatle's song Helter Skelter was to blame for Sharon Tate's death. GLIMPSES OF THE DEVIL is the made from the same kind of stuff that caused the Salem witch trials of the 1600's. Maybe Mr. Peck should stop worrying about the devil in the book of God's Man and start worrying about the pervasive and damaging sexual misconduct of priests in his own church. At the heart of the graphic novel God's Man is the philosophical question that all artists must ask themselves: "How can I justify the selling my own God-given talents for the price of money and fame?" God's Man is an artistic masterpiece, that not only sets the groundwork for the modern day graphic novel, but it also sets a high quality standard for today's illustrators concerning new books and novels. One of Lynd Ward's greatest gifts was to touch the lives of children with such beautiful stories as the Biggest Bear and The Silver Pony. What his earlier more mature works did, such as God's Man, was to give his audience insights into the darker side of human nature, especially concerning the social injustices of the 1930's. Ward's wood cut novels from this time period, such as Wild Pilgrimage, takes a hard look at the racism and bigotry under the surface of every day life in America.

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