

# *A First Novel of Distinct Promise*

**T**HE GREAT ADAM holds distinct promise for the future career of the author.

"It is a vigorous, dramatic tale which traces the rise and fall of a 'rugged individual,' to a chorus of small-town comment. Adam Bullhurst, who tramples down obstacles to become the unloved potentate and chief banker of St. Anthony, Idaho, stumbles upon obstacles he cannot surmount in the great drouth, his own son's weakness and ruin, the machinations of oily Bishop Zerth. Adam Bullhurst is scarcely an admirable figure. But as he begins to live in one's imagination through the author's vivid portrayal, one admires, hates, and pities in turn this triumphant lion of the small-town jungle and his ineffectual struggles when reduced to striking out blindly at the toils that enmesh him.

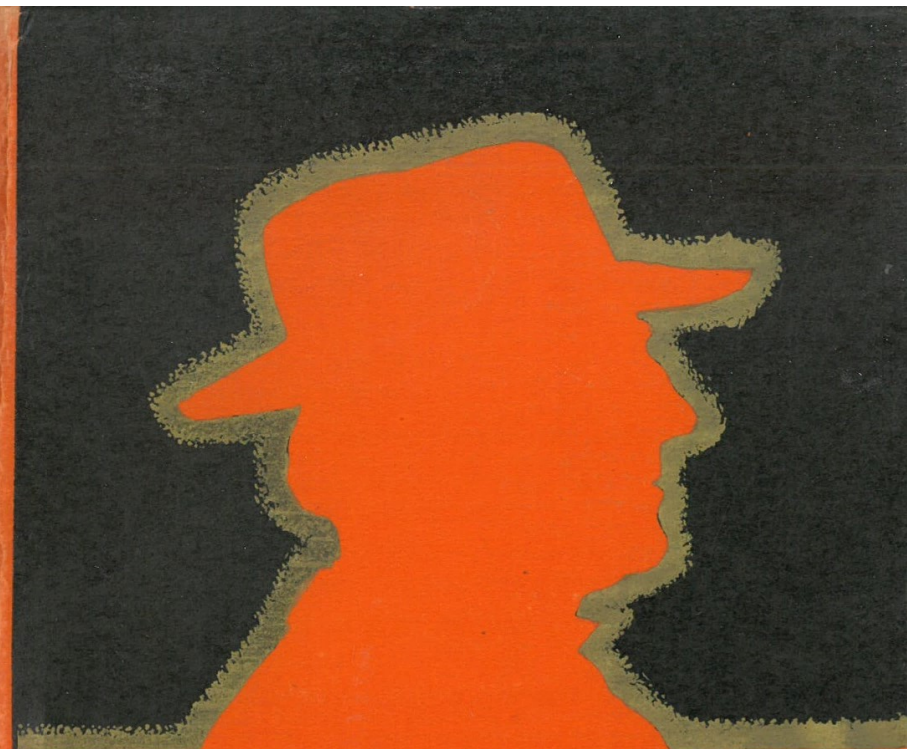
"From the work as a whole emerges an unalleviated picture of an Idaho 'Main Street' and its cramped lives. *The Great Adam* is distinctly the author's own achievement of mastery over style and matter. Mr. Snell is no facile imitator. He says things in his own way; he writes about places and people he has known. The excellence of certain parts of this work augurs well for his future work and his future place among novelists of the West."

—Jacob Trapp in Salt Lake Tribune.

THE GREAT  
ADAM

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**THE GREAT ADAM**

**GEORGE DIXON SNELL, III**

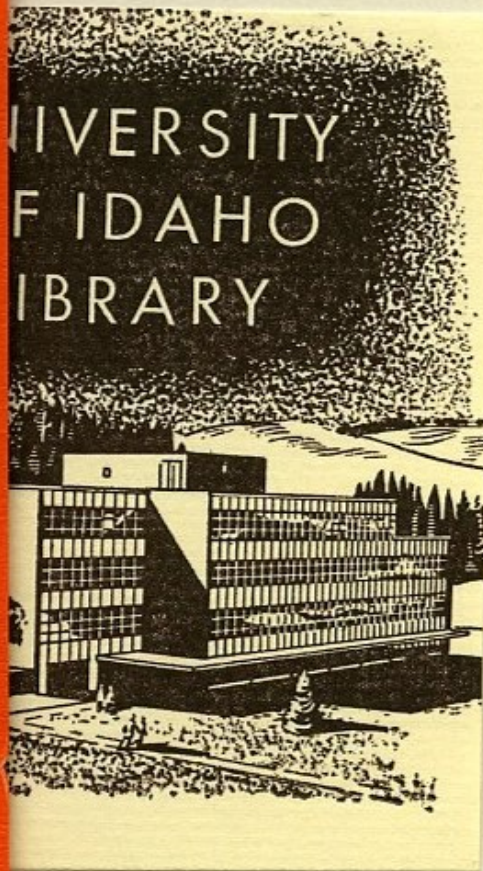
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**A**DAM BULLHURST is a small-town western banker who, when the story opens, is at the peak of his power as virtual dictator of southeastern Idaho. As the plot progresses we learn how this massive, earth-born figure rose from the obscurity of his youth to the very heights of financial success, meanwhile crushing all who opposed him.

Immeasurably proud of his accomplishments, contemptuous of lesser men, he continues to override all obstacles and to scheme for ever greater wealth and power until he is brought low by unlooked-for circumstances fostered by his own avarice and by treachery from a source least suspected.

Across the authentic western background parade dozens of memorable characters. Among them are Sarah Bullhurst, Adam's wife, and Philip, his son; Michael Zerth, another small-town banker; Minnie Tatham, a spinster; "Nosey" Potts, town ne'er-do-well; and "Butch" O'Dowd, the town bully. Influencing the destinies of everyone in the village, the dominating, unapproachable figure of Adam Bullhurst moves along ways of his own finally to meet the destiny which is his.

Powerfully, yet sensitively written, "The Great Adam" is a strange and tremendously gripping story. To read it is a never-to-be-forgotten experience.





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