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The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade (Penguin Classics ... The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade, first published in New York on April Fool's Day 1857, is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville. The book was published on the exact day of the novel's setting. Centered on the title character, The Confidence-Man portrays a group of steamboat passengers.

The Confidence-Man - Wikipedia

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The Confidence-Man, His Masquerade. Herman Melville. \$0.99; \$0.99; Publisher Description. Cryptic, yet brilliant novel by the author of Moby Dick. According to Wikipedia: "Herman Melville (August 1, 1819 – September 28, 1891) was an American novelist, short story writer, essayist and poet. His first two books gained much attention, though ...

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Herman Melville must have had royal fun writing The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade (1857). One imagines him laughing at his desk as the titular character passes through his costume-changes and works his serial frauds, each of the latter based on cajoling, shaming, or arguing his credulous marks into demonstrations of "confidence."

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Herman Melville ' s novel The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade (1857) is a comedy of masquerades and a blend of allegory, cultural satire, and metaphysics. The book portrays a confidence man who sneaks on board a Mississippi steamboat on April Fool's Day, and sets out to defraud his fellow passengers.

The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade by Herman Melville ...

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The Confidence-Man From the shrugged shoulders, titters, whispers, wonderings of the crowd, it was plain that he was, in the extremest sense of the word, a stranger. The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade is an 1857 work by Herman Melville.

The Confidence-Man - Wikiquote

CONFIDENCE-MAN: HIS MASQUERADE. BY HERMAN MELVILLE, AUTHOR OF "PIAZZA TALES," "OMOO," "TYPEE," ETC., ETC. NEW YORK: DIX, EDWARDS & CO., 321 BROADWAY 1857. Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1857, by HERMAN MELVILLE, In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the

The Project Gutenberg eBook of The Confidence-Man, by ... THE CONFIDENCE-MAN Some literary critics have reckoned Herman Melville 's (1819–1891) The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade (1857) the author's "second best" book, after MobyDick (1851); it is certainly one of his most provocative and problematic. The Confidence-Man bears little resemblance to Melville's sea epic, at any rate.

At sunrise on a first of April, there appeared, suddenly as Manco Capac at the lake Titicaca, a man in cream-colors, at the water-side in the city of St. Louis. His cheek was fair, his chin downy, his hair flaxen, his hat a white fur one, with a long fleecy nap. He had neither trunk, valise, carpet-bag, nor parcel. No porter followed him. He was unaccompanied by friends. From the shrugged shoulders, titters, whispers, wonderings of the crowd, it was plain that he was, in the extremest sense of the word, a stranger. In the same moment with his advent, he stepped aboard the favorite steamer

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Fidèle, on the point of starting for New Orleans. Stared at, but unsaluted, with the air of one neither courting nor shunning regard, but evenly pursuing the path of duty, lead it through solitudes or cities, he held on his way along the lower deck until he chanced to come to a placard nigh the captain's office, offering a reward for the capture of a mysterious impostor, supposed to have recently arrived from the East; quite an original genius in his vocation, as would appear, though wherein his originality consisted was not clearly given; but what purported to be a careful description of his person followed.

“ In The Confidence-Man, ” writes John Bryant in his Introduction, “ Melville found a way to render our tragic sense of self and society through the comic strategies of the confidence game. He puts the reader in the game to play its parts and to contemplate the inconsistencies of its knaves and fools. ” Set on a Mississippi steamer on April Fool ’ s Day and populated by a series of shape-shifting con men, The Confidence-Man is a challenging metaphysical and ethical exploration of antebellum American society. Set from the first American edition of 1857, this Modern Library paperback includes an Appendix with Bryant ’ s innovative “ fluid text ” analysis of early manuscript fragments from Melville ’ s novel.

Presents the authoritative text of Herman Melville's classic work "The Confidence Man;" and contains textual and explanatory notes, contemporary reviews and critical essays, and biographical overviews.

Poorly received when first published in 1857, The Confidence Man is now considered Herman Melville's "most nearly perfect work," and one that occupies a central place in

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the American literary tradition of masquerade and trickery. Set on April Fool's Day aboard a Mississippi steamer, this powerful and engaging novel, through the conversations of the confidence man (who may be looked on as the Devil or God), explores America and American values. Part satire, part hoax, *The Confidence Man* is also a dark look at the nothingness lurking beneath our beliefs and assumptions a look at a universe in which neither God nor the Devil exists, and where Christianity is only a comforting fiction little better than an April Fool's prank.

Savage irony and black humor as Melville's *Confidence-Man* strips away the hypocritical pretenses of fellow passengers on a Mississippi steamboat.

The Confidence-Man His Masquerade by Herman Melville
Melville's *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade* action takes place on April Fool's Day aboard the *Fidèle*, a steamer that heads down the Mississippi River. The novel introduces readers to the bewildering characters, one of them. It is a skilled confident man who appears throughout the book with various disguises. A staple of *The Confidence-Man*. Is trust - the limit of belief in society Melville examines humanity's heart and finds it damaged, just as Mark Twain did in his later work. On *Fidèle*, which is presented as a microcosm of human society with an incredible diversity of human types, selfishness is the only human motive. Perhaps even more boisterous is the near impossible to detect anyone's true character on board. Protien is just a prime example of *The Confidence-Man*'s law of hypocrisy. It's a world of deception and deception. Each impostor's conviction calls on the deceit to show confidence, and each is similar to the collapse of mankind. A confident man plays with his victim until he discovers a weakness he can use against them. A confident

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man appears in a bewildering outfit: a cream-colored mute, a crippled African-American beggar named Black Guinea, a weed man, a representative from Seminole Widow, and Orphan Asylum, president of Black Rapids. Coal Company, Herbs Doctor for Sale Omni-Balsamic Reinvigorator and Samaritan Pain Dissuader, Happy Bone Setter, representative of the Philosophical Intelligence Agency, Cosmopolitan (who wears strange garb from many national costumes), and Frank Goodman. The novel also features a number of recognizable regional genres, especially the rough and ready westerns, and the crafty Yankees hawks, and often sets up representatives of one region relative to another. Melville provided not enough clues for readers to identify these characters, thus putting the reader in a close position to the victim of a convinced man who was sometimes greeted by the expression. More than one of his There is very little action in the novel, consisting almost entirely of confident people talking to their victims. Therefore, the lecture consists of the work of dialectical thinking. The passengers he interacted with showed themselves engaged in a variety of confidence games. At least they are often portrayed as self-interested people and rarely reveal their true thoughts or intentions. Like any game of confidence, the protagonist of the novel can be played with the selfish motives or the inflated ego of his victim. Most of the people who are confident will succeed. But his financial return is ...

Engaging with literature on advertising, philosophy, psychology, and cultural theory, as well as a range of fictional and nonfictional "texts," *The Adman's Dilemma* traces the trajectory of the adman from the late nineteenth century to the present.

The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade, first published in New

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York on April Fool's Day 1857, is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville. The book was published on the exact day of the novel's setting.

The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade, first published in New York on April Fool's Day 1857, is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville. The book was published on the exact day of the novel's setting. The Confidence-Man portrays a Canterbury Tales-style group of steamboat passengers whose interlocking stories are told as they travel down the Mississippi River toward New Orleans. Scholar Robert Milder notes: "Long mistaken for a flawed novel, the book is now admired as a masterpiece of irony and control, though it continues to resist interpretive consensus."^[1] After the novel's publication, Melville turned from professional writing and became a professional lecturer, mainly addressing his worldwide travels, and later for nineteen years a federal government employee.

The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade, first published in New York on April Fool's Day 1857, is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville.

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