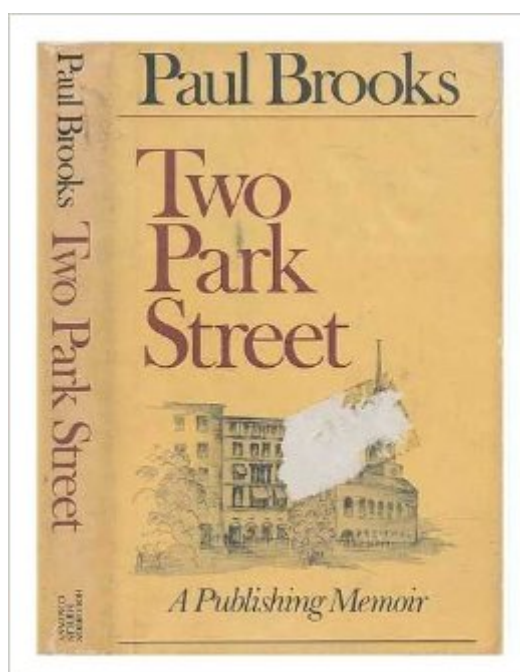


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Synopsis

An exceptional copy; fine in an equally fine dw. Particularly and surprisingly well-preserved; tight, bright, clean and especially sharp-cornered. ; 157 pages; Subjects: Brooks, Paul. Houghton Mifflin Company--History. Publishers and publishing--United States--Biography.

Book Information

Hardcover: 157 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin; First Edition edition (December 1, 1986)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 5.2 x 0.9 inches

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Customer Reviews

Paul Brooks worked for Houghton Mifflin for nearly 40 years, 25 of them as editor-in-chief of the general book department. (He resigned in 1969 to write a biography-with-letters of Rachel Carson and died in 1998.) On publication, Publishers Weekly called Brooksâ™ small book a
âœ charmingly modest memoir.â • Composed mostly of brief anecdotes about authors of his acquaintance, as well as his early colleagues at Houghton Mifflin, the book is short and droll and makes for uncomplicated reading. Unfortunately, it contains few deeper insights into the publishing business circa 1930-70. (Remarkably, during the 1930s, special jobs still might include colored illustrations glued individually into book copies; and as part of his apprenticeship at HM, Brooks learned to set type by hand.) Included are some likewise charmingly modest drawings by the author, but there is no index.

Paul Brooks should also be remembered for making one of the biggest blunders in the history of publishing. He rejected Julia Child's classic French cookbook as being "too big and expensive" to publish and sent her on her way. As a result, she returned her \$250 advance and took her 700 page

manuscript to Knopf, and made millions of dollars for that publisher and well as herself.

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