

Ellis Parker Butler

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Ellis Parker Butler (December 5, 1869–September 13, 1937) was an American author.

Butler was born in Muscatine, Iowa. He was the author of more than 30 books and more than 2,000 stories and essays, and is most famous for his short story "Pigs is Pigs", in which a bureaucratic stationmaster insists on levying the livestock rate for a shipment of two pet guinea pigs, which soon start proliferating geometrically.

Working from his home in Flushing (Queens) New York, Butler was—by every measure and by many times—the most published author of the pulp fiction era.

His career spanned more than forty years and his stories, poems and articles were published in more than 225 magazines. His work appeared alongside that of his contemporaries including Mark Twain, Sax Rohmer, James B. Hendryx, Berton Braley, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Don Marquis, Will Rogers and Edgar Rice Burroughs.

Despite the enormous volume of his work, Butler was, for most of his life, only a part-time author. He worked full-time as a banker and was very active in his local community. A founding member of both the Dutch Treat Club and the Author's League of America, Butler was an always-present force in the New York City literary scene.

He died in Williamsville, Massachusetts and was interred in Flushing Cemetery.

External links

- A searchable Ellis Parker Butler bibliography and the texts of hundreds of pieces of his writing, as well as many of the original illustrations and pulp magazine covers.
- Works by Ellis Parker Butler at Project Gutenberg
- Ellis Parker Butler at the Internet Movie Database
- Free audiobook of *Pigs is Pigs* from LibriVox
- Many Ellis Parker Butler stories, including *Pigs is Pigs* and most of the Perkins of

Portland tales are read in Mister Ron's
Basement Podcast

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