

THE
CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF
THE WORKS OF
JOSEPH CONRAD



WITHIN THE TIDES



THE CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF JOSEPH CONRAD

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JOSEPH CONRAD

WITHIN THE TIDES

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Alexandre Fachard

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
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GENERAL EDITORS' PREFACE

JOSEPH CONRAD'S PLACE in twentieth-century literature is now firmly established. Although his novels, stories and other writings have become integral to modern thought and culture, the need for an accurate and authoritative edition of his works remains. Owing to successive rounds of authorial revision, transmissional errors and deliberate editorial intervention, Conrad's texts exist in various unsatisfactory and sometimes even confused forms.

During the last years of his life he attempted to have his works published in a uniform edition that would fix and preserve them for posterity. But although trusted by scholars, students and the general reader alike, the received texts published in the British and American collected editions, and in various reprintings of them since 1921, have proved to be at least as defective as their predecessors. Grounded in thorough research in the surviving original documents, the Cambridge Edition is designed to reverse this trend by presenting Conrad's novels, stories and other prose in texts that are as trustworthy as modern scholarship can make them.

The present volume contains critical texts of the stories collected in *Within the Tides* and its 'Author's Note' (1921). The Cambridge texts of the stories are based on various copy-texts – the manuscripts and typescripts that have survived. The selected copy-texts have been emended to incorporate authorial revisions drawn from later authoritative documents as well as editorial emendations to correct errors. The copy-text of the 'Author's Note', the revised typescript held in the Rare Books and Special Collections Department, Firestone Library, Princeton University, is treated in the same way.

The 'Introduction' provides a literary history of the work focused on its genesis, sources and early reception, including its place in Conrad's life and art. The essay on 'The Texts' traces the textual history of the volume, examines the origins of its individual texts and explains the policies followed in editing them. The 'Apparatus' records basic textual evidence, documenting the discussion of genealogy and authority in 'The Texts: An Essay' as well as other editorial decisions, and the



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'Textual Notes' deal with cruxes and textual issues. Appendices present the manuscript ending of 'Because of the Dollars', possible sources for 'The Inn of the Two Witches' and, in George Brown Burgin's *More Memoirs (and Some Travels)*, a synopsis of 'The Predecessor', the proposed dramatic collaboration with Stephen Crane that gave Conrad the original idea for 'The Planter of Malata'. The 'Explanatory Notes' comment on specific readings that require glosses, dealing with sources, identifying real-life place-names and related matters. Foreign words and phrases and nautical terms are dealt with separately in glossaries. Supplementing this material are a map and illustrations.

The textual essay, textual notes, appendices and 'Apparatus' are designed with the textual scholar and specialist in mind, while the 'Introduction', 'Explanatory Notes' and glossaries are intended primarily for a non-specialist audience.

The support of the institutions listed on p. vii has been essential to the success of this series and is gratefully acknowledged. In addition to those, and the individuals and institutions listed in the Acknowledgements, the General Editors and the Editorial Board also wish to thank the Trustees and beneficiaries of the Estate of Joseph Conrad, Doubleday and Company and J. M. Dent and Company for permission to publish these new texts of Conrad's works.

THE GENERAL EDITORS



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The facsimiles that precede the textual essay are reproduced by courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University; *Conrad First: The Joseph Conrad Periodical Archive*; Rare Books and Special Collections, Firestone Library, Princeton University; and the Rosenbach Museum and Library, Philadelphia.



CHRONOLOGY

JOSEPH CONRAD'S life may be seen as having several distinct stages: in the Ukraine, in Russian exile and in Austrian Poland before his father's death (1857–69); in Austrian Poland and the south of France as the ward of his maternal uncle (1870–78); in the British merchant service, mainly as a junior officer sailing in the Far East and Australia (1878–early 1890s); after a transitional period (early 1890s), as writer of critical esteem (1895–1914); as acclaimed writer, although perhaps with his greatest work achieved (1914–24). After 1895 the history of his life is essentially the history of his works.

Publication dates given below are those of the English editions, except for those of the present volume.

1857 December 3	Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski
	(Nałęcz coat-of-arms) born in
	Berdyczów in the Ukraine, part of the
	Russian Empire, to Apollo Korzeniowski
	and Ewelina (or Ewa), née Bobrowska,
	Korzeniowska
1862 May	Apollo Korzeniowski, his wife and son
,	forced into exile in Russia
1865 April	Ewa Korzeniowska dies of tuberculosis
1867	Conrad visits Odessa with his maternal
	uncle Tadeusz Bobrowski; perhaps his
	first view of the sea
1868	Korzeniowski permitted to leave Russia
1869 February	Korzeniowski and Conrad move to
	Cracow
May	Korzeniowski dies
1870	Conrad, ward of Bobrowski, begins
	study with tutor, Adam Pulman
1873 May	Visits Switzerland and northern Italy

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xviii	CHRONOLOGY
1874 October	Takes position in Marseilles with Delestang et Fils, wholesalers and shippers
1875	Apprentice in <i>Mont-Blanc</i> (to Caribbean)
1876-7	In Saint-Antoine (to Caribbean)
1878 late February or early March	Attempts suicide
April	Leaves Marseilles in British steamer <i>Mavis</i> (Mediterranean waters)
June	Lands at Lowestoft, Suffolk; first time in England
July-September	Sails as ordinary seaman in <i>Skimmer of the</i> Sea (North Sea)
1878–80	In <i>Duke of Sutherland</i> (to Sydney), <i>Europa</i> (Mediterranean waters)
1880	Meets G. F. W. Hope and Adolf Krieger
June	Passes examination for second mate
1880–81	Third mate in <i>Loch Etive</i> (to Sydney)
1881–4	Second mate in <i>Palestine</i> , <i>Riversdale</i> , <i>Narcissus</i> (Eastern seas)
1884 December	Passes examination for first mate
1885–6	Second mate in <i>Tilkhurst</i> (to Singapore and India)
1886	Submits 'The Black Mate', perhaps his first story, to <i>Tit-Bits</i> competition
August	Becomes a British subject
November	Passes examination for master and receives 'Certificate of Competency'
1886–7	Second mate in <i>Falconhurst</i> (British waters)
1887–8	First mate in <i>Highland Forest</i> , <i>Vidar</i> (Eastern seas)
1888–9	Captain of barque <i>Otago</i> (Bangkok to Australia and Mauritius)
1889 autumn	Begins Almayer's Folly in London
1890 February–April	In Poland for first time since 1874
May–December	In the Congo. Second-in-command, then temporarily captain, of <i>Roi des Belges</i>
	G



CHRONOLOGY

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1891 Manages warehouse of Barr, Moering in

London

1891–3 First mate in *Torrens* (London and

Plymouth to Adelaide)

1893 Meets John Galsworthy and Edward L.

('Ted') Sanderson (passengers on

Torrens)

autumn Visits Bobrowski in the Ukraine November Signs on as second mate in *Adowa*,

which sails only to Rouen and back

1894 January Signs off *Adowa*, ending career as

seaman

February Bobrowski dies

autumn Meets Edward Garnett and Jessie

George

1895 April Almayer's Folly

1896 March An Outcast of the Islands. Marries Jessie

George

September Settles in Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, after

six-month honeymoon in Brittany

Begins friendship with R. B.

Cunninghame Graham; meets Henry

James and Stephen Crane

December The Nigger of the 'Narcissus'

1898 Meets Ford Madox (Hueffer) Ford and

H. G. Wells

January Alfred Borys Leo Conrad born

April Tales of Unrest

October Moves to Pent Farm, Postling, near

Hythe, Kent, sub-let from Ford

1899 February–April 'The Heart of Darkness' in *Blackwood's*

Edinburgh Magazine

1900 September Begins association with literary agent

J. B. Pinker

October Lord Jim

1901 June The Inheritors (with Ford)

1902 November Youth: A Narrative and Two Other Stories

1903 April Typhoon and Other Stories
October Romance (with Ford)

1904 October Nostromo



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1905 June One Day More staged in London1906 August John Alexander Conrad born

October The Mirror of the Sea

1907 September The Secret Agent. Moves to Someries,

Luton, Bedfordshire

1908 August A Set of Six

1909 Moves to Aldington, Kent

1910 Moves to Capel House, Orlestone, Kent

October?-December Writes 'The Partner'

1911 March Revises 'The Partner' for magazine

publication

October Under Western Eyes

November 'The Partner' in *Harper's Monthly*

Magazine

1912 January Some Reminiscences (as A Personal Record

in America)

July Prepares 'The Partner' for book

publication in 'Twixt Land and Sea, then

withdraws it

October 'Twixt Land and Sea

December Writes 'The Inn of the Two Witches' 1913 March 'The Inn of the Two Witches' in *Pall*

Mall Magazine

May 'The Inn of the Two Witches' in

Metropolitan Magazine

September Chance, with 'main' publication date of

January 1914

late October- Writes 'The Planter of Malata'

December

December–January Writes 'Because of the Dollars'

1914 June–July 'The Planter of Malata' in Metropolitan

Magazine

July–November Visits Austrian Poland with family;

delayed by outbreak of First World War;

returns via Vienna and Genoa

September 'Because of the Dollars' (as 'Laughing

Anne') in Metropolitan Magazine

September–November 'The Planter of Malata' in *Empire*

Magazine



CHRONOLOGY

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1915 January–February

Prepares Within the Tides for book

publication

February 24

Within the Tides published by J. M. Dent

and Sons (15 January 1916 by Doubleday, Page and Company in

America)

September 1917 March

Victory The Shadow-Line

1919 March

Moves to Spring Grove, near Wye, Kent.

Dramatic version of Victory opens in

London

August

The Arrow of Gold

October

Moves to Oswalds, Bishopsbourne, near

Canterbury, Kent

1920 May

Writes 'Author's Note' to Within the Tides

June The Rescue

1921 January-April

Visits Corsica. Collected editions begin

publication in England (William Heinemann's) and in America

(Doubleday's)

February

Notes on Life and Letters

1922 November 1923 May-June

The Secret Agent staged in London

Visits America, guest of F. N. Doubleday

December The Rover

Declines knighthood 1924 May

August 3

Dies at Oswalds. Roman Catholic

funeral and burial, Canterbury

September

The Nature of a Crime (with Ford)

October

The Shorter Tales of Joseph Conrad

1925 January

Tales of Hearsay

September

Suspense (unfinished)

1926 March

Last Essays

1928 June

The Sisters



ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTE ON EDITIONS

ABBREVIATIONS

[London is the place of publication unless otherwise specified.]

Ashley Mike Ashley, The Age of the Storytellers: British Popular

Fiction Magazines, 1880–1950. The British Library,

2006

Baker Harry T. Baker, The Contemporary Short Story: A

Practical Manual. Boston: D. C. Heath, 1916

Bibliography William R. Cagle and Robert W. Trogdon, 'A

Bibliography of Joseph Conrad'. Typescript,

unpublished

Donovan Stephen Donovan, Joseph Conrad and Popular Culture.

Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005

Letters The Collected Letters of Joseph Conrad. General Editors

Frederick R. Karl and Laurence Davies, with Owen Knowles, Gene M. Moore and J. H. Stape. 9 vols.

Cambridge University Press, 1983-2007

Mott Frank Luther Mott, A History of American Magazines,

II, 1850–1865. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard

University Press, 1970

Najder Zdzisław Najder, Joseph Conrad: A Life, trans. Halina

Najder. Rochester, New York: Camden House, 2007

Register Gene M. Moore, comp., 'A Descriptive Location

Register of Joseph Conrad's Literary Manuscripts'.

The Conradian, 27, no. 2 (2002), 1-93

Wallace Alfred Russel Wallace, The Malay Archipelago: The

Land of the Orang-utan and the Bird of Paradise: A Narrative of Travel with Studies of Man and Nature. 2

vols. Macmillan, 1869

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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LOCATIONS OF UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS

Berg Collection, New York Public Library, Astor,

Lenox and Tilden Foundations

HRC Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at

Austin

Indiana Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington Northwestern McCormick Library of Special Collections,

Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois

NYPL Rare Books and Manuscripts Division, New York

Public Library

POSK Polish Library, Polish Social and Cultural Centre

(POSK), London

Princeton Rare Books and Special Collections, Firestone

Library, Princeton University

Rosenbach Rosenbach Museum and Library, Philadelphia TTU Special Collections Library, Texas Tech University,

Lubbock

Yale Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale

University, New Haven, Connecticut

NOTE ON EDITIONS

REFERENCES TO Conrad's works are to the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Joseph Conrad where these have been published. Otherwise, references are, for the sake of convenience, to Dent's Collected Edition, 1946–55, whose pagination is identical with that of the various 'editions' published by Doubleday's throughout the 1920s. References to the Cambridge Edition take the following form: title (year of publication), whereas publication dates are not provided for citations from Dent's Collected Edition.

Citations from critical and other works are to author, title and date of publication.



INTRODUCTION

In 1912, Conrad described the writing of short fiction as 'convict labour!' Yet if he was a convict, doomed to the literary equivalent of breaking stones or picking oakum, he was a cunning one, managing always to preserve something of his own. Whatever we choose to make of his claim in the 'Author's Note' (1920) to the present volume that the stories gathered under the title *Within the Tides* (1915) were written 'with the deliberate intention of trying several ways of telling a tale',² the uncertainty is more about the primacy of the intention than its outcome. Here are four tales, each with its own narrative strategy. Authors writing to commercial formulas rarely experiment in this fashion, and, as analysis has shown, Conrad revised each story conscientiously.³

Passages in these stories often recapitulate motifs from his earlier fiction. Despite differences in tone and placement, for example, the silence of Renouard in 'The Planter of Malata' recalls Marlow's meeting with the Intended in 'Heart of Darkness'; although his state of mind differs from that of Martin Decoud in *Nostromo* and his situation from that of Captain Brierly in *Lord Jim*, Renouard's death harks back to a long-running preoccupation with suicide – for Conrad, a problem with personal as well as philosophical associations. The binary distinction between European scepticism and its ghost-believing other in 'The Planter of Malata' blurs, as it does in 'Karain: A Memory'. In its handling of taboos, 'Because of the Dollars' has affinities with 'Falk'.

There are also continuities with work in progress. Themes, motifs or narrative practices in these stories resemble those of the novels – *Chance* (1914) and *Victory* (1915) – whose longer rhythms they prefigure or disrupt. Fraud, the cultures of journalism and advertising,

¹ Conrad to Warrington Dawson, 6 May 1912 (Letters, v, 59).

² See p. 6.23-24. Subsequent references to the texts of the present edition appear in round brackets.

³ For a detailed discussion of writing and revision, see 'The Texts'.



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INTRODUCTION

the outer narrator's ironic voice and the contrasts between life at sea and life on shore link 'The Partner' to Chance. The sexual politics, especially of speech and silence, also link 'The Planter of Malata' retrospectively to Chance and prospectively to Victory. The latter novel, whose original title was 'Dollars', shares with 'Because of the Dollars' the story of a woman who has taken refuge in a remote sanctuary that is invaded by grotesque villains. Novel and story also have a character in common: Davidson, the story's chief male figure, is the man who has the last word in Victory.1 'The Inn of the Two Witches' anticipates The Shadow-Line (1917) in its moments of terror and disorientation and in its portrait of a young officer sustained by the faithfulness of an older man. The stories are not exactly sketches for longer works, but they are studies of related modes and situations. Here, for instance, is an early description of Victory, written while it was still planned as a short novel: 'it has a tropical Malay setting an unconventional man and a girl on an island under peculiar circumstances to whom enters a gang of three ruffians also of a rather unconventional sort – this intrusion producing certain psychological developments and effects. There is philosophy in it and also drama' (Letters, v, 113). Not a perfect match with 'Because of the Dollars', but the resemblances are striking, down to the theatricality of 'to whom enters'.

The present essay examines the origins of the stories and their coalescence into a volume, their sources and contexts and, with a strong emphasis on the early years, their critical reception. If the reader comes away with a more thorough understanding of *Within the Tides*, both 'as a financial operation', as Conrad once called it (*Letters*, v, 455), and as art, so much the better.

ORIGINS

THE 'AUTHOR'S NOTE' to this collection calls attention to some of its distinguishing features. In his later years, Conrad often insisted that each volume of his short stories had a character of its own. In 1924, when his American publisher, F. N. Doubleday, proposed to bring out a 500-page volume to include every story under 20,000

¹ For an extensive discussion of the relation between these fictions, see Robert Hampson, "Because of the Dollars" and the Already Written', *Conradiana*, 34 (2002), 95–106.



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words, and most of the longer ones, Conrad objected forcefully even before seeing the proposal: 'every volume of my short stories has a unity of artistic purpose, a mood of feeling and expression, which makes it different from every other'. This is no place to test that post facto claim, but we might take as confirming examples the theme of disturbed or false domesticity that runs through Tales of Unrest (1898) or the arrangement of A Set of Six (1908) as a series of tales, each with a quality highlighted in its subtitle: 'Il Conde' being a 'Pathetic' tale, 'The Informer' 'Ironic' and so on. Not wanting to give the impression that a new volume is merely a sweeping up of whatever happens to be lying on the desk, authors and publishers alike favour a combination of coherence and mutual illumination.

Between 1910 and 1915, Conrad gave considerable thought to putting recent stories in the right order and right collection. In May 1912, he had second thoughts about placing 'The Partner'. Describing it as 'another of what I call my "Between-land-and-sea stories", he considered including it in the American edition of 'Twixt Land and Sea (1912), in order to reach the length specified in the contract. In July, however, he asked his agent, J. B. Pinker, to pluck it out again, because 'It doesn't match.'2

At the start of 1915, Conrad, caught out by learning that Within the Tides was about to appear,3 fumbled for a name. Among the possibilities were 'The Planter of Malata' and Other Stories and Within the Surf, and the final title emerged only nineteen days before publication.⁴ It is geographically apt, since so many of the stories' scenes are coastal and have an appropriate aura of liminality, of in-betweenness and transition, of rules and laws and customs broken. Yet the title 'Twixt Land and Sea has similar connotations, and the similarity has tended to push the later Within the Tides into the shadows. For this reason, one might regret that Conrad abandoned his earlier idea of calling this volume Tales of Hearsay, for all of its stories rely to some extent on rumour, gossip or anecdote, whether written, as in 'The Inn of the Two Witches', or by word of mouth. In every case, narrative devices create a critical distance between text and reader - in some cases, more than one distance, as when the master stevedore who tells the primary story of

¹ Conrad to F. N. Doubleday, 7 February 1924 (Letters, VIII, 300).

² Conrad to J. B. Pinker, [19 May] 1912, and [c. 6 July] 1912 (Letters, v, 67, 83).

Conrad to Pinker, 18 January 1915 (*Letters*, v, 435).
 For the story of this vacillation over titles, see 'The Texts', pp. 175, 245.



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INTRODUCTION

'The Partner' gazes at the wall, as if in a cinema.¹ Admittedly, frame narrations and similar modes of filtering or ironizing eyewitness accounts are ubiquitous in Conrad, in whose works tales of 'hearsay' abound, but *Tales of Hearsay*, eventually used for a posthumous volume, would have suited the present collection admirably.

The exclusions and inclusions that went into the making of Within the Tides are suggestive. The urge to experiment with frame and voice was not the only binding energy at work. In the list Conrad sent to Pinker on 9 December 1913, 'The Partner', a story that nearly went into 'Twixt Land and Sea and predates two of the three stories in that collection, finds a place, while 'Prince Roman', indubitably a 'tale of hearsay' in a formal sense, does not. The latter is a story of fortitude and honour, virtues in short supply in the world of Within the Tides, where the virtuous die, like Tom Corbin, or are thoroughly misunderstood, like Davidson. 'The Partner', on the other hand, has barratry, patent medicine, cynicism, greed and the fabrication of glib stories for magazines as its principal motifs. It is tempting to quote Saint Paul, who saw the love of money as the root of all evil,² but there is a memorable statement of a related idea in 'The Planter of Malata'. Speaking of the unfortunate Arthur, unjustly accused of tampering with valuable documents, the Editor observes: "In many ways money is as dangerous to handle as gunpowder. You can't be too careful either as to who you are working with" (24.30-32).3 These words speak for the collection as a whole.

PRELIMINARY GESTURES: 1910-1911

It is easy to understand why some critics have seen Conrad's breakdown in the early months of 1910 as the great fissure in his life, a slippage more sudden than his departure from Poland or the metamorphosis from sailor to author, the beginning of a downward trajectory. For six weeks, starting from the end of January, he could not leave his

Donovan, p. 47. In other words, the rendering of oral narrative is by no means always a reversion to some traditional past. The opening scenes of 'The Planter of Malata' are also relevant here.

² 1 Timothy vi.10.

³ Citations of the page and line numbers of this edition refer throughout to its critical text and, where variation in the earlier texts occurs (e.g., 77.24 below), particularly to entries in the 'Apparatus'. When the 'Explanatory Notes' discuss readings, an 'n.' appended to a page–line citation refers to this part of the volume as well.



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bed, his body grotesquely swollen by gout, and his mind, for much of this time, wandering in strange places. For months thereafter, he suffered from physical relapses and a general feeling of debilitation, drained of both energy and confidence. On his first, brief day out of bed, in mid-March, Conrad wrote to John Galsworthy: 'I feel all crumpled up beyond all hope [of] being ever smoothed out again – but of course it will come. I find the writing of this, the greatest mental strain imaginable' (*Letters*, IV, 321).

The strain of writing fiction was greater still. In mid-May 1911, Conrad looked back on what he had been doing, recalling with particular horror his seven-week bout of inanition:

Since last July . . . I've written as follows: 21-9-30-12-thousand words in short stories and just now 12 000 of *Chance* done in the last fortnight. Say 84 000 in $10^{1}/_{2}$ months of time. In that time I have been three weeks in Dec without writing a line; and now again seven weeks – the most horrible nightmare of an existence . . . not half a page in all that time! How I came out of it with my sanity apparently unimpaired I don't know. (*Letters*, IV, 440)

In good times and bad, Conrad always counted words. Even though the opportunity to publish in the *New York Herald* had been beckoning since the middle of the previous August,¹ the 12,000 words of *Chance* that followed the sanity-challenging seven weeks of inanition was the most sustained piece of work on that novel for over three years.

In other words, instead of getting on with longer work Conrad had been writing short stories. In view of the ordeal from which he was slowly emerging and the fear that at any moment he might be pitched back into mental darkness, the decision is unsurprising, but it also re-enacted an earlier pattern. One of the great irritants in his dealings with his agent between 1908 and 1910 had been the interruptions to the progress of *Under Western Eyes*, first by writing *Some Reminiscences* (later *A Personal Record*) and then, at the very moment when the novel was almost finished, 'The Secret Sharer'.²

His collapse was a wrenching experience for him and his family, and its consequences would go on haunting them, but those terrible months constituted a pause rather than a rupture. On its

¹ Conrad told Pinker that he was willing to furnish serial copy of *Chance* on 17 August 1910 (*Letters*, IV, 359). On the 20th, however, he begged his agent 'to take notice that I shall write "Chance" when it suits me, exactly, and at my own pace' (*Letters*, IV, 361).

² It had been Pinker, however, who suggested putting *Chance* aside at the end of 1907 to write 'Razumov' (the future *Under Western Eyes*), then expected to be a lucrative short story (*Letters*, III, 513).