

The Right to Read: Censorship and the Books of Grove Press

February 3 - 28, 2014

The Kinsey Institute is pleased to be included in "The Burroughs Century," a 5-day festival in Bloomington from February 5 through 9, which will examine and celebrate the legacy of William S. Burroughs, one of the principal figures of the Beat Generation and a groundbreaking American writer and artist.

The Right to Read examines the pivotal role that Grove Press, which published Burroughs' *Naked Lunch* and many other controversial books, played in the censorship battles of the late 1950s and early 1960s.

The Kinsey Institute Library houses hundreds of books and serials issued by Grove Press, an independent publishing house in New York. Publisher Barney Rosset did not hesitate to challenge long-standing obscenity laws in his quest to bring some of the 19th and 20th century's most intriguing literature to American readers. In addition to the work of Burroughs, Grove Press was the first to legally publish *Lady Chatterley's Lover* by D.H. Lawrence, as well as the works of Henry Miller, Jean Genet, and anonymous Victorian authors of erotic literature.

[List of items included in the *Right to Read* exhibition \(PDF\)](#)

