

Jack London biographies and books w/biographical information¹

JL An American Life (Labor)
JL (Labor) (1974) New York, Twayne Publishers

JL A Pictorial Biography (Kingman)
JL 1876-1916 (Kingman)
JL A Definitive Chronology (Kingman)

The Book of JL (Vols. I & II, Charmian London)

JL and His Time, An Unconventional Biography (Joan London);
JL and His Daughters (Joan London; NB: daughter's book was finished by her son and contradicts her view that her father did not commit suicide)

For Love of JL (Lasartemay/Rudge – about Jenny Prentiss and JL; some fictionalized)

Jack, A Biography (Sinclair)

JL A Biography (Dyer)²

American Dreamers (Stasz)

JL A Life (Kershaw)

JL's Racial Lives, A Critical Biography (Reesman)
London in His Own Time (Reesman)

Wolf: the Lives of JL (Haley)

JL: Critical Lives (Brandt)

Standing Room Only: JL's Controversial Career as Public Speaker (Zamen)

Solitary Comrade JL and His work (Hendrick)

The Lives of JL (Viotte/Mauberrret)

JL A Biography (O'Connor)

JL An American Myth (Perry)

JL's Neighborhoods (Rudge)

¹ Materials specifically related to Charmian London in separate bibliography

² Dyer's book was written for high school students but is also a good, short primer on JL.

JL's Boyhood in Livermore (Janet Newton, assisted by Kingman)

JL: Homes Album (Haughey and Johnson)

JL's Women (Stasz)

Footloose in Arcadia (Joseph Noel – different from the booklet with the same name – this is a book written by JL's contemporary with lots of info on JL, Sterling, and others)

JL (Bartrop – a former professional boxer)

JL, 1905 (Lois Rather)

Author Under Sail (Williams)

JL in California (McKee)

JL and the Great Earthquake and Firestorms of 1906 (Fradkin)

Books about his Politics/Socialism³

JL: An American Radical? (Johnston)

JL/American Rebel (edited by Foner – collection of JL's writings for newspapers, etc., re his socialism or revolutionary ideas)⁴

The Radical JL (Raskin)

Books about Snark voyage or Sailing

The Log of the Snark (Charmian London)

The Cruise of the Snark (JL)

Through the South Seas with Jack London (Johnson)

The Cruise of the Dazzler (JL)

JL in the South Seas (Day)

JL and the Sea (Duneer)

Books about Klondike/Yukon

JL and the Klondike (Walker)

JL and the Klondike Gold Rush (Lourie)

Sailor on Snowshoes (North)

JL's Klondike Adventure (Wilson)

JL's Cabin (North)

³ There are other resources with significant mention of JL's politics (e.g., *Revolutionary Lives: Anna Strunsky and William English Walling* (Boylan); *Yours for the Revolution* (Graham), etc.)

⁴JL's essays on socialism can be found in other texts as well. (i.e., *Jack London: The Socialist Writings: The People of the Abyss, War of the Classes, Revolution and Other Essays*.)

Books about JL and Sports⁵

Sporting Blood: JL's Greatest Sports Writing (edited by Lachtman)

JL: Stories of Boxing (Bankes)

JL: Learning Hawaiian Surfing, A Royal Sport at Waikiki Beach (intro by Scott Burlington)

Books about Tramping/Hoboing

JL on the Road, the Tramp Diary and other Hobo Writings (Etulain – excerpts from his writings w/Etulain's commentary)⁶

No Pie In The Sky: The Hobo As American Cultural Hero in the Works of Jack London, John Dos Passos, and Jack Kerouac (Feied)

From Coast to Coast with JL (Livingston-hobo adventures –fictionalized)

Vagabonds, Tramps, and Hobos: The Literature and Culture of U.S. Transiency 1890–1940 (Clayton - Cambridge Studies in American Literature and Culture), chapter on JL

More like biographical fiction

Sailor on Horseback (Stone)

JL The Pursuit of a Dream (Franchere)

The Mystery of JL (Georgia Bamford – Fred Bamford was an Oakland Reference Librarian and friend of Jack's; this book is written by Bamford's wife; it's an odd little book, some biography, some fictionalized accounts and at the end there's what appears to be the author's own short stories called "romantic meditations;" of note are the letters between Fred and JL in the back of the book)

JL In Boyhood Adventures (Atherton)

The Soul of JL (Payne – Payne was married to Netta after Roscoe and claimed to be a psychic who communicated with Jack's spirit after Jack died)

He Was a Man and Life and Jack London by Rose Wilder Lane

On his writing

No Mentor but Myself (JL on writing and writers)

The Tools of My Trade (Hamilton)

White Logic (also known as **Strong Truths** – by McClintock – about the development of his short story writing style; McClintock has also written articles about JL's use of Jung and the unconscious in his writings)

JL One Hundred Years a Writer (Hodson)

The Fiction of JL (Walker)

JL A Study of the Short Fiction (Reesman)

⁵ See also JL Reports under "Other"

⁶ Available online from Utah State University https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/usupress_pubs/175/

The Novels of JL, A Reappraisal (Watson – Labor read his manuscript and helped him - and Milo Shepard also helped – examines a few of JL’s works looking at recurrent themes – “conflict between sensitive bookish aspirant” and “brash adventurer” p-6)

Male Call: Becoming Jack London (Auerbach)

Alien Worlds of JL (Walker – small booklet – on sci fi)

Other books with biographical information/analytical

The Letters of JL (3 vol set)⁷

JL Reports (Hendricks and Shepard) [collection of his war correspondence and sports writing]

Critical Essays on JL (Tavernier-Courbin)

Critical Insights: JL (Berkove)

Bloom’s Modern Critical Views: Jack London (Harold Bloom)

The Gilded Edge (Pendergast –mostly about women in George Sterling’s life)

JL A Man in Search of Meaning, A Jungian Perspective (Gabel)

JL A Writer’s Fight for a Better America (Tichi)

JL and Racism in America (Goldstein)

Footloose in Arcadia Artists and Authors of Piedmont from 1890-1930 (brochure - St. Mary’s College)

Heinold’s First and Last Chance (Wearin)

The Seacoast of Bohemia (Walker – about the “crowd” and Carmel)

Rereading JL (Cassuto and Reesman) (essays on race, gender, politics, etc.)

JL: The Paths Men Take (Tagliaventi and Spienza)⁸

Jack London Adventures, Ideas, and Fiction (Literature & Life) (Lundquist)

A Search for JL (Freeman – small booklet)

⁷ *Letters from JL* (edited by King Hendricks and Irving Shepard) also contains some of JL’s letters.

⁸ Mostly noteworthy for the photographs. In biographical info, incorrectly shows JL’s DOB as 1896 instead of 1876.

JL as Poet and as Platform Man: Did JL Commit Suicide (McDevitt – small booklet)

JL, Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Walker – small booklet)

Complicity and Resistance in JL's Novels: From Naturalism to Nature (Gair)

Oakland, Jack London, and Me (Williamson)

An Autobiography of JL by Brennan (only included because of its misleading title - this is simply excerpts of JL's works)

Bibliographies

Prospero Isle (A 53-page Comprehensive online bibliography of all JL's writing with synopsis of each story)

<https://www.prosperosisle.org/spip.php?article229#Stories>

JL Bibliography (Woodbridge, London, Tweney – lists of of JL's works, newspaper and other articles)

JL: A Reference Guide (Sherman)

The Fiction of JL: A Chronological Bibliography (Walker and Sisson)

JL's Masterplots (Hensley)

A Collector's Guide to JL's Non-Fictional Works

(Edited by Dale L. Walker – SSU Collection)

Books for Younger Readers

JL's Dog (Wales)

JL (Walcutt)

JL (Beauchamp – a distant cousin of JL)

Lone Wolf (Calden-Marshall)

London (Streissguth)

JL (Gleiter and Thompson)

JL: An American Original (Steffoff)

The Greatest Adventure: A Story of JL (Lane and Quinn)

JL (Schroeder)

JL A Biography (Dyer – for high school age)

JL: Wilderness Writer (Claflin)

ONLINE RESOURCES⁹

Huntington Library

<https://hdl.huntington.org/digital/collection/p16003coll7>

Utah State University

<https://library.usu.edu/news/collections/london>

SSU Special Collections – several online resources of JL

<https://library.sonoma.edu/specialcollections/collections/jack-london-collection>

<https://libguides.sonoma.edu/oneseach>

Sonoma County Historical and Genealogy Library – JL Collection

<https://sonoma.bibliocommons.com/v2/search?query=Jack%20London%20a%20sketch%20of%20his%20life&searchType=smart>

OAC (free Online Archive of CA – includes UCB)

<https://oac.cdlib.org/search?query=milo%20shepard;idT=991026371199706532>

<https://digicoll.lib.berkeley.edu/record/54358?v=pdf>

Calisphere.org (free online collection JL photos)

<https://calisphere.org/search/?q=jack+london+cottage>

Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research (free old newspaper search); Library of Congress; Archives West¹⁰

<https://cdnc.ucr.edu/>

<https://cbsr.ucr.edu>

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/>

<https://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org>

⁹ SMU's DeGolyer Library in Texas is still cataloging Earle Labor's JL collection. They hope to have it finished some time in 2025.
<https://www.smu.edu/libraries/degolyer/>

Also, the JL Newsletters and JL Echo editions can be found in some libraries and some on the Internet Archive – link listed here.

¹⁰ Due to 2025 govt. shutdown some of these websites have been down – the CBSR (Riverside) website seems to be maintaining some of the info of the CDNC website

[Internet Archive \(free online access to JL Newsletters, info in French, Pacific Historian, among other things\)](#)

https://archive.org/details/sim_jack-london-newsletter_january-december-1988_21_1-3/page/n3/mode/2up

https://web.archive.org/web/20250000000000*/%22jack%20london%22

<https://files.core.ac.uk/download/pdf/303886169.pdf>

<http://www.claricestasz.com/articles.html>

<https://web.archive.org/web/20250422025654/http://jack-london.fr/>

[Articles and Essays by JL](#)

<https://americanliterature.com/author/jack-london/short-story/jack-london-by-himself>

<http://www.historicjournalism.com/jack-london.html>

[Interviews with Elsie Whitaker Martinez ¹¹ and Milo Shepard](#)

<https://digioll.lib.berkeley.edu/record/54469?v=pdf>

<https://digioll.lib.berkeley.edu/record/54358?v=pdf>

[Vol. 2 Book of JL by Charmian](#)

<https://jacklondonbookstore.com/book-of-jack-london-vol-2/>

[JL and Hawaii \(1918\) by Charmian](#)

[http://www.public-library.uk/dailyebook/Jack%20London%20and%20Hawaii%20\(1918\).pdf](http://www.public-library.uk/dailyebook/Jack%20London%20and%20Hawaii%20(1918).pdf)

[Equador & Panama](#)

<https://jacklondonbookstore.com/jack-london/chapter31.html>

[Klondike](#)

<https://jacklondonbookstore.com/jack-london/chapter17.html>

Fred Thompson's book about Jack and the Yukon (Parts 1 and 2)

https://ia803402.us.archive.org/4/items/bcc_qnl_v.050_n.02/bcc_qnl_v.050_n.02.pdf

https://archive.org/details/bcc_qnl_v.050_n.03/page/58/mode/2up

by Kate Johnston, updated 11/30/2025

¹¹ She was married to Xavier Martinez (painter who was part of “the crowd” and friends with JL, and Herman “Jim” Whitaker’s daughter (journalist who gave JL boxing lessons).