

First edition of *The Martian Chronicles*, a cornerstone in the 20th century science fiction.

An attractive copy kept in its original cloth with its dusk-jacket, as issued.

BRADBURY, Ray. *The Martian Chronicles*.
Garden City, NY Doubleday & Company, 1950.

In-8 de 222 pp.
Toile gris-bleu de l'éditeur, jaquette conservée.

199 x 132 mm.

FIRST EDITION FIRST PRINTING OF AUTHOR'S BEST-KNOWN WORK, A CORNERSTONE OF 20TH-CENTURY SCIENCE FICTION, WITH THE WORDS "FIRST EDITION" PRINTED ON THE COPYRIGHT PAGE.

EDITION ORIGINALE DE L'UN DES PLUS GRANDS OUVRAGES DE RAY BRADBURY.

“The *Martian Chronicles* was the book that established Bradbury's reputation. He put far more emphasis on style and mood than he did on technical detail or scientific plausibility. His reward was a stunning popular and critical success” (Science Fiction 100 Best).

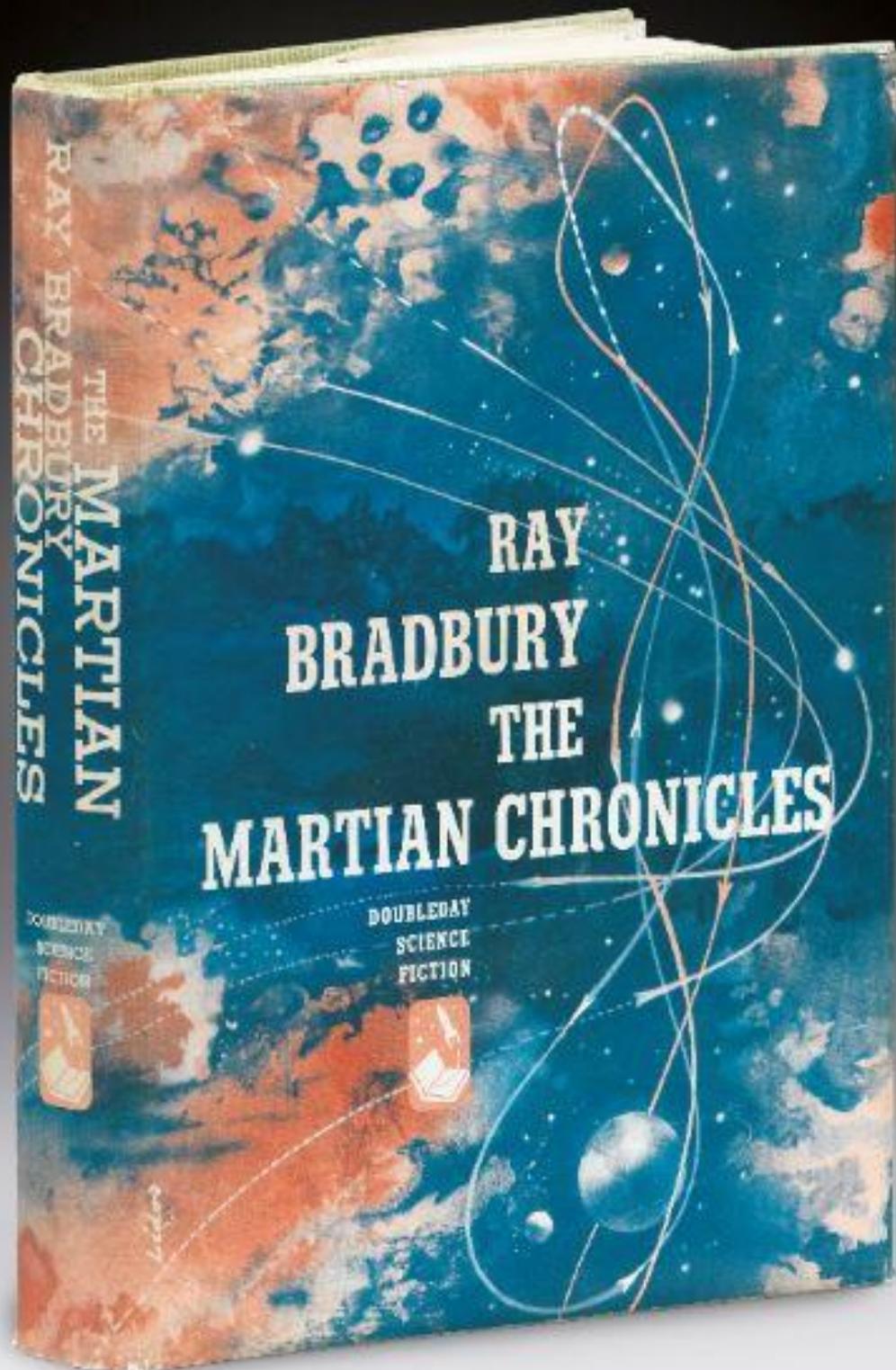
The *Martian Chronicles* is one of Ray Bradbury's classic novels. Bradbury imagines what life would be like on Mars. The Earth Men are drawn to Mars following a threat of nuclear war. They make many attempts at visiting and inhabiting Mars—some successful, some not.

« *Le plus surprenant dans cette œuvre au succès mondial, c'est qu'elle évoque surtout, avec sobriété et poésie, la nostalgie de l'auteur pour le Middle West de son enfance et que le dépaysement y soit autant provoqué par le portrait d'une Amérique défunte et idéalisée que par des détails martiens un peu artificiels* » (Dictionnaire des Œuvres).

Bradbury was often considered a science fiction author, but he said that his only science fiction book was *Fahrenheit 451*. Strictly speaking, much of his work was fantasy, horror, or mysteries. He said, “I use a scientific idea as a platform to leap into the air and never come back.”

“A native of Illinois, where he was born in 1920, and long a resident of Los Angeles, Bradbury was truly the occupant of a dark future that he feared was not all that distant. After a childhood in Waukegan, Ill., spent largely reading in libraries, Bradbury came to Los Angeles in 1934. He immersed himself fully in the world of science fiction. Fame would not come until his 1950 short story collection “*The Martian Chronicles*,” in which nuclear war drives humanity to search for a home on the Red Planet. The brutality of the humans to the indigenous Martians is a commentary on the ravages of World War II and the doom portended by the Cold War. As with later works, fantastical inventions mask a deep moral sense. The British writer Christopher Isherwood, then also a Los Angeles resident, gave Bradbury a career-making review in “*Tomorrow*” magazine, praising the author's “very great and unusual talent” (A. Nazaryan).

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