

# Frolic Own Gaddis William Poseidon Press

## Chapter 1 : Frolic Own Gaddis William Poseidon Press

Perhaps William Gaddis' most accessible novel--though a dense and imposing book--a Frolic of His Own is a masterful work that mocks the folly of a litigious society. William Thomas Gaddis, Jr. (December 29, 1922 – December 16, 1998) was an American novelist. The first and longest of his five novels, *The Recognitions*, was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Best Novels from 1923 to 2005 and two others, *J R* and *A Frolic of His Own*, won the annual U.S. National Book Award for Fiction. A collection of his essays *A Frolic of His Own* is a book by William Gaddis, published by Poseidon Press in 1994. It was his fourth novel, and it won his second U.S. National Book Award for Fiction. This was Gaddis's first novel published when he was 32 and more than 40 years on it is at the very heart of his enviable literary reputation. While Carpenter's Gothic picks up and develops themes from Gaddis's earlier fiction, this much shorter and relatively accessible novel proved the most commercially and critically successful work of the three he had thus far published. William Gaddis stands among the greatest American writers of the twentieth century. The winner of two National Book Awards (for *J R* [1976] and *A Frolic of His Own* [1995]), he wrote five novels during his lifetime, including *Carpenter's Gothic* (1985), *Agap Agape* (published posthumously in 2002), and his early masterpiece *The Recognitions* (1955). 100 Best First Lines from Novels. 1. Call Me Ishmael. —Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick* (1851) 2. It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife. The American Book Review's 100 Best Last Lines from Novels.

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