

# Sorry, Alfred Coppel: A Master of Science Fiction and Westerns

Alfred Coppel was born in New York City in 1921. He began writing at a young age, and his first novel, *The Last Hero*, was published in 1948. Coppel went on to write over 50 novels and 300 short stories in the science fiction and western genres.



## I'm Sorry. by Alfred Coppel

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 474 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 9 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Coppel's science fiction novels are known for their fast-paced plots, vivid characters, and thought-provoking themes. His most famous science fiction novel, *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*, was published in 1966 and won the Hugo Award for Best Novel. The novel tells the story of a group of rebels who fight for independence from the oppressive Lunar Authority.

Coppel's westerns are also known for their fast-paced plots and vivid characters. His most famous western novel, *The Town That Dreaded*

*Sundown*, was published in 1948 and was made into a film in 1949. The novel tells the story of a small town that is terrorized by a group of outlaws.

Coppel was a master of both the science fiction and western genres. His novels and short stories are full of action, adventure, and thought-provoking themes. He was a prolific writer who produced a large body of work that continues to be enjoyed by readers today.

## **Early Life and Career**

Alfred Coppel was born in New York City on November 19, 1921. His father was a businessman, and his mother was a homemaker. Coppel began writing at a young age, and he published his first short story in a science fiction magazine when he was just 16 years old.

After graduating from high school, Coppel attended college for two years. He then dropped out of college to pursue a career in writing. Coppel's early writing career was interrupted by World War II. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945.

After the war, Coppel returned to writing. He published his first novel, *The Last Hero*, in 1948. The novel was a success, and it helped to launch Coppel's career as a novelist.

## **Science Fiction Novels**

Coppel wrote over 30 science fiction novels, including *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*, *The Long Tomorrow*, and *The Inheritors*. His science fiction novels are known for their fast-paced plots, vivid characters, and thought-provoking themes.

*The Moon is a Harsh Mistress* is considered Coppel's masterpiece. The novel tells the story of a group of rebels who fight for independence from the oppressive Lunar Authority. The novel was a critical and commercial success, and it won the Hugo Award for Best Novel in 1967.

*The Long Tomorrow* is another one of Coppel's most famous science fiction novels. The novel tells the story of a group of astronauts who are sent on a mission to explore a distant planet. The astronauts discover that the planet is inhabited by a race of intelligent aliens. The novel explores the themes of first contact and the relationship between humans and aliens.

*The Inheritors* is a science fiction novel that tells the story of a group of humans who are stranded on a planet inhabited by a race of intelligent apes. The humans must learn to adapt to their new environment and survive against the apes.

## **Western Novels**

Coppel also wrote over 20 western novels, including *The Town That Dreaded Sundown*, *The Gunfighter*, and *The Last Cowboy*. His western novels are known for their fast-paced plots, vivid characters, and realistic settings.

*The Town That Dreaded Sundown* is Coppel's most famous western novel. The novel tells the story of a small town that is terrorized by a group of outlaws. The townspeople must band together to defend themselves against the outlaws.

*The Gunfighter* is another one of Coppel's most famous western novels. The novel tells the story of a gunfighter who comes to a small town and

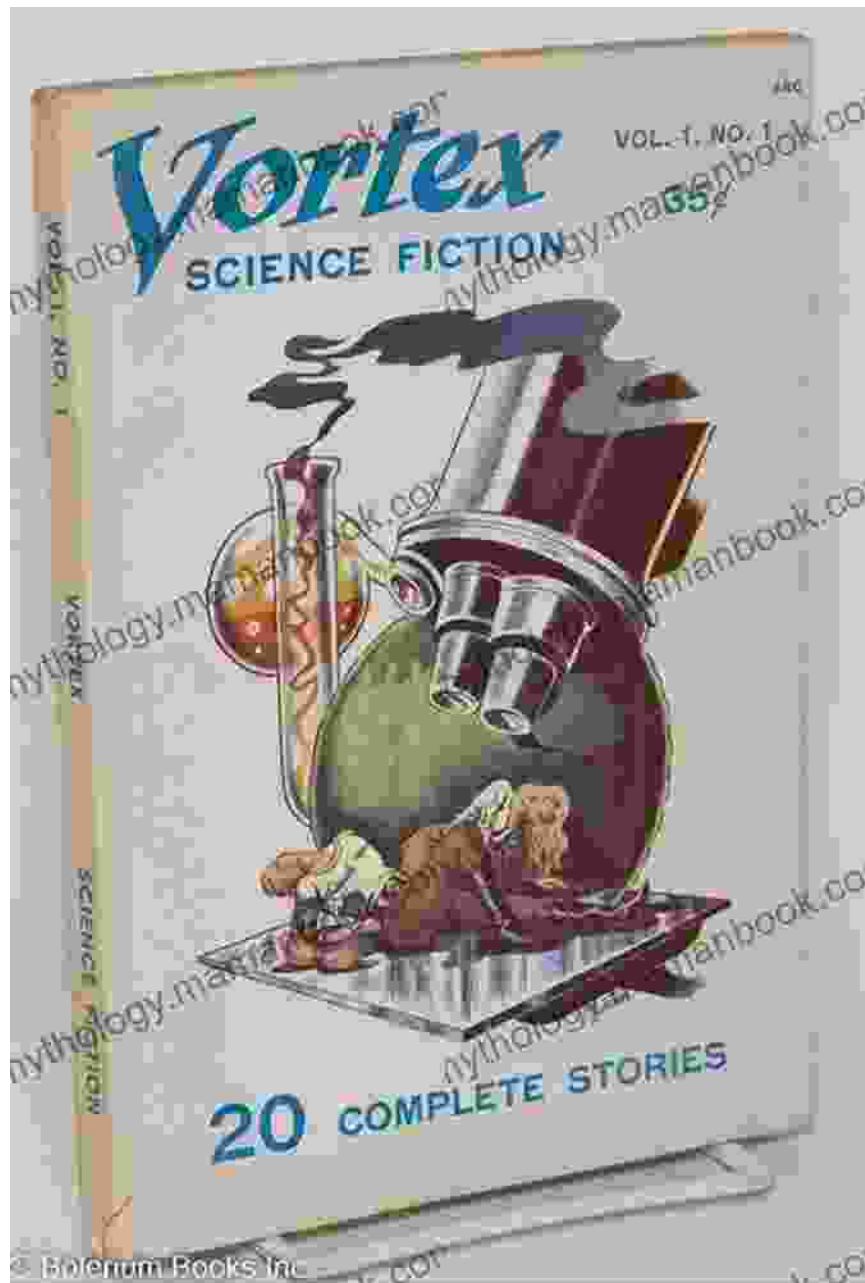
takes on the town's corrupt sheriff. The novel explores the themes of violence and redemption.

*The Last Cowboy* is a western novel that tells the story of a young cowboy who is trying to make his way in the world. The novel explores the themes of the American frontier and the changing role of the cowboy.

## **Legacy**

Alfred Coppel was a master of both the science fiction and western genres. His novels and short stories are full of action, adventure, and thought-provoking themes. He was a prolific writer who produced a large body of work that continues to be enjoyed by readers today.

Coppel died in 2004 at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and his two children, Alfred Jr. and Kathleen.



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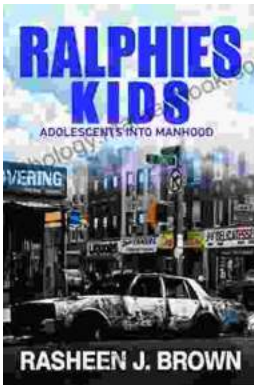
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