

The Vance Integral Edition, Incorporated
6383 Valley View Road
Oakland, California 94611

Dear Librarian or Curator,

You have received this letter because a patron or alumni of your institution feels that your library or collection would be an excellent home for a set of the complete works of the American author Jack Vance. Before you read on, let us assure you that there is neither cost nor fee associated with this gift: the set is donated through the interest and generosity of the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation.

Jack Vance has been writing mysteries, science fiction, and fantasy since 1945. He has written some 120 titles, 4 million words. In the course of his career he has received the Nebula Award, a Science Fiction Grand Master Award, and an Edgar. Despite this, he is not well known to modern readers in part because so few of his works remain in print.

In 1999, an international group of fans of Jack Vance formed the Vance Integral Edition, whose charter was to publicize the work of Jack Vance by printing all of his works in a single edition. The works were to be sold by subscription, and all research, editing, typesetting was to be performed by volunteers working together on the Internet. Some 250 people in 9 countries worked from 1999 until mid-2006 towards this goal. The 44 volume set was printed and bound professionally, with love, in Milan. Some 500 sets were sold via the subscription mechanism.

Almost 50 sets, however, were purchased in 2000 by the Paul Allen Foundation. Mr. Allen, a Microsoft founder, has been a long-time fan of Jack Vance. He wanted to provide support to the Vance Integral Edition and also make available a number of sets to be donated to libraries and similar institutions so that the sets would be accessible to the general public. To a great extent, this plan has worked. Sets have been donated to many major libraries, among them the Library of Congress, the British Library, the National Library of Wales, and the University of California libraries.

Now, some individual familiar with your institution has nominated you to receive a set. If you would like to receive the set, and will provide an ordinary donation letter you need only contact Ms. Betty Mayfield <BettyM@vulcan.com>. For additional information, contact me: rc_lacovara@earthlink.net. We will make shipping arrangements with you, at our expense.

More information on us is available at <http://www.integralarchive.org/index.htm>.

For the Vance Integral Edition,

/Robert C. Lacovara/