

In reaction to the burgeoning industrial blight of late 19th century America, the author flees from the big city with a scheme to write a book. It is to be about idyllic life on a small island off the coast of Eastern Connecticut. He finagles a tiny piece of land surrounded by water and hires a local hotel keeper/carpenter to construct a small two-story cabin. To transport him back and forth from the fishing and shipbuilding village of Noank, he finds a local rigger to knock together a little sailing skiff. The potential for this Thoreauvian plan begins to fray, however, when he invites two women. Neither is the wife or daughter he has left back in the Midwest. All seems well until arrives another guest and his wife and maid. The restless man whom he here calls "Tom" is in reality nonetheless than the future great of American letters, Theodore Dreiser. To add to the mix Arthur Henry imports three Noank cats. *(Continued inside back)*



"The most memorable assistance, however, was provided by Noank's own Dreiser expert, the man who rowed me out to that very small rock on which Arthur Henry and Dreiser had lived in an island cabin, Stephen Jones of Mystic, Connecticut."

PROFESSOR ROBERT COLTRANE, EDITOR, *TWELVE MEN*
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Quirk Island Boat Club burgee by Jessica M. Jones
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