

Eye on Ebay

The Games People Played

By Doug Hopkinson

Once again we return to the collector's paradise that is Ebay. This time I thought we'd look at some vintage board games that were developed with old time radio personalities, shows or characters as their main focus. It is surprising how many of these games there were. It is even more surprising how many survived the years and the prices they are commanding today in a world where board games are considered to be, well, boring.



The screenshot shows an eBay product page for a vintage board game. At the top left is the eBay logo. Below it is a navigation bar with categories: CATEGORIES, FASHION, MOTORS, DEALS, and CLASSIFIEDS. A breadcrumb trail reads: Back to Search Results | Toys & Hobbies > Games > Board & Traditional Games > Family Games > Pre-1970. The main title of the listing is "VINTAGE 1936 EDDIE CANTOR'S TELL IT TO THE JUDGE GAME". The item condition is "Used". The time left is "5d 21h (May 25, 2011 08:19:01 PDT)". The bid history shows "0 bids". The starting bid is "US \$0.99". There is a text input field for "Your max bid" with a "Place bid" button. Below the bid field is an "Add to Watch list" button. A green banner indicates "Bucks You'll earn \$0.02 in eBay Bucks. See conditions". Shipping is listed as "\$9.85 Expedited Shipping | See all details". Delivery is estimated between "Wed. Jun. 1 and Fri. Jun. 3". The "Pay later" option is "Bill Me Later: Get more time to pay on this purchase Subject to credit approval. See terms". Returns are listed as "No Returns Accepted". On the left side of the listing, there is a photograph of the game box and board. The box art features a man in a suit, Eddie Cantor, with the text "NEW GAME" and "Tell it to the Judge". The board shows a game board with a large number "100" and a picture of a man.

Let's take a look at the first candidate for your consideration. This is a vintage game from Parker Brothers. It's called Tell it to the Judge. The box says Eddie Cantor's new game. Beyond being a vehicle to sell the game, Eddie has nothing to do with it. If you think the picture on the box is scary, check out the game board.



Now that's downright creepy but ninety-nine cents isn't a bad price for a nice Eddie Cantor collectible.

The next game is based on a comic strip that became a radio show. The Gumps ran from 1934-1937 and was first broadcast on WGN Chicago. Agnes Moorehead was in it. This is a 1938 Milton Bradley game. Is it worth \$200.00? Only if someone is willing to pay it.



CATEGORIES FASHION MOTORS DEALS CLASSIFIEDS

Back to Search Results | Toys & Hobbies > Vintage & Antique Toys > Character



1930's Chester Gump Game #5031 City of Gold Rare

Item condition: --

Price: **US \$200.00** [Buy It Now](#)

or

Best Offer: [Make Offer](#)

[Add to Watch list](#)

Bucks You'll earn **\$4.00** in **eBay Bucks**. [See conditions](#)

Shipping: **\$6.50** Expedited Shipping | [See all details](#)

Delivery: Estimated between **Tue. May. 24** and **Wed. May. 25**

Pay later: **Bill Me Later** Get **more time to pay** on this purchase
Subject to credit approval. [See terms](#)

Returns: 7 day money back, buyer pays return shipping | [Read details](#)

Next up, the always and ever-popular, Lone Ranger. He made all sorts of people wealthy. At \$49.95 this 1938 Parker Brothers game won't make the seller rich but it's better than nothing.



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This next game is interesting. It's "Kate Smith's own game, AMERICA". Made in 1944 by Toy Creations, nothing says patriotic like Kate Smith's America. Own it for \$125.00, then sing about it. It even comes with a color photo of Kate. That's what I'm talkin' about!



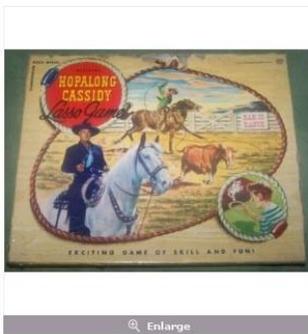
Rare Kate Smith's Own Game AMERICA 1930's w/Color Photo

Item condition: --

Price: **US \$125.00**[Buy It Now](#)[Add to Watch list](#)**Bucks** You'll earn **\$2.50 in eBay Bucks**. [See conditions](#)Shipping: **FREE** Economy Shipping | [See all details](#)Delivery: Estimated between **Tue. May. 24** and **Thu. Jun. 2**Pay later: **Bill Me Later** Get **more time to pay** on this purchase
Subject to credit approval. [See terms](#)Returns: 7 day money back, buyer pays return shipping | [Read details](#)

eBay Buyer Protection

Covers your purchase price plus original shipping.

[Learn more](#)

HOPALONG CASSIDY LASSO GAME

Item condition: **Used**

Time left: 17d 18h (Jun 06, 2011 06:38:02 PDT)

Price: **US \$160.00**[Buy It Now](#)

or

Best Offer:

[Make Offer](#)[Add to Watch list](#)**Bucks** You'll earn **\$3.20 in eBay Bucks**. [See conditions](#)Shipping: **\$33.10** Expedited Shipping [See more services](#) | [See all details](#)Delivery: Estimated between **Wed. May. 25** and **Thu. May. 26**Pay later: **Bill Me Later** Get **more time to pay** on this purchase
Subject to credit approval. [See terms](#)Returns: **No Returns Accepted**

Moving on, we come to another beloved Western star, Hopalong Cassidy and his Lasso game. Produced in 1950 by Transogram this game featured a 7-1/2" tall plastic Hoppy on his horse Topper. You stand them up in the center of the game board and players take turns tossing little lasso shaped ropes at them. For just \$160.00 you could re-live your little buckaroo childhood.

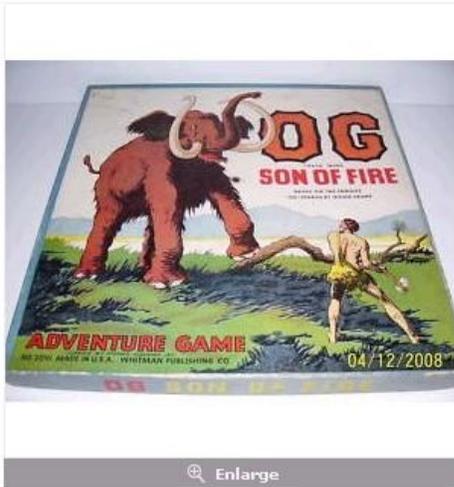
Up next we have a game based on the books and one of radio show collectors most sought after program, Og, Son of Fire. Produced by Whitman in the 1930's this game will set you back in time and also in your bank account. Do the transcription discs of Og really exist or are they just a myth? We may never know the truth but the game is right here. Buy it now! You can't afford not to.



CATEGORIES FASHION MOTORS DEALS CLASSIFIEDS

Back to Search Results | Toys & Hobbies > Vintage & Antique Toys > Character

Added to your Watch list



1930's Og Son of Fire Game Super Rare

Item condition: --

Price: **US \$550.00**

Buy It Now

or

Best Offer:

Make Offer

Add to list

Added to your Watch list

Bucks You'll earn **\$11.00** in **eBay Bucks**. See conditions

Shipping: **\$15.00** Expedited Shipping | See all details

Delivery: Estimated between **Tue. May. 24** and **Wed. May. 25**

Pay later: **BillMeLater** Get **more time to pay** on this purchase
Subject to credit approval. See terms

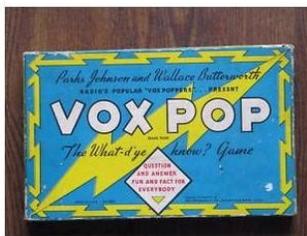
Returns: 7 day money back, buyer pays return shipping | Read details

Lastly, we have a game based on the long running radio program Vox Pop. For \$50.00 you can own a game that has questions you'll need a research team to answer. If you're in the market for this particular game, shop around. This author bought one for \$7.00 last year.



CATEGORIES FASHION MOTORS DEALS CLASSIFIEDS

Back to Search Results | Toys & Hobbies > Games > Board & Traditional Games > Family Games > Pre-1970



1938 VOX POP & Wing's Spelling Bee Games. + MORE

Item condition: --

Price: **US \$49.99**

Buy It Now

or

Best Offer:

Make Offer

Add to Watch list

Bucks You'll earn **\$1.00** in **eBay Bucks**. See conditions

Shipping: **\$18.00** Economy Shipping | See all details

Delivery: Estimated between **Wed. Jun. 8** and **Tue. Jun. 21**

Pay later: **BillMeLater** Get **more time to pay** on this purchase
Subject to credit approval. See terms

Returns: No Returns Accepted

There are many, many more radio related board games out there. Do your own searching on Ebay and you'll see.