

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

The Bibliophile's Journal about Miniature Books & Book Arts, Branchburg, NJ

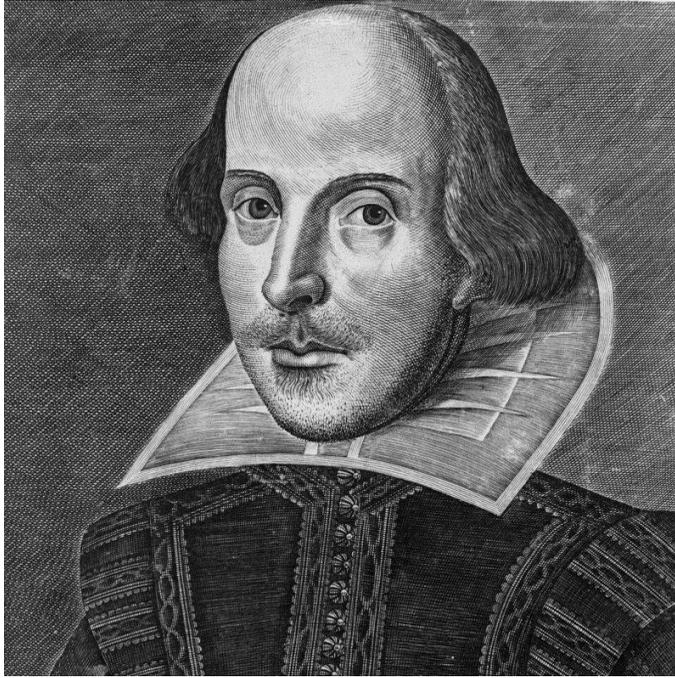
Volume XLII Number 4 Issue 244 July - August 2023



*Hazy, Hot, and Humid...  
The World Over*

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courtesy of bing.com

## *William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)*

William Shakespeare, English playwright, poet and actor is widely regarded as the greatest English language writer and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon" (or simply "the Bard"). The Bard's work, including collaborations, consist of some 39 plays, 154 sonnets, three long narrative poems, and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright. Shakespeare remains arguably the most influential writer in the English language, and his works continue to be studied and reinterpreted to this day and certainly into the future years.

Bradbury's *20<sup>th</sup> Century U.S. Miniature Books* lists forty miniatures written by Shakespeare. The list of publishers includes Barbara Raheb, Hurdy-Gurdy Press, Hillside Press, Black Cat Press, Mosaic Press, Pequeno Press, Borrower's Press, Poole Press, Bronte Press, Wind and Harlot Press, Anne and David Bromer, Grey Goose Press, and many more. Clearly a very popular author as noted by just the American publishes. The list is even larger when expanded beyond North America and the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Perhaps that would make a great ongoing series for *The Microbibliophile* in the future.

Your turn. 📖

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The Bibliophile's Journal about Miniature Books & Book Arts, Branchburg, NJ

Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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Volume XLII, Number 4 Issue Number 243 July - August 2023

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## THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE

53 Dreahook Road, Branchburg, NJ, U.S.A.  
Sherry Mayo, Publisher, James M. Brogan, Editor  
James M. Brogan © 2023

## Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

Summer reins until September 21; tomatoes fill the garden along with the zucchini and cucumbers. The bounty of the garden is always a good thing. There are memories of so many previous harvests, so many BLT sandwiches, corn on the cob feasts, strawberry shortcakes, and eating raspberries by the handful. Life goes on for sure and we all need to take stock on where we are and in what direction we want to go. Our family vacation at the Race Point lighthouse, on Cape Cod, was an adventure that the children will surely remember; sunrises, fishing, eagles, smore's, and sunsets. A little reading time but not as much fun as the outdoor shower.



In the last issue we showcased several different editions from the typical schoolhouse copy to the very rare and expensive. Caroline Brandt provided me with some additional publications that can be added to the list of 'The Rubaiyt'. Additionally, as a miniature book wizard of data, Caroline provided several additional titles (that were not included in the list of miniatures) that include postage stamps as 'tipped-in' features.

Plum Park Press (Tony Firman) has published *Sketches and Cartoons*. Next on the review list is a book about book collectors, from Booksby Press (Todd Sommerfeld), *Book Culture VIII*. Also included is a brief review of a micro-miniature from Booksby. There are three books by Rebecca Press in the review section. Nina Mazzo flips back the pages of time with some interesting reflections from the MBN as well as a new feature, 'The Book Collector'. Rebecca Bingham has also contributed her silver pen to the issue with a Bradbury 100 review. Once again Gail Curry has provided an excellent article, based on her contribution, a selection about miniature book reference books. The world of miniature books is as broad as all the oceans and the list of informational topics is almost endless.

The next three books on the 'Bradbury 100' that are included in this issue should certainly be of interest to you as they are all rare gems of the miniature book world, each special to me.

I am 'all eyes and ears' as the expression goes. I would love to have some more subscribers write articles; they are the best. Your ideas are always welcome.

In closing, my message is simple. Your support and interest are what keeps the ink flowing. *The Microbibliophile* is a publication of all things "miniature bookish" something new, something old, friends and book friends, and always, I hope, something of interest for you. Thank you again for providing a place, in your home, for the journal. It is my joy and a privilege to produce it for you. 📖

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

George W. Bush, born 1946,  
43<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States,  
2001 - 2009

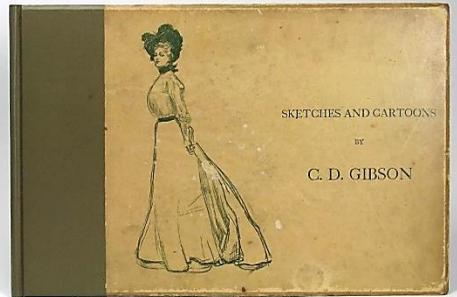
“We will not waver; we will not tire; we will not falter,  
and we will not fail. Peace and Freedom will  
prevail.”



*(in keeping with USPS regulations, postage stamps are not created for ‘still living’ persons)*

## MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS:

***SKETCHES and CARTOONS***, by Charles Dana Gibson, published by Plum Park Press, 2023, Tony Firman, Publisher. The original volume was published in 1900 by the R. H. Russel Company in New York. Gibson [1867 - 1944] was a prolific American illustrator. He was best known for his creation of the ‘Gibson Girl’, an iconic figure and representation of the beautiful and independent Euro-American woman at the turn of the 20th century with his ‘pen and ink’ drawings. Many of his early illustrations were originally published in Life Magazine where he eventually became the Editor and owner in 1918.



*Original publication cover image*



The miniature publication of *Sketches and Cartoons* consists of 100 finely printed pages including the 88 illustrations that were originally published in 1900. The 3" x 3" book is bound in a maroon book cloth with a printed label affixed to the spine. The front and rear endpapers carry the illustration, ‘The Latest Nobelman’, printed in maroon ink.

*Sketches and Cartoons* was published in July and is a limited edition of 20 copies, priced a \$45 plus shipping. Contact the publisher for availability and shipping details. Excellent workmanship and excellent content. 📖

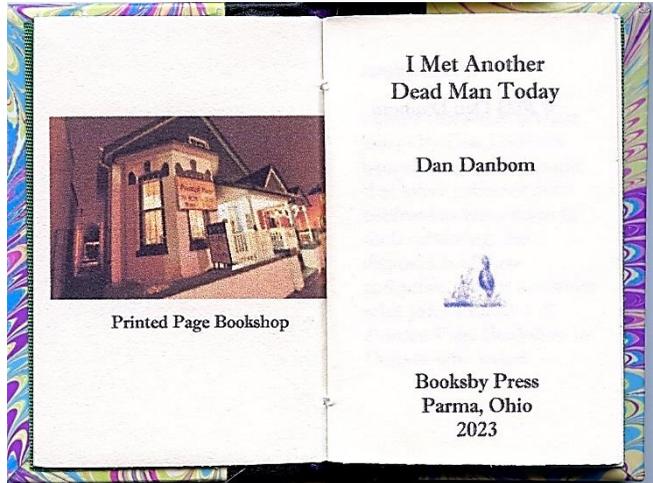
Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787

E-mail: [TonyFirmanbook@gmail.com](mailto:TonyFirmanbook@gmail.com)

website: [https://Plum Park Press \(tonyfirmanbookbinding.com\)](https://PlumParkPress.com)



*front cover*



*printed frontispiece and title page*

***BOOK CULTURE VIII, I Met Another Dead Man Today***, by Dan Danbom, published by Booksby Press, 2023, Todd Sommerfeld, Publisher. The ‘Book Culture’ series is an ongoing feature from Booksby, the publisher steps a bit out of order with VIII preceding VII due to some production issues. From the Introduction, Todd shares his decision and reason to publish a series of short stories by Danborn, who is a co-owner of the Printed Page Book shop in Denver. The stories span the gamut of what may or may not happen to our book collections when we are gone.

The stories are sometimes sympathetic, sometimes humorous, and sometime piteous. Each story starts with the same line, ‘I met another dead man today’. What that actually means is the author was introduced to the deceased by nature of their book collection that someone, a relative, spouse, friend, or lawyer wanted to liquidate at the bookshop.

Such as George who marked his name on the same page of every book. The next man’s wife kept his collection for ten years as they reminded her of him. Another collection went to a cousin, and then to a neighbor and then a stranger. Brad’s wife called the bookshop owner to her house to view the large collection with many inscriptions. ‘Tom, Dick and Harry’, some well-maintained

collections, some not so well cared for, but the stories are always the same, most people did not have any plan set in place for their beloved collection of books after they passed.

It is an interesting set of short stories and certainly a book about books with a subject that I have not seen in book format previously.

The miniature's text, 66 pages are printed with the 8 pt. 'Imprint MT Shadow' font, laser printed on high-quality paper. The binding size is  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ", to match the first six books in the series. The actual binding covers for this volume are made in violet, green, and white marbled paper by Jones Violet and the spine is covered in a faux black leather with the title printed in gold coordinating with the other books in the series. The inside covers are done with a coordinated green cloth.

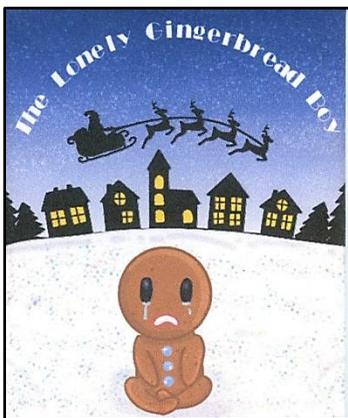
Included before the colophon is a brief biography of the author and a list of his other publications.

The edition is limited to 200 copies, \$25.00. Excellent workmanship and an excellent series subject. Books about books, always a favorite and always great stories. Contact Todd for availability and shipping considerations. 📖

*Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, 6475 Ridge Road, #1, Parma, Ohio, 44129*

E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com), website: <https://booksbypress.com>

*Editor's Note: The Lonely Gingerbread Boy was first published in 2019 and reviewed in Volume XXXVIII, Number 2 issue of The Microbibliophile. The original publication was a traditionally sized miniature book. Recently, Booksby has ventured into the world of micro-miniature books, this edition being 1" x 7/8" x priced at \$25. Quite an accomplishment to print books this small. The original review follows:*



*Front Cover*



*Joey meets Anna*

***The Lonely Gingerbread Boy***, by Wendell Sommerfeld, published by Booksby Press, 2018.

I think this is may be a first, a father and son team as author and publisher. Congratulations!

The author who was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, has been writing since 2010, but this is his first book. Andie Brown, a young British graphic artist who has loved drawing from her early childhood, created the illustrations.

The story is about Joey, a small gingerbread boy who lives at the North Pole and because of his size, he did not have many friends. He asked Santa if he could make him a friend. Santa replied with a laugh, "You cannot make friends out of wood; you have to make them with a kind heart".

The story progresses and Joey meets a young gingerbread girl named Anna, who is also sad. They agree to be friends. Later that night, they heard Santa getting ready to deliver the Christmas toys. He saw the two and noticed they were smiling. Then he asked if they would like to come along and help deliver the toys. Thrilled, they climbed aboard with their bright smiles gleaming. Til this very day, if you look closely at Santa's sleigh, you will see Santa, Joey, and Anna all riding along and smiling. "The End".

Just a short story that is not too complicated so it is perfect for the young reader. As noted on the dust jacket's rear side, in a quote from Ellen in Long Island, "This sweet story winds around your heart, like cinnamon spaghetti with a side of syrup".

The book is hardbound and presented with a full color dust jacket. It contains 23 numbered pages and measures [the original] 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>". The title is gold stamped into the bright red book cloth binding. The front and rear endpapers are printed with images of Christmas trees and gingerbread boys and girls. The illustrations follow the storyline with one on each verso page, 10 in total, with the text on the recto pages. The book is printed on an 80# Strathmore drawing paper utilizing a 6-

point Bookman Old Style font. The edition is limited to 200 copies and is priced at \$25. Contact the publisher for availability and shipping charges 📖

Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, BooksBy Press, 6475 Ridge Road #1, Parma, OH 44129  
E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com)

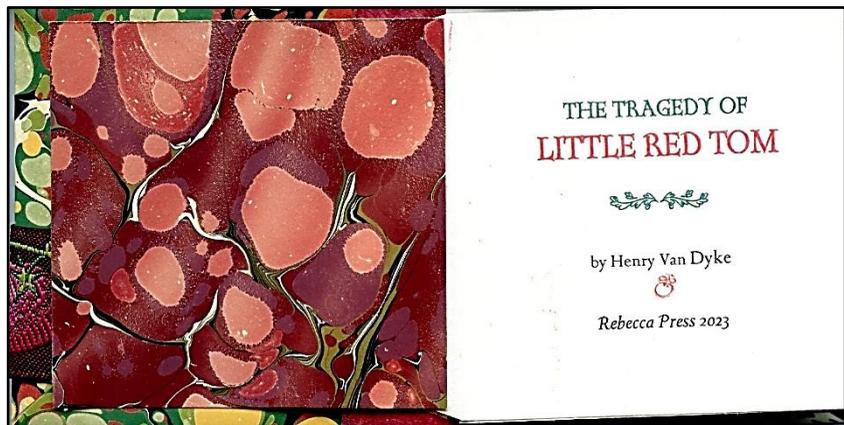
**LITTLE RED TOM**, by Henry Van Dyke, [1852 - 1933], an American poet, writer, and essayist as well as college professor and statesman. This miniature was published by Rebecca Press, 2023, Rebecca Bingham, Publisher. The beauty of the world of miniature books is that there is always something to learn, something new, something ‘WOW’.

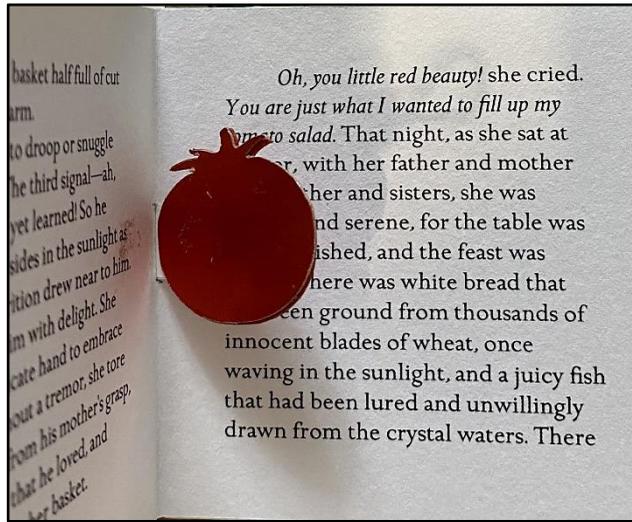
Henry Van Dyke is one of those people. The original story is titled *The Tragedy of Little Red Tom*, and was written as an essay as part of a larger collection published by Charles Scribner in 1907, *Days Off and Other Degressions*. Ash Ranch Press published another version of ‘Little Tom’ in 1988, with both regular and deluxe bindings, neither of which your editor has seen, other than in pictures.

‘Little Tom’ is a most delightful read both as a children’s story as well as a ‘days off and other degressions’ read for an adult. An extra special story for anyone who has been a vegetable gardener and a cultivator of those plump red things we call tomatoes. ‘Little Tom’ outlines the life of that great garden resident. Early on the text provides the reader with some important information about Tom: “*You have guessed that he was called ‘red’ on account of his colour. It was a family trait. All his brothers had it; and strange to say they were all proud of it.*” The story goes on to explain how Tom is guided by his mother to enjoy the raindrops, sometimes take some shade from the big leaves, and enjoy life to grow. “*Grow my Tommykin, grow! But don’t try to grow red, first you must grow big*”.

The story goes on through the summer of Tom’s life until that day when a ‘fair creature’ walked through the garden, picked Tom and the next thing he knew he was the center of attention, the showpiece of the dinner salad.

The miniature is an outstanding example of the creativity and workmanship of the publisher. The front and rear covers, 2½" x 2½" are bound in a multi-colored paper, the front cover wrapped with an embroidered red ribbon.





The spine is fashioned from leather. The front and rear cover endpapers are bound with coordinated red paper. The 8 pt. text of the miniature, the 27 pages, is printed on a heavy premium paper that allows the text block to move freely as it is opened and handled. As you read and turn the pages there are three 'pop-up images of 'Tom' as he grows from a little green to a large red tomato.

The price for this unique book is \$80. The review copy was signed and numbered (#5) by the publisher. An outstanding miniature book. Contact Rebecca for availability and shipping charges. 📖

*Contact information: Rebecca Bingham, 6805 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782-1439*

*E-mail: serous39202@mypacks.net*

*website: Rebecca Press Miniature Books*



***ANNABEL LEE***, by Edgar Allan Poe, published, as a miniature, by Rebecca Press, 2021, Rebecca Bingham Publisher. The original poem was written by Poe as his last complete poem in 1849. The poem's narrator, who fell in love with Annabel Lee when they were young, has a love for her so strong that even the angels in heaven are envious. He retains his love for her after her death. There has been ongoing scholastic discussion over who, if anyone, was the inspiration for "Annabel Lee". That discussion we will leave for another venue.

*image (L) of three copies, to show detail, courtesy of the publisher's website, Rebecca Press Miniature Books*

*Annabel Lee* is presented as a round book with 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" ceramic buttons utilized as the front and rear covers. The front cover button displays a lighthouse blue seashore scene. The coordinated blue endpapers, by Jemma Lewis, bring to mind the blowing foam of a sea wave as it crests before landing on the shore. The text of the poem is printed on 12 pages of ivory embossed paper.

The poem is without a doubt a powerful poem. I am sure that I read and discussed this in both my high school and college classes, many years ago. However, I do not recall being as impressed with the poem then as I am now. Like so much of the work of Poe there is a dark side in the words and at the same time there is a certain joy to behold in the words that define the love of love and the love between two people. The joy of the sea and the joy of the moon beams, the bright eyes of the night's stars... Maybe a bit of age lets one understand the message of strong love, love that can be as strong as the waves of the sea. I thought it would be a nice reading moment to share the words of the poet with you on the following page.

The price for this unique book is \$95; seven copies in the edition. The review copy was signed by the publisher. Contact Rebecca for availability and shipping charges. Five stars for creativity and bringing together such a wonderful miniature book. 📖

Contact information: Rebecca Bingham, 6805 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782-1439  
E-mail: [serous39202@mypacks.net](mailto:serous39202@mypacks.net)  
website: [https:// Rebecca Press Miniature Books](https://RebeccaPressMiniatureBooks)

## *ANNABELL LEE*

*It was many and many a year ago,  
In a kingdom by the sea,  
That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
By the name of Annabel Lee;  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
Than to love and be loved by me.*

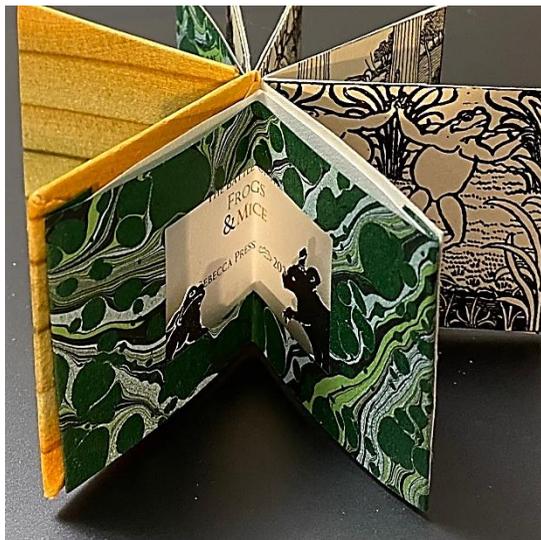
*I was a child and she was a child,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
But we loved with a love that was more than love—  
I and my Annabel Lee—  
With a love that the winged seraphs of Heaven  
Coveted her and me.*

*And this was the reason that, long ago,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling  
My beautiful Annabel Lee;  
So that her highborn kinsmen came  
And bore her away from me,  
To shut her up in a sepulcher  
In this kingdom by the sea.*

*The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,  
Went envying her and me—  
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,  
In this kingdom by the sea)  
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,  
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.*

*But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
Of those who were older than we—  
Of many far wiser than we—  
And neither the angels in Heaven above  
Nor the demons down under the sea  
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;*

*For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,  
In her sepulcher there by the sea—  
In her tomb by the sounding sea.*



*FROGS and MICE*, was published by Rebecca Press, 2021, Rebecca Bingham, Publisher. Sometimes ideas arise from old ideas and take on a new vision and sometimes books are created from other books. Certainly not rising from the ashes like the mythological phoenix bird but from something comes something new.

The colophon of *Frogs and Mice* explains in detail that “Thirty years ago, Don Hildreth (Ash Ranch Press) sent me a rather tattered copy of the *Battle of the Frogs & Mice*. The printing and illustrations were lovely, and I always figured I’d try to incorporate some of it into a project. This little book features 5 different headpieces that rotate throughout the original book. I was able to salvage enough for 5 copies.” (for this miniature)

*image courtesy of the publisher’s website,  
Rebecca Press 2020 + - Rebecca Press Miniature Books*

*Frogs and Mice* remains a classic story. The miniature is an accordion book 2-1/8" x 2-1/8" that when opened forms a wheel as is illustrated in the above photo. The front and rear covers are bound in a festive orange paste paper by Madelaine Durham. The front and rear endpapers are printed in a green marbled paper created by Jemma Lewis.



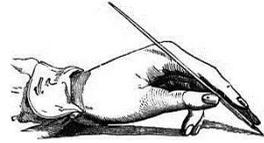
*Everyone seems to be having a good time’ Illustration from text*

The price for this unique book is \$45. Well Done. Contact Rebecca for availability and shipping charges. 📖

Contact information: Rebecca Bingham, 6805 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782-1439  
E-mail: [serous39202@mypacks.net](mailto:serous39202@mypacks.net)  
website: <https://Rebecca Press Miniature Books>

## PLEASE CONSIDER WRITING AN ARTICLE FOR *THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE*:

Please consider sharing your thoughts and ideas. Your input is always welcome at the Editor's squeaky desk. *The Microbibliophile* was conceived for the sharing of passion for all things related to miniature books and book arts.



Over the many issues of *The Microbibliophile* several fellow collectors have shared their passion about the world of miniature books by contributed articles. I am proud to have so many fine people on the 'staff'. I could not do it without your help! It is always a journey of joy and learning.

We can brainstorm together! Composing, proofreading, and nudging are always available. 📖

### ERRATUM,

#### Additions vs. Errors,

**One thing leads to another when you poke your head into the rabbit hole:**

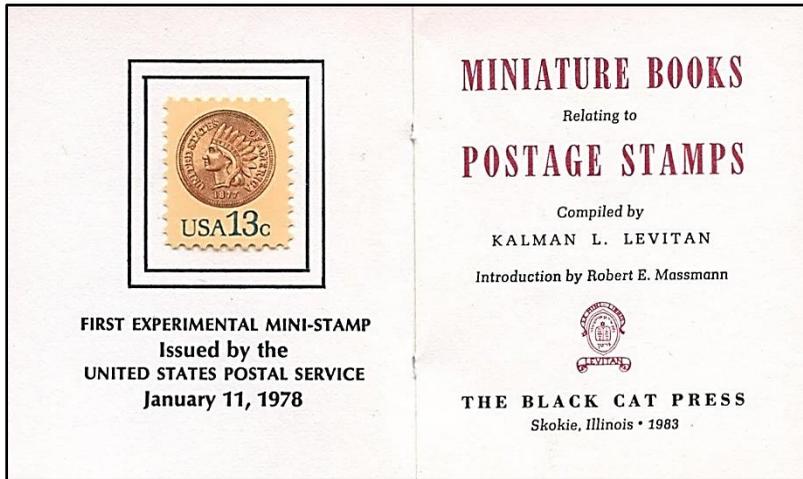
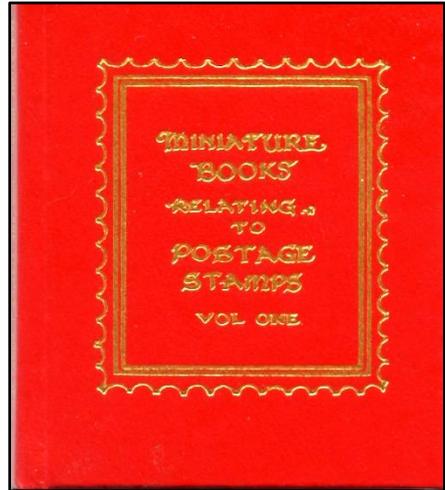
Caroline Brandt provided the following list of miniature books that include postage stamps as 'tipped-in' with the editions:

*Mayday 1990*, I. C.I.S. Postal Administration, 1990  
*The Inverted Jenny*, El Camino Real Press, 2015  
*Greatest Show On Earth*, Junipero Serra Press, 2017  
*D.C. Portals*, Rebecca Press 2018  
*Theodore Hesburgh C.S.C.*, El Camino Real Press, 2018  
*Marshes of Glynn*, Adreian Press, 2018  
*George Washington*, El Camino Real Press, 2020  
*Trains On Postage Stamps*, Mystical Places Press, 2020  
*First In Flight*, Opensky Press, 2023  
*Frigate*, Carol Schwartzott, 2023

*One-Of-A-Kind Topical Miniature Stamp Album*, REM, 1992

The list that was published in the May-June issue of *The Microbibliophile* was a reprint that was originally published in 1982 and written by my Rabbi Levitan, an early supporter of The Miniature Book Society, as well as former President of that organization.

Rabbi Kalman L. Levitan also wrote an extensive study of *Miniature Books Relating to Postage Stamps*, published by The Black Cat Press, Norman Forgue, Publisher, two volumes, in 1983, bound by Bella Blau. The first volume also includes a postage stamp, the first experimental mini-stamp issued by the United States Postal Service on January 11, 1978. The Introduction to this title was written by Robert E. Massmann, REM, who was also a frequent user of tipped-in postage stamps in his publications. The volumes produced by Levitan are just a storehouse of information about miniature books and postage stamps. The Introduction is finely worded by 'Bob' and in itself provides both the seasoned collector as well as the 'new-comer' with some wonderful information about about stamps, miniature books, and friendships.



*Tipped in Frontispiece and Title Page*

## Foreword

MY ACQUAINTANCE with Kalman Levitan began when his friendship with Miriam Irwin brought him in contact with her tiny books, and she set him on the trail of mine. As a fragile seedling becomes a mighty oak, this casual introduction has led to Kal becoming one of my dearest friends. His humanity and thoughtful generosity far exceed the normal limits of loving friendship.

Kal's leap into the world of miniature books was as enthusiastic as my own, a quarter of a century earlier! He

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Robert E. Massmann, a man with an elegant pen!

has accomplished marvels, but he would never tell you so.

We soon discovered a mutual fascination with philately. Kal's characteristic consuming interest has been of long standing. When he discovered the many and varied ways in which stamps and miniature books have been intermingled, he was off again, and when we charge full tilt at windmills, Kal and I both know these are earth-shattering events, and we will not be dissuaded.

It is amazing to learn the frequency with which minibooks and stamps, whose size and limitless variety make them perfect subjects for illustration, have been combined. Kal has done a

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masterful job of research and writing, and his unerring instinct led him to Norman Fergue, who always does these bijoux beautifully.

It is a privilege to commend the finished product.

Robert E. Massmann

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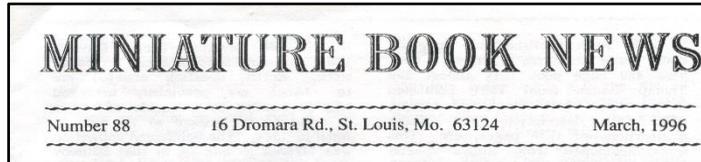
Five giants in the world of miniature books, Levitan, Irwin, Fergue, Blau, and Massmann, all connected by a stamp.

Volume Two of the published set also contains a 'reprint' of an essay/ miniature publication titled *Soliloquy of A Postage Stamp*, written by Ernest W. Brady. This too holds a place holder for a stamp of your choice to be tipped in as well.

Thank you Caroline, 'The World of Miniature Books', goes on and on. 📖

**THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS,  
Number 28, June 1972, (Is that really 50 years ago?),  
By Nina Mazzo:**

*Editor's Note: 'The Miniature Book News' was an early publication [initial issue September 1965] that was edited and published by Julian I. Edison, beginning in 1965, consolidated into the MBS Newsletter and continued to be published through 2017. Time to revisit, learn, share, enjoy, and reflect, once again. Thank you, Nina, for your continuing contribution to 'The Microbibliophile'. Memories and reflections are those things that add color to the palette of our lives.*



**MBN #28**

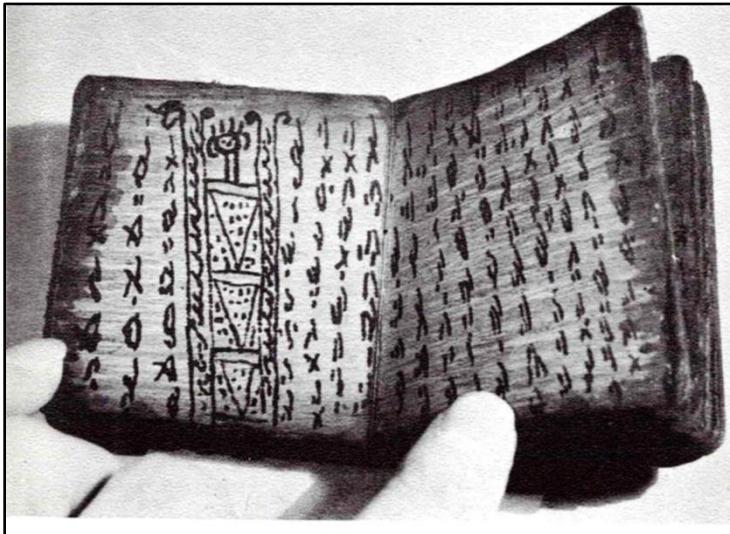
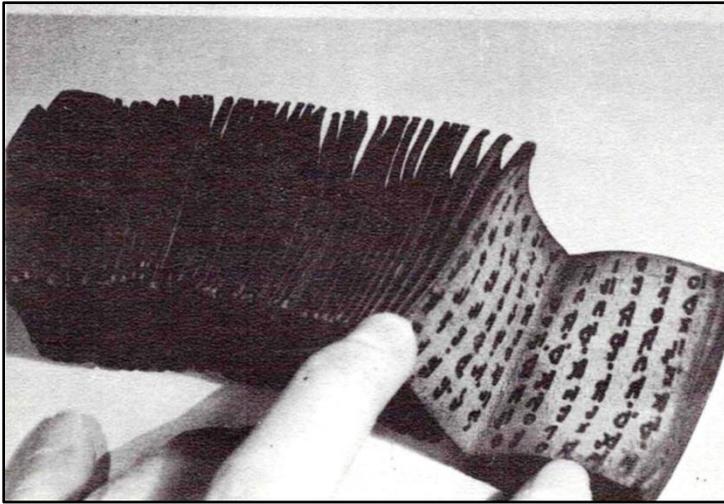
**“MICROBLIOPHILES, ONWARD!”**

I am intrigued with uncommon, obscure, and unusual books. The cover article of MBN Issue# 28, June 1972, is titled “Batak Manuscripts”. Editor Julian Edison discusses the field of Batak culture from an article written by the Reverend Harry Parkin of Fakultas Theologia, Universitas Nommensen in Sumatera, Indonesia.

Before we embark on this area of Batak Manuscripts, let's take a sidestep and learn a bit about the Batak people. The Metropolitan Museum has a fascinating article on their unique art and rituals written by Emily Caglayan, Ph.D. The Batak are located in the mountainous highlands of northern Sumatra and they are one of the largest groups in Indonesia. They are divided into six groups. The traditional communal houses have three levels with the high roof representing the upper world, the realm of the gods; the middle level or living level is where humans dwell and the space for animals below the living level represents the lower world, believed to be the home of a mythological dragon.

Let's now return to the Batak manuscript written entirely in tree bark, accordion style measuring 2¼" x 3". The books are called 'pustaha' which is a word from Sanskrit. While many Asian cultures use palm leaves as a writing material, this book using tree bark is unique. While these Batak pustahas often look older than they are, it is because they have been kept on a shelf inside the traditional house in which there is no chimney and the food is cooked on a wood fire. Also, the writing style gives the appearance of antiquity. Most are from the 19th century. The language is compressed in form and structure and because many words are known only to the author, they can be difficult to decipher. Reverend Parkin notes that each is basically a private book of the author

who is often a Batak medicine man. The contents deal mainly with various means of fortune telling, astrological calculations and the casting of spells.



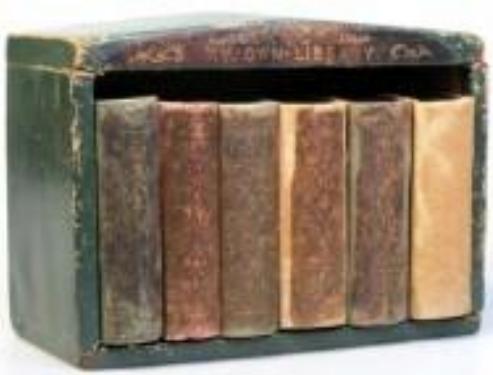
I went to the British Library website to learn a bit more and they note that these bark books were primarily written on strips of bark from the Alim tree and sometimes there is a wooden decorative cover. There was also an example of a Batak divination text incised on a bamboo container. The British Library holds a 1764 pustaha presented to them by Alexander Hall in 1764. This manuscript consists of 18 folds of tree bark and two wooden covers and if you go to the British Museum website you can read the text as it has been digitized.

<https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=1441f215ba1332a6JmldtHM9MTY5MTc5ODQwMCZpZ3VpZD0zNzYyMjAzZi00N2Q1LTZiZGMtMmMzOS0zMjJmNDZjNzZhZGImaW5zaWQ9NTIxOQ&ptm=3&hsh=3&fclid=3762203f-47d5-6bdc-2c39-322f46c76adb&psq=british+library+pustaha+book&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly9ibG9ncy5ibC51ay9hc2lhbji1hbmQtYWZyaWNhbi8yMDE2LzExL2JhdGFrLW1hbnVzY3JpcHRzLWluLXRoZS1icml0aXNoLWxpYnJhcnkuaHRtbA&ntb=1>

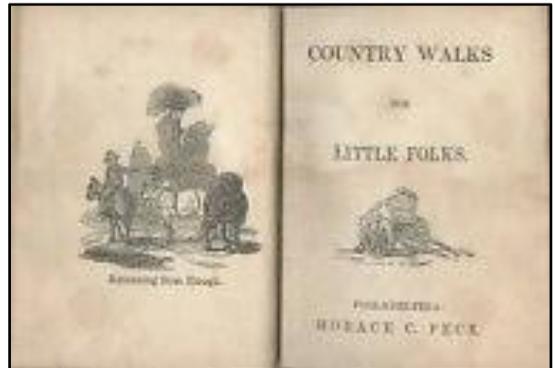
Reverend Parkin notes that these books should be seen as more than a curio as they are an expression of the Batak culture, and their thoughts and thinking are integral to the manuscript.

This MBN issue also looks at handbooks from Charles Tilt and Tilt & Bogue who produced several miniature juvenile books and almanacs in England in the early 19th century. There were 12 titles ranging from *The Little History of England* to *Robinson Crusoe* to *Country Walks for Little Folks*. (I found a set online for around \$200)

American versions of these handbooks were brought out in the early 1840's. The format is identical. The series names had changed and included several new titles with one series published by Loomis and Peck in 1845 in Philadelphia.



*SET published by Charles Tilt, London, 1840*



*Single copy published by Horace Peck, Philadelphia, 1849*

A few years later, the Peck firm changed becoming H.C. Peck and Theo. They added additional titles including *Military Heroes of America* and *Indians of America*. In 1896 The Werner Company of Chicago/New York published Little Folks Library. They include titles *Fairy Tales From Shakespeare* to *Stories From History* and *Circus Day* (found on Abe books for \$500)

Stay Curious! Always a joy. 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648  
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

## BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 3

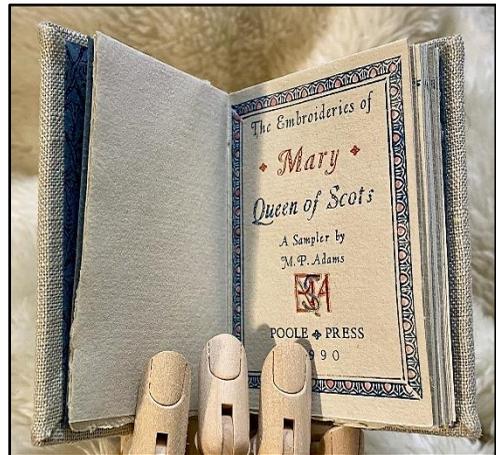
### *The Embroideries of Mary Queen of Scots*, by Maryline Poole Adams:

In addition to being an extraordinary designer and producer of miniature books, Maryline Adams (Poole Press) was also accomplished in the sewing arts, and embroidery was a special focus for her. In her 1990 book, *The Embroideries of Mary Queen of Scots*, she combines the two disciplines to stunning effect, producing a miniature book that seamlessly integrates content, artistic vision, and impeccable workmanship.

For the 19 years prior to her execution, Mary, Queen of Scots was held prisoner by her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I. During that time, with freedom of movement strictly curtailed, Mary spent much of her time doing embroideries and tapestries. The work produced over those years is the focus of this miniature book, which presents hand-drawn, hand-colored illustrations of various motifs, accompanied by relevant historical quotes on the subject, from Mary and her contemporaries.



*front cover*



*title page*

The book is bound in linen, elaborately hand-embroidered by Adams with a portrait of Queen Mary. The exquisitely done embroidery encompasses both covers and the spine of the book. Front covers are embellished with genuine pearls. The cover image is taken from a portrait miniature of Mary by Nicholas Hilliard ca, 1578-1579. The book is enclosed in an olive-taupe velvet chemise with embroidered embellishments. It is lined in black fabric and tied with an integrated ribbon closure. Printed endpapers feature a thistle and rose motif.

**Specifics:**

2-1/8" wide x 2-7/8" high

Typeface: Deepdene with Union Pearl display

Printed on handmade 1930s-era Barcham Green paper

Edition of 45 copies

Signed by Maryline Adams, who designed, printed, and bound the book

French fold pages, printed letterpress

Numerous hand-colored illustrations by Maryline Adams

NOT A BRADBURY 100,

*Mary Queen of Scots (Parts I and II)*

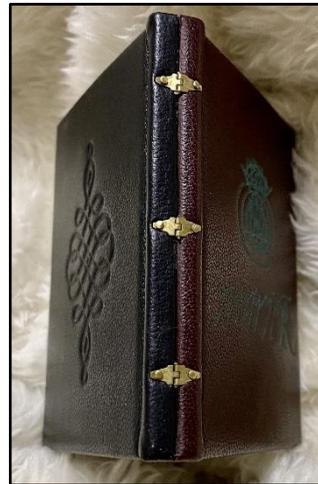
by Laurence Hines

Ash Ranch Press, 1990

*Mary, Queen of Scots* was the subject of a second significant miniature book in 1990, although the two books highlight very different facets of Mary's life.



*tete-beche covers*

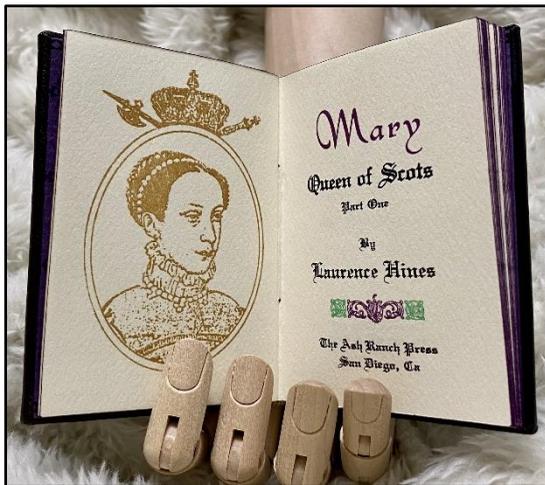


*spine hinge details*

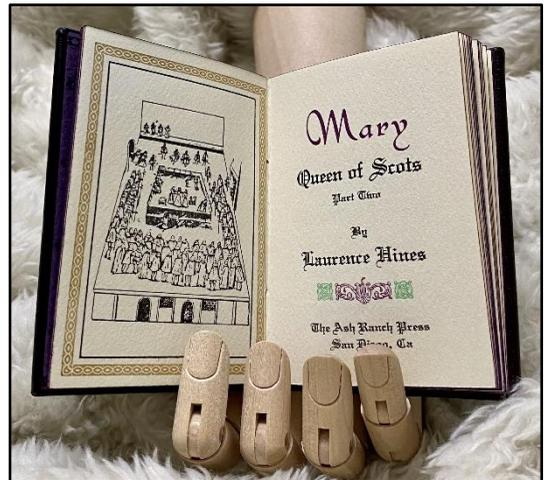
Don Hildreth, under his Ash Ranch Press imprint, produced an intriguing (and somewhat macabre) book focusing on the moments immediately before Mary was beheaded—from the perspectives of both Mary and of her executioner. The two separate texts are presented in a tete-beche format, each side having its distinctive cover.

The binding incorporates two colors of leather (burgundy and deep purple), blind stamped. Ornamental brass hinges on the spine visually connect and simultaneously separate the stories—a clever and subtle accent. Pages are edged in purple and the book has printed end sheets. The book is housed in a gold paper and deep purple leather slipcase, gold stamped. The "Mary" side of the book features a line-drawn portrait of the queen as frontispiece; the executioner side is a drawing of Mary's trial, at Fotheringhay Castle (where she was eventually beheaded).

The type for this book was set by hand, printed in 4 colors (black, gold, purple, and green) and meticulously letterpress printed in a small edition of only 33 copies.



*Part I frontis image and title page illustrating four color printing*



*Part II frontis image and title page illustrating four color printing*

### Specifics:

Designed, set, printed, and bound by Don Hildreth, 2-1/8" wide x 2-15/16" high

Edition of 33: 26 lettered A-Z plus 7 State Proof copies (all bound the same)

Printed letterpress in 4 colors from handset 8 pt Wedding text; paper is Simpson Sundance Felt

As stated in the colophon, this book (the 20th Ash Ranch publication) was produced in honor of the MBS Conclave held in Glasgow, Scotland

Excellent examples of the highest level of design, and workmanship, happy hunting. 📖

## THE BOOK COLLECTOR,

By Nina Mazzo:

*Editor's Note: Editors are always looking for a story, a spark of interest, something that will blossom from an idea into a garden of color, an expression of creativity, a joy for all to enjoy. A few months ago Nina expressed her thoughts regarding a 'feature' that we could include in each issue of The Microbibliophile showcasing the book collections of our readers. She has taken the initiative to share the following article about her collection. There are no rules or parameters, fancy or simple, short or long, pictures or no pictures; it is all about the collector and what they choose to share. Just a bit of joy for everyone. The palette is yours to select. I will wait for you to take the next step...*

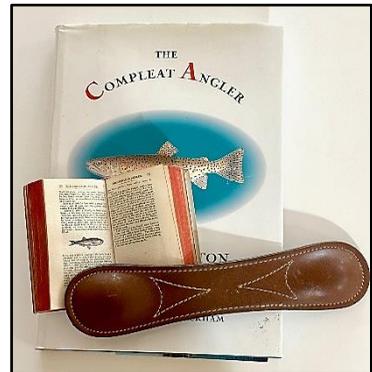
Do you need to own a certain number of books to have a personal library? Author Reid Byers was quoted as saying five hundred books will ensure a room “will begin to feel like a library.” His book titled *The Private Library - The History of the Architecture and Furnishing of the Domestic Bookroom* is a treasure. He provided me with the exact feeling I have amongst my books - I am “book - wrapt” - isn't that a spot-on description?! Cicero wrote to Atticus - “Nothing could be more beautiful than your shelves....”

My personal library houses around seven to eight hundred books. I am currently in the process of disseminating some of these books to family members. This process is not made easy when one is a bibliophile. However, I feel it is time to do so and I want to share them with those who will appreciate the books while I am here to give them the backstory to each.

What type of books are in my library? I appreciate books demonstrating artistic expression or exacting workmanship or simply containing unusual subject matter. Books might be of interest for their fine paper, typeset, binding and/ or overall appearance. Books appear on my shelves from public library sales and antiquarian book shows. Travels always include visits to antiquarian bookshops. Reviews in journals provide another source along with booksellers and, of course, family and friends love to surprise me with a “find”.

I also have a few collections - for example, I am intrigued with Penguin publications and their unique covers and the ‘Britain in Pictures’ collection. Joining the Miniature Book Society opened another door to the discovery of many unique books and they live harmoniously alongside larger books. The photos of books below include an example of a leaf book containing matched leaves from the dictionaries of Samuel Johnson (1755) and Noah Webster (1828) along with a miniature leaf book by Peter and Donna Thomas. During WWII books were published for the troops with quite a variety of topics.

I have always been fascinated by the *Compleat Angler* by Izaak Walton and also have the miniature version.



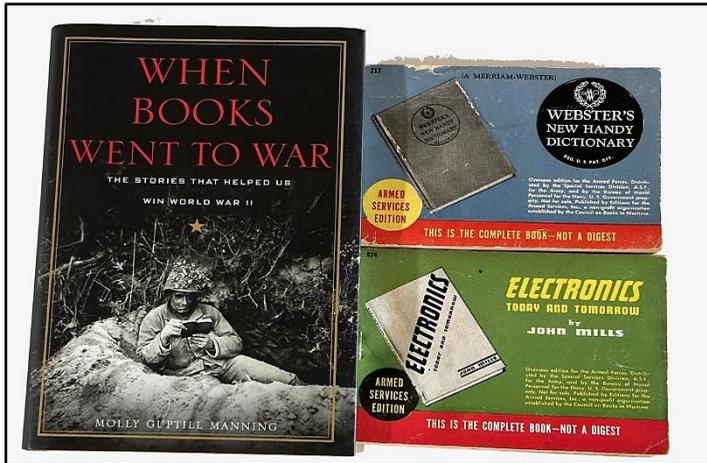


*Large format book and miniature leaf book*



*Cider Press publications*

My husband Ken Silverman and I began the Cider Press and have published several miniature books on a variety of subjects and interests.



The miniature books shown include almanacs; an antiquarian chained Bible, Birch Bark Poems and a Dos-a-Dos from REM miniatures.



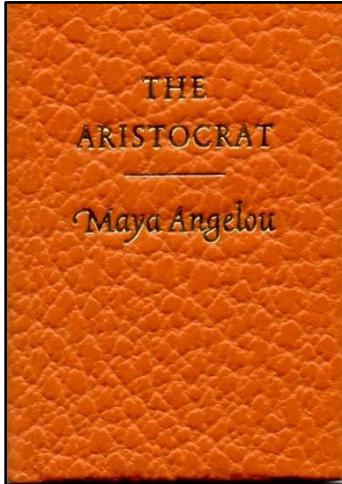
How about sharing some books from your collection?

Always a joy. 📖

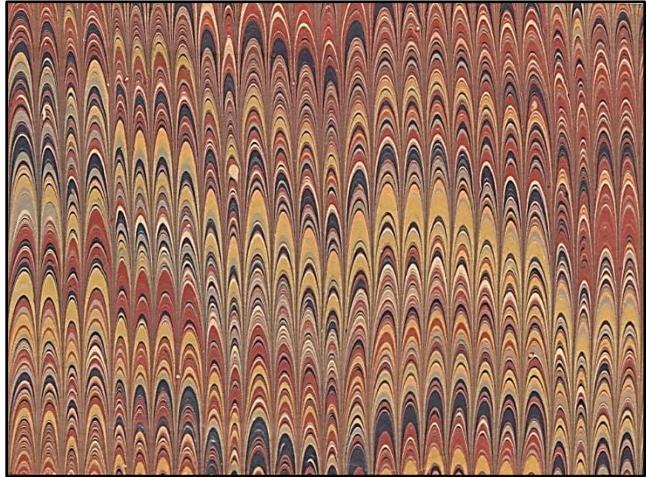
Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648  
 E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

## BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 5

*The Aristocrat*, Maya Angelou;



*Front cover*



*endpapers (by Faith Harrison)*

*The Aristocrat*. Newton, IA: Tamazunchale Press, 1986. Printed by Joh. Enschedé en Zonen, Haarlem, Holland. Bound by Reliure d'Art du Centre S.A., Limoges, France, AEG. Total of 250 copies in the edition, 2 <sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", orange leather.

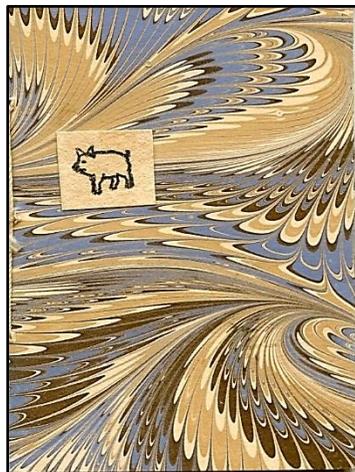
Maya Angelou [1928 -2014] was a moving force in American literature during her lifetime as a memoirist, poet, playwright, author, and civil rights activist. Her work will continue to inspire generations of readers for years to come. *The Aristocrat* is drawn from the larger work *Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which is a story told with the poet's unique gift for language. It is the poet's autobiography of her childhood in racially charged Arkansas in the early 1930's. Her story brings into vivid focus a world that most people, in particular most Americans, did not know existed.

The words are as joyous and painful, as mysterious, and memorable, as childhood is in itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brutal insult of bigotry, and the wonder and hope that words and knowledge can make the world right. Angelou's story is a modern American classic.

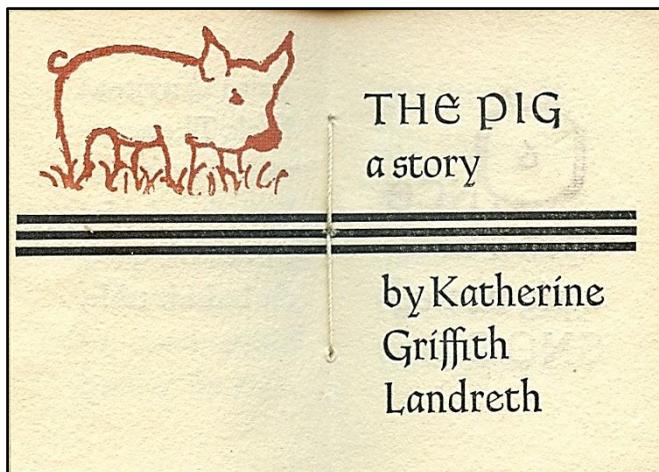
Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local 'powhitetrash.' Mrs. Bertha Flowers is the Aristocrat. At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, she learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned by her past, hence *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

An American classic and Bradbury Number 5. 📖

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 52  
*The Pig*, Katherine G. Landreth



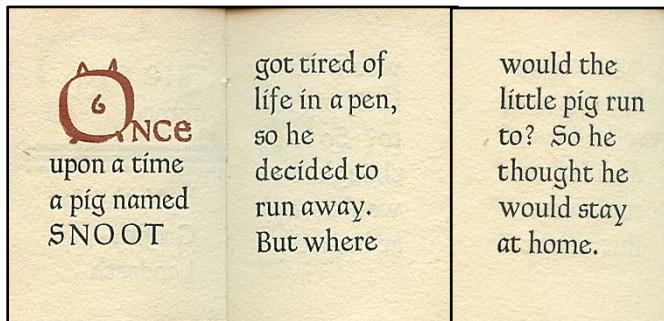
*Front cover*



*title page with illustration by Gloria Stuart*

*The Pig*. Los Angeles, Dawson's Book Shop, 1983. 16pp, letterpress printed by Ward Richie, illustrations by Gloria Stuart, 2 1/2" x 1 7/8", paper wrapper, 25 copies in the edition, 2 1/2" x 1 7/8".

In 1935 Ward Richie printed a short story about a little girl, Katherine who was a house guest of the President of Occidental College. Katherine was in awe at the number of books in the home library and asked about them. She was told that people wrote books to explain subjects and for the simple enjoyment of others to read. When the little girl was put to bed she asked for a pencil and paper to write a book. The next morning the President of the college found this short story on the bedside table.



*Text of the story of the pig by Katherine*

The original 1935 edition contained 25 copies as a Christmas gift for Katherine. Richie later reprinted the story in 1983 in an edition of 25 on his Albion handpress for Dawson's bookshop.

Once again three giants Richie, Stuart, and Dawson's come together to tell a story from the world of miniature books. 

## MINIATURE REFERENCES ABOUT MINIATURE BOOKS,

By Gail Curry:

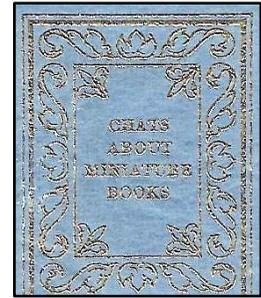
According to Stanley Marcus, the first miniature book (not counting clay tablets) was printed by the famous printer Nicholas Jensen in Venice in 1475, only 20 years after the printing of the Gutenberg Bible. Miniature books have been printed ever since then up to the present day and in virtually every language. See #5, *Why Miniature Books?* pp.2-3. What is the appeal of these little books (“maximum height 3”, occasionally up to 4)? Surely anyone who is a subscriber to *The Microbibliophile* and is reading this article knows the answer to this question. It has been discussed many times, with considerations of size, binding, subject matter, portability, aesthetic appeal, etc.; but the bottom line is the answer is personal. I was a collector and later bookseller of children’s books, from early juveniles to collectable first editions, including those with notable illustrations. As a member of the AAUW Book Collectors Study Group in Arlington, Texas, I became acquainted with miniature books. I discovered miniature Bibles which had been popular in England for more than three hundred years, as well as juveniles that were approximately 2 in. tall. I was fascinated by them, and as Wilbur Macey Stone, the quintessential collector of children’s books, so aptly said, **“...how could I continue to collect early juveniles and neglect miniature books? I just couldn’t. I just didn’t. And so the virus of the desire to collect miniature books for children spread in my bookish veins, and I became a hopeless case, to my great satisfaction and joy.”** *Books That Never Grew Up* p.5. The rest is history.

Gradually, the subject matter of my miniature book collecting efforts expanded. Among other topics were Sherlock Holmes, Cookbooks, Christmas, Almanacks, Bibles, Devotionals, Alphabets, and many more.

Along the way I realized I had a plethora of miniature references about the miniature books in my collection. As a bookseller, my last catalog was compiled in Kansas City just before our move to Pittsburgh in 2015. Unfortunately, a variety of circumstances, including health issues, made it impossible to continue my business. This last Catalog, Series II, Number 12 & 12a (Supplemental Catalog with 80 Miniature References about Miniature Books), was never mailed out.

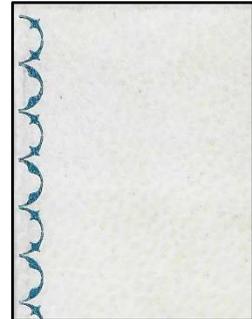
Recently, while looking through the Supplement, I realized there was a great variety of books about miniature books with the earliest printed in 1932 and believed to be the first such reference. We will examine many of these books more or less in date order, (will keep most publisher books together, regardless of date) and will save the Bibliographies and MBS Conclave publications for a future issue.

1. Walcott, Paul & Betty and Marion Soliday. **CHATS ABOUT MINIATURE BOOKS**. Privately printed on handmade paper in Boston: Thomas Todd, 1932, this #16/250 copies. 1-5/8" x 1-5/16", gilt decorated lettered stiff blue wraps, 30pp. with deckled edges, string bookmark. B&W photo frontis of some tiny books loaned by Wilbur Macey Stone. Presumed first miniature book about miniature books in matching slipcase. Bradbury 3018, Welsh 7022, MBN #66, Sept. 1990, p.5, Bradbury 100 #89.

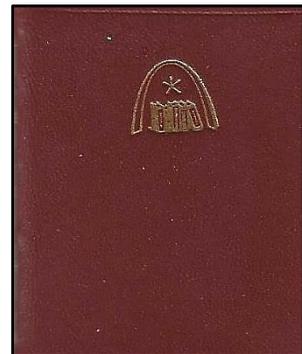


*Note: Many of the facts herein set down are gleaned from the Newsletter of the LXIVMOS, the monthly publication for the LXIVMOS, composed of people all over the world interested in minibooks. From the Introduction.*

2. (Dawson's Book Shop) **MINIATURE BOOKS**, by Larry Lyman Koopman LA: Dawson's Book Shop, 1968, limited to 400 printed by Grabhorn-Hoyem, who completed Bruce Rogers' last project (proofs delivered on the day of his death in 1957). This was the first miniature book printed by Grabhorn & Hoyem. 2" x 1-3/8", blue decorated vellum, 103pp. with blue borders and red initial letters. Bradbury 1711



3. Edison, Julian. **MINIATURE BOOKS**. Designed by Jack R. Levien, printed in Holland. St. Louis: Julian I. Edison, 1970. 2-5/8" x 2-1/8", gilt maroon leather, 55pp. [+3], all edges gilt. Many b&w illustrations. Wonderful overview. Bradbury 1005



*Note: Julian Edison founded The Miniature Book News in 1965 and was the Editor of this quarterly publication for more than 50 years.*

4. **SOME MINOR BOOKPLATES.** Introduction by Audrey Arellanes. LA, 1975. Somewhat under 200 copies printed for Dawson's Book Shop by W. M. Cheney. 1-3/4" x 1-1/4", grey cloth, gilt spine title, 23pp. [+colophon]. Miniature bookplates. Bradbury 692, Arellanes #29.

*Note: "The miniature bookplates in this volume, designed by W. M. Cheney,.... possess two elements associated with Cheney - perfection in graphic design & subtle touches of humor." Introduction pp. 5 & 6*

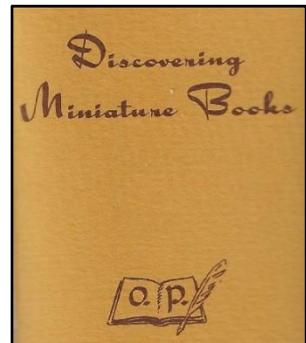
5. Marcus, Stanley and Marvin Stone. **WHY MINIATURE BOOKS?** Dallas: Friends of the Dallas Public Library, 1976, published for an exhibit of miniature books from the collection of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Marcus. 2-7/8" x 1-15/16", grey French fold sewn wraps, [16] pp. A good overview by both authors. Bradbury 1943

### Robert Hanson's Opuscula Press

*Robert F. Orr Hanson was the founding Publisher and Editor of The Microbibliophile with a pre-publication issue printed in January, 1977 and the first issue published in March, 1977. This occurred as the result of a mid-career change from a Long Island School District Administrator to opening a new and used bookshop. After just a year, he closed the bookshop and began to sell books by mail. One day in 1976, he discovered Julian Edison's 'Miniature Book News'; and thus was introduced to miniature books. 'The Microbibliophile' is a distinguished publication published bi-monthly with the goal of promoting miniature books. Robert Bradbury notes on p.169 of his quintessential 20th Century U.S. Miniature Books reference that "Hanson became a very active participant in the publishing and collecting boom occurring over the past two decades. His publishing efforts reflect this experience, because many of his tomes are miniature books about miniature books." Hanson published 'The Microbibliophile' for 20 years, at which time he sold it to Jon Mayo, who continued the tradition of excellence until a long illness prevented him from publishing another copy after January 2006. Finally, in 2011, Jim Brogan revived 'The Microbibliophile', publishing it to this day while expanding the depth and breadth of each issue to a very high level of excellence. The following are a few of the Opuscula Books, as referenced above.*

6. (Opuscula Press) **DISCOVERING MINIATURE BOOKS** by Robert F. Hanson. Mattituck, NY: Opuscula Press, 1978., First miniature book of the Press, and one of several from his output that are miniature books about miniature books. 2-3/4" x 2-3/8", gold sewn wraps with brown lettering, 51pp. [+9, lists of publishers, booksellers & auction houses] printed in brown ink. Brown sleeve reprinting book cover. Bradbury 1302

*Note: Robert Hanson states in his book, PRINTED PAGES, "After acquainting myself with the basics of collecting miniature books I thought others might be interested in what I had to share, simply told." p.19*



7. (Opuscula Press) **THE GOLDEN AGE OF AMERICAN BOOKPLATE DESIGN** (1890-1925) by Francis W. Allen. Mattituck, NY: Opuscula Press, 1979 2-11/16" x 2-1/8", blue cloth, 54pp. [+ colophon]. DW on paper matching the eps w/title on front cover and author on spine. Summary of five bookplate artists with examples (1 foldout). Bradbury 71, Arellanes #20

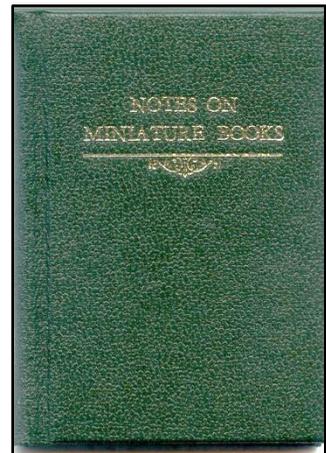
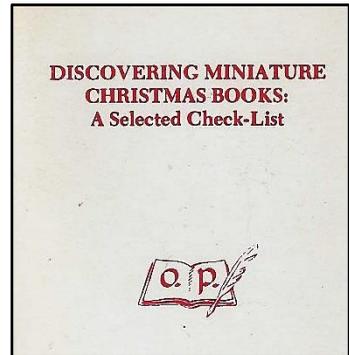
8. (Opuscula Press) **DISCOVERING MINIATURE ALMANACS** by Robert F. Hanson. Venice, FL: Opuscula Press, 1980, 2-11/16" x 1-7/8", gilt red cloth, 70pp. [+ colophon], red marbled endpapers. B&W illus. Ex-Libris. Gray printed DW. Bradbury 1301

*Note: "The story behind this book emanates from my personal copy of THE PISO POCKET ALMANAC FOR 1899 which prompted further study of other such books." PRINTED PAGES p.19*

9. (Opuscula Press) **DISCOVERING MINIATURE CHRISTMAS BOOKS**: A Selected check-list compiled by Robert F. Hanson. Venice, FL: Opuscula Press, 1980. 2-3/4" x 2-1/2", green printed card wraps placed over plain paper, 35pp. [+3]. Card slipcase printed in red. Lists three Night Before Christmas books. Bradbury 1303

*Note: Hanson states in his opening remarks: "For some years now, off and on, I have thought about the persons who collect these volumes. What is it that propels them toward their goal? Is it the colors?...Is it the binding?... No, I prefer to think that the underlying meaning of Christmas, depicted in the various symbols, captures the souls of these booklovers." p.6*

10. (Opuscula Press) **NOTES ON MINIATURE BOOKS** by Achille J. St. Onge. Bradenton, FL: Opuscula Press, 1993, limited to 150 copies. 2-7/8" x 2", gilt dark green cloth, St. Onge and Black Cat Press book title endpapers, 16pp. [+1]. Reprint from the 1938 Book Collector's Packet published by the Black Cat Press of Norman Forgue. Bradbury 2783 Note: This tiny tome presents a short history of miniature books with notable examples of the genre. p.22



11. (Tamazunchale Press) **MY FAVORITE MINIATURE BOOK**: Nine Essays by Collectors of Miniature Books. Newton, Iowa: Tamazunchale Press, 1984, #5/250 copies. 2 1/2" x 1-3/4", gilt black leather by Reliure d'Art, 84pp., [+2] Enschede en Zonen Holland, all edges gilt. Bradbury 2762.

*Note: Collectors include James De Lancey, Ruth Adomeit, Robert Massmann, Julia Wightman, Msgr. Francis Weber, Virginia Schoonover, Kalman Levitan, Stanley Marcus and Charlotte Smith.*

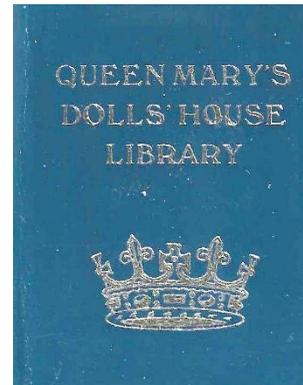
12. Bromer, Anne C. **MINIATURE BOOKS DESERVE MORE RESPECT**. Boston: Bromer Booksellers, 1985, limited to 750 copies printed by Colonial Printing. 2-7/8" x 3-1/4", printed wraps, 12pp. Excellent overview & history of the miniature book. Bradbury 501 (1995).

*Note: This was a pre-publication for Bromer's colleagues of the article that appeared in the Autumn, 1985 'AB Bookman's Weekly'.*

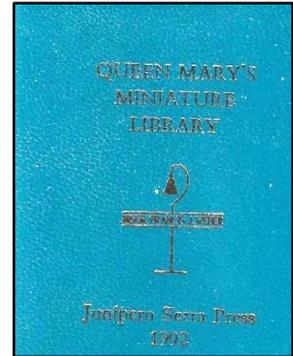
13. (Tamazunchale Press) **PUBLISHER'S FAVORITE**: Six Essays by Publishers of Miniature Books compiled by Charlotte Smith. Newton, Iowa: Tamazunchale Press, 1988, printed in Haarlem, Holland & bound in Limoges, France, signed by Charlotte Smith. 2 1/2" x 1-13/16", gilt leather, 52pp. [+2], all edges gilt.

*Noted publishers include Dawson, Schori, Cunningham, others. Bradbury 2763*

14. (Gleniffer Press) **QUEEN MARY'S DOLLS' HOUSE LIBRARY** by Ann Bahar. Paisley, Scotland: The Gleniffer Press, 1991, 265 copies. 2-1/2" x 2", silver stamped navy leather with title and coronet on front cover and with gold cut-out paper coronet tipped in on half title page, [24]pp. Color frontis of the Library. Foreword by Viscount Norwich in which he mentions the tiny Sherlock Holmes book, "a memorable privilege to hold in one's hand." p.3. Curry 108

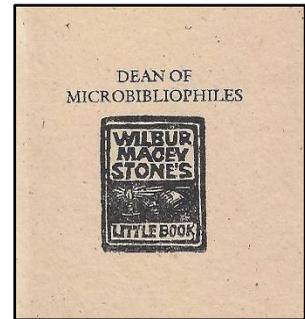


15. (Junipero Serra) **QUEEN MARY'S MINIATURE LIBRARY** by Msgr. Francis J. Weber. San Fernando, CA: Junipero Serra Press, 1992, limited to 250. Letterpress by Roger Pennels. 2-3/4" x 2-1/8", gilt blue leather, 15pp., all edges gilt. Postage stamp frontis. Bradbury 3150, Curry 109



*Note: Among the Library's numerous miniature books is 'How Watson Learned the Trick', A.C. Doyle's handwritten parody on Holmes.*

16. (Junipero Serra) **DEAN OF MICROBIBLIOPHILES** by Msgr. Francis J. Weber. N.p.: Junipero Serra Press, 1993, 125 copies printed and bound by Tabula Rasa Press. 2-1/2" x 2-1/8", ivory boards printed with Wilbur Macey Stone's bookmark, 26pp. [+1]. B&W frontispiece of Stone, eminent early 20th century collector of miniature books. Bradbury 1960



*Note: Stone noted that all the admired and cherished features of standard-sized books, format, photography, illustration, and binding may be found repeated to perfection in miniature books. p.11*

17. Arellanes, Audrey. **A COLLECTION IN A SHOEBOX: Miniature Books About Ex Libris.** Alhambra, CA: Bookworm Press, 1996, 300 copies, signed by Arellanes. Reprinted from American Society of Bookplate Collectors and Designers Year Book 1992-93. 3" x 2-3/16", blue printed stiff wraps, 30pp. [+2]. Bradbury 218

18. (Silhouettes) **SILHOUETTES IN MINIATURE** by Juniper Von Phitzer (Lloyd L. Neilson). Preface by Caroline Y. McGehee. San Francisco: Juniper Von Phitzer, 1998, limited to 40, 1-3/4" x 2-3/4", black cloth with metallic paper title label, 90pp. Silhouettes by Marcie Collin, Marvin R. Hiemstra plus Dover Publications granted generous permission to the publisher to use the silhouettes in an alphabet copyright free. Bradbury 2202

*Note: Caroline Y. McGehee states in the Preface that Juniper Von Phitzer's idea of a miniature silhouette alphabet book is an intriguing one. I know it . . . will be a beautiful work of art worthy of taking its place in the wonderful worlds of both silhouettes and miniature books.*

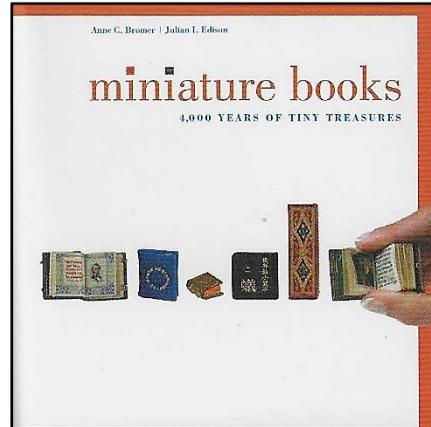
19. Edison, Julian I. **A MINIATURE LESSON in the history of the book.** [Cambridge]: Houghton Library, Harvard College Library, 2005, limited to 1,000 copies. Keepsake to accompany an exhibition of mini books from the library of Julian Edison. 3" x 2", stiff blue wraps, 47pp.

*Note: This is reportedly Harvard's smallest book.*

20. Bromer, Anne C. & Julian Edison. **MINIATURE BOOKS: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures**, NY: Harry N. Abrams in association with The Grolier Club (2007), first edition w/#1. 2-3/4" x 2-1/2" red & white stiff pictorial card wraps with cover illustration repeated on the dw, 215pp. [+ colophon], all edges gilt. Color photo illustrations.

*Note: This is an exact miniature edition of the full-sized book, issued separately from other editions.*

21. Bradbury, Robert C. **DEW DROPS**: American Tract Society. Worcester: Robert C. Bradbury, 2008, limited to 100 copies. 2-7/8" x 2-5/8", brown cloth with pictorial paste-on, 21pp. [+colophon], green marbled endpapers. B&W illustrations of binding styles and title pages.



*Note: "The American Tract Society, New York City, began publishing in 1825. It became the largest publisher in America within a short time.....miniature books were one of ATS's most important products. Here we focus on one book, 'Dew-Drops', ATS's most popular little book". p.1*

In closing, I would like to mention some books that did not meet the criteria for this article. They are more specific in nature; either Biographies or Bibliographies of publishers and their books, or Conclave Keepsakes, including the very first ones, **THE PEOPLE OF THE LITTLE BOOK** by Kalman Levitan which was printed by Black Cat Press for the Miniature Book Collectors Meeting at Englewood, Ohio on Sept. 3-5, 1983, and **THE CHALLENGE: A Manuscript**, written, designed and typography by Norman Fergie and printed by Ward Schori for the Miniature Book Publishers Conclave, Cincinnati, OH on Sept. 3-5, 1983. These will be saved for a future article.

References cited:

Arellanes, Audrey. **A COLLECTION IN A SHOEBOX**: Miniature Books About Ex-Libris. Alhambra, CA: Bookworm Press, 1996

Bradbury, Robert C. **ONE HUNDRED FAVORITE 20th CENTURY U.S. MINIATURE BOOKS**. Worcester, Mass.: April 2002

Bradbury, Robert C. **TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES MINIATURE BOOKS**. No. Clarendon, Vermont. The Microbibliophile, 2000

Curry, Gail H. **THE MINIATURE SHERLOCK HOLMES**: a Checklist of Sherlock Holmes Books Published in Miniature Format. Overland Park, KS: Gail Curry - Books, 2011

Hanson, Robert F. Orr. *PRINTED PAGES*: A Memoir About Miniature Books. Albuquerque, NM: Opuscula, 2009

Edison, Julian, Editor and Publisher. *Miniature Book News*. 16 Dromara Road, St. Louis, MO, Founded in 1965, issued quarterly

Stone, Wilbur Macey. *BOOKS THAT NEVER GREW UP* Opuscula Press, 2007

Welsh, Doris. *A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MINIATURE BOOKS*. Cobleskill, NY: Kathryn I. Rickard, 1987

*Editor's Note: Well Done Gail for a most professional overview of the subject of miniature book reference books.*

*Contact Information: Gail Curry, 1041 Bomar Court, Mars, PA 16046*

*E-mail: curry.gail@att.net*



*'More books for the bibliophile'*

## SPECIAL WANT AD LIST:

The editor is in search of the following Borrower's Press publications. If you have extra copies or would like to sell or trade what you have, please contact the editor, at (Jbrogan1@verizon.net).

*Bible, Old Testament*, 1975  
*Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens, 1975  
*Love Sonnets*, William Shakespeare, 1976  
*Little Red Riding Hood*, 1976  
*Wildflowers*, Jane Bernier, 1977  
*Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare, 1978  
*Hansel and Gretel*, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, 1978  
*Women's Fashions of the Victorian Era*, Jane Bernier, 1983  
*Butterflies of the Americas*, Jane Bernier, 1984  
*Embroidery*, Jane Bernier, 1985  
*Observations of Cats*, Harrison Weir, 1986  
*Diary*, (no date)

We can pay in cash, livestock, or gemstones. 📖

## SPECIAL EVENT AND SPECIAL MENTION:

Finally, we have a link to the 'Alphabets Alive' exhibition at the Bodleian Library (it runs through mid-January 2024). It features more than 150 both large and miniature abecedaries. There are also books from Donna Thomas, Pat Sweet, Rebecca Bingham and John Lathourakis, and others as well.

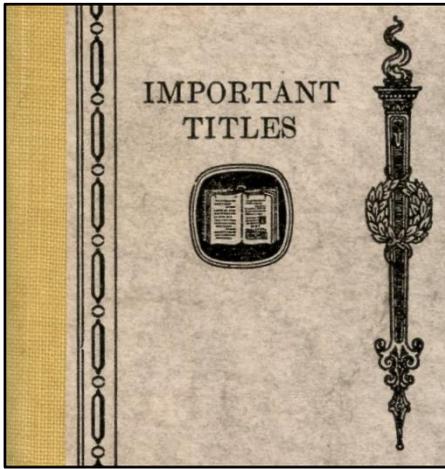
Hopefully one of our UK based subscribers or maybe even a visitor will be able to attend and bring us all a recap of the exhibition.



(Image courtesy of library)

<https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/alphabets-alive> 📖

## BLANK BOOKS, 'IMPORTANT TITLES', 'A Interesting Suggestion', by John Lathourakis:



According to the documentation provided by Bradbury, *20<sup>th</sup> Century U. S. Miniature Books*, John Lathourakis created his prolific output of miniature books under his press name of Tabula Rasa Press, beginning in 1974 and publishing 91 titles by 1999. I am not sure if the list goes on but 1999 coincides with the date that the Bradbury data went to publication. Lathourakis printed most of his books in a letterpress format and his wife did the sewing and binding.

The first four books of the Bradbury list carry the imprint of 'Permanent Press' but when it was discovered that this name was already in use they choose the Tabula Rasa configuration. It is interesting that the term 'Tabula Rasa' comes from Latin where it means 'blank slate'. This is how it is used today as well, though there are nuanced differences in the actual

English definition. It can sometimes refer to something in an unaltered state, or the mind of a person before it is influenced by others.

*Important Titles* is letterpress printed, 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", 22 pp, 200 copies in the edition. The subject of the book deals with blank books. The Introduction provides a short history about blank book which have been around for long, long time. Sometimes they are used as sketch books, as diaries, notes about collections, or even unpublished poetry. Under certain circumstances blank books were used to fill the shelves of 'private libraries' where funds for printed volumes may not have been available. The author concludes the Introduction with his thought that the blank books would appear far more important if they had important-sounding titles so he has provided some of his own suggestions for such additions to your collection of blank books. A few insights from John:

*To Hell with Dante*

*Celestial Mechanics Made Easy*

*Neuro-Surgery for the Week-end Enthusiast*

*The Introduction of the Slug to Haute Cuisine*

*A Who's Who of Intellectual Giants in Las Vegas*

*Why You Should Build A Dream Home On Mt. St. Helens*

*The Computer and Dot Matrix Printer's Contributions to Calligraphy*

*The Health-Related Benefits of Alcohol, Drugs, and Red-Meat Consumption*

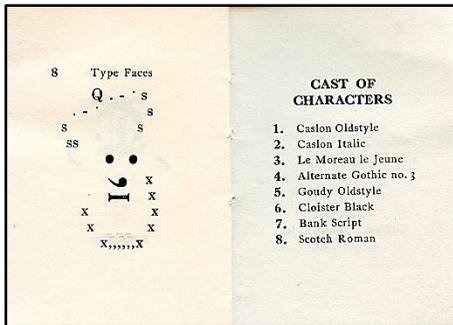
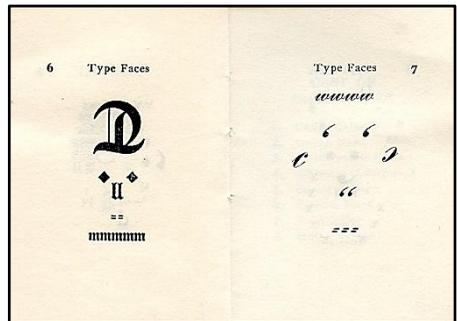
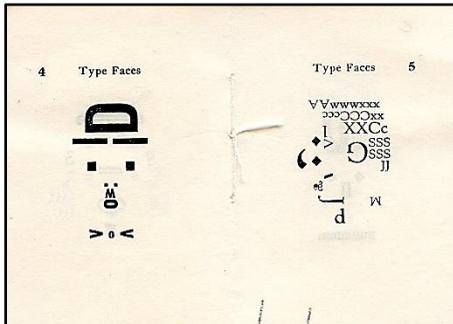
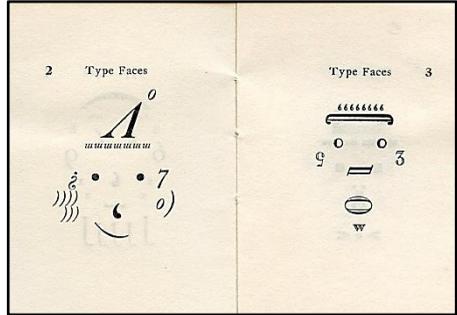
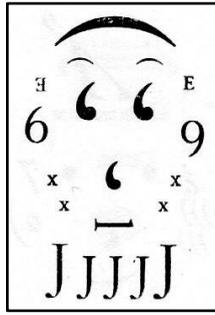
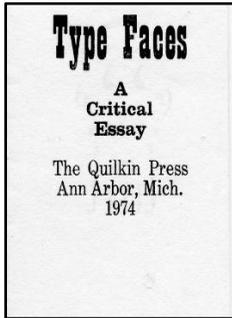
*Mathematical Proof the Numbers 66 and 99 are Identical if You Hold the Page Upside Down*

Life is short, enjoy every moment. 📖

## TYPE FACES,

# A Critical Essay, by Clifford S. Leonard, Jr.

According to Bradbury's 20<sup>th</sup> Century, U. S. Miniature books, the Quilkin Press was the private press of Clifford S. Leonard, Jr, who resided in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Leonard published one miniature book, *Type Faces, A Critical Essay*, in 1974. Interesting that the book was letterpress printed, 8pp, 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" and bound with a paper wrapper.



Obviously, a bit of fun while standing at the type box, and then the thought of sharing, and then the book emerged.

Another, less than prominent example from the world of miniature books, what is your 'show and tell' for the next issue

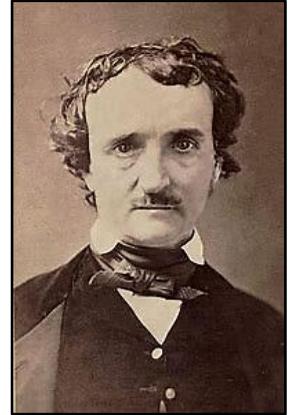
Enjoy... 

## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'Marginalia'

**M**arginalia, is a word that is used to describe the margin notes or embellishments that has been written by anyone in the text margins of a book.

### Where does marginalia come from?

In the introduction to his essay titled "Marginalia," Edgar Allan Poe wrote: "In getting my books, I have always been solicitous of an ample margin; this not so much through any love of the thing in itself, however agreeable, as for the facility it affords me of penciling suggested thoughts, agreements and differences of opinion, or brief critical comments in general." At the time "Marginalia" was first published in 1844, *marginalia* was only a few decades old despite describing something—notes in the margin of a text—that had existed for centuries. An older word, *apostille* (or *apostil*), refers to a single annotation made in a margin, but that word is rarely used today.



Spend a few minutes and read the full essay by one of literatures greatest pens...*MARGINALIA* ([pinkmonkey.com](http://pinkmonkey.com))

Some famous authors who were known for their marginalia are:

- David Foster Wallace
- Edgar Allan Poe
- Herman Melville, *Melville's Marginalia Online* ([melvillesmarginalia.org](http://melvillesmarginalia.org))
- Isaac Newton
- John Adams, [adamsjefferson.com](http://adamsjefferson.com)
- Machiavelli
- Mark Twain, *The Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford: Mark Twain's Marginalia*
- Samuel Taylor Coleridge, <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/7541.html>

It is always interesting to look at something, look a bit closer, go down 'the rabbit hole' and come out with a whole new perspective and knowledge of a subject. Understanding writers as also being readers is one of those subjects that we typically do not dive into. The search is your joy. 📖

## GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

Soon we will need to think about what special things we want to do for the beginning of Fall and holidays. School plays, weekend camping, putting the vegetable garden to rest, bike riding, or maybe hiking...Between all those things, we need to make sure we have time for the world of miniature books. Maybe it is to read a book related to a particular hobby or a place you have wanted to visit that appeals to you or perhaps something entirely new for you. I am always amazed that it is more than a coincidence that when I read a miniature book, I can learn something new about something that I thought I knew all about. Something old may really be something new in the world of miniature books. We will continue the journey in the next issue with the following:

- Nina Mazzo, more news, and her insights from the *Miniature Book News...*
- Could be an article coming to light on the desk of Gail Curry...
- I know that Rebecca Binghamton is dipping her pen in the ink well...
- *Some English Gardens*, by Gertrude Jekyell, published by Plum Park Press...
- I hope... something new and exciting from Bo Press, you never know...
- Another 'Bradbury 100', or two...or three...maybe *Remembering Casablanca* #35 and *Marbling in Miniature* #93...

Lastly, I need your help with any additional books on the Bradbury list. So far, the following books (numbers) have been reviewed with this series in *The Microbibliophile*,

3, 5, 11, 14, 20, 24, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 50, 52, 51, 55, 56, 58, 60, 61, 62, 64, 68, 73, 76,  
79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 95, 96, 97, 99, and 100. *(Red font, included in current issue)*

If you have a copy of one of the books, not yet reviewed, and would like to write a short 'review/ article' please contact me. If you have the book and need help with the article or might loan it to me for my review, we can work through the details. It has been a long and exciting journey, for sure.

Please keep us posted on what is happening in your press or your piece of the world of miniature books. What you are reading, your discoveries, your 'wishes', and what you have on your favorite list? Anticipation and searching are the joy of collecting. If you visit a book fair or a bookshop or find an interesting article about books, please consider sharing your story in a future issue. Thank You! 📖

## A BIBLIOPHILIC HIT LIST, By Msgr. Francis J. Weber:

Editor's Note, The following article is a reprint that was written by the Old Country Priest and originally published in the August 2002, Number 218 issue of the Zamora Club publication *Hoja Volante*. The article was republished as a component of Essays of An Old Country Priest, Msgr. Francis J. Weber, 2016.

## A BIBLIOPHILIC HIT LIST

#218, AUGUST 2002, PP. 5-7

EVER so gradually my life has become an “open book,” especially since the publication last year of my *Memories of an Old Country Priest*. In the Q and A chapter of that book, I listed my ten favorite books of all time. Here I will attempt to explain how each of those titles came to be on that list. I am excluding, of course, the Bible, which is the capstone of any sacerdotal library.

1. Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933) is enshrined as one of the all-time great storytellers. A clergyman, educator, and writer, he served for some years as United States Ambassador to the Netherlands and Luxembourg. My nomination for the most memorable of his works is *The Story of the Other Wise Man*, which was first published by Harper and Brothers in 1895. The author claimed that “the story of the fourth wise man came to me suddenly and without labor” while reading medieval accounts in the *Golden Legend* of Jacobus de Voragine. I have used an abbreviated version of this story as a framework for many Christmas homilies. Van Dyke was masterful at fashioning parables, which are little more than literary devices for teaching lessons. *The Story of the Other Wise Man* tells how a fourth “man from the east” also saw the star at its rising over Bethlehem and set out to follow it, but he didn’t arrive with his brethren at the Manger. His frustrated desire and how it was denied, his many wanderings, his seeking, and the strange way of his ultimate arrival at Mount Calvary create the fabric of this devout and inspirational tale.
2. Since high school days, in the mid-1940s, Carleton J. H. Hayes (1882-1964) has been among my literary heroes. A former President of the American Historical Association, Hayes wrote a popular world history textbook that became a fixture in most of the nation’s secondary schools. The most unknown

of his many works is, in my humble opinion, the best. Entitled *Wartime Mission in Madrid*, the volume was published by the Macmillan Company of New York in 1945. Like most historians then and now, Hayes was a liberal Democrat who exhibited a mindset against Franco's Spain. When the long-time Professor of History at Columbia University was asked by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to serve as American Ambassador to the Caudillo, Hayes resisted with all his persuasive personality, but FDR was not easily turned away. In May of 1942, Hayes began a three-year stint in Madrid, during which he kept "an historian's candid and factual account of what he saw at first hand." The Hayes book, the first full, authentic account of America's evolving policy toward Spain, is a most significant document. All of Hayes' books were well-written, but this one is especially dramatic and, to quote a recent literary hack, "a good read."

3. While never being accused of or recognized as a very knowledgeable theologian, I do have more than a passing interest in the basics of dogmatic, moral, and ascetical theology. Included therein would be Mariology, the study of how the Blessed Virgin Mary fits into the overall montage of the Catholic faith. My favorite book on the subject was published by Reginald Garrigou Lagrange, a Dominican theologian who began teaching at the Angelicum in Rome in 1909. Entitled *The Mother of the Savior*, the book covers every aspect about Mary and explains why its author was so popular with Popes Pius XI, Pius XII, and John XXIII.
4. One of the great blessings of my life was that of knowing Will and Ariel Durant. They had a season box at the Hollywood Bowl, and many times I was their guest for Pops Concerts on Saturday evenings. After concluding their monumental ten-volume series on "The Story of Civilization," the Durants published a book on *The Lessons of History* in 1968. That book should be required reading for any aspiring historian. The Durants pointed out that the chronicle of history, far from being a chamber of horrors, is in reality a celestial city,

a spacious country of the mind, wherein a thousand saints, statesmen, inventors, scientists, poets, artists, musicians, lovers, and philosophers still live and speak, teach and carve, compose and sing.

5. In 1956, Carolyn Reading Hammer printed a chapter from Willa Cather's *Death Comes for the Archbishop* at the Anvil Press in Lexington, Kentucky. Set in American Uncial type, 200 copies of the book were released under the title, *Father Junípero's Holy Family*. In addition to the charming storyline, the non-paginated little gem, bound in white boards, certainly qualifies as a Fine Press book.
6. H. W. van der Vaart Smit took the first giant step in stamping out the carnival air of neon lights, pagan music, and frenzied shopping that often smothers the true meaning of Christmas. His book, *Born in Bethlehem*, published by Helicon at Baltimore in 1963, is based on the solid principle that "science and faith are one, indeed must be one, since there is only one truth, which it is the duty and task of both faith and science to seek." By portraying Christmas as it really is, the author presents little known facts about Jesus' birth which give the observance exceedingly more meaning than pious legends. By van der Vaart Smit's calculations, Christ was born near the end of August in the year 747, A.U.C. (7 B.C.) during the major conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. The author explains that the present day observance, dating from 354, represents nothing more than a baptizing of the Teutonic Festival of the Fires, which has occurred on December 21st since the adoption of the Gregorian calendar.
7. While all great writers are gifted with an ability to use (and even misuse) words, few there are whose writing style is both attractive and magnetic. Rafael Cardinal Merry del Val was among that small cadre of authors. An influential churchman in the Roman curia for over three decades, Merry del Val's candidacy for the papacy itself was evident in two papal conclaves. In 1939, his *Memories of Pope Pius X* was posthumously published. That little book became an instant success and

went through several editions. It is one of the few volumes that I reread every year, and always it is an uplifting experience.

8. Unquestionably one of the greatest biographies of all time is Samuel Eliot Morison's 1942 treatise on the *Admiral of the Ocean Sea*. Though the distinguished historian wrote many fine books, his life work centered about the person and the voyages of Christopher Columbus. Himself a commissioned admiral in the United States Navy, Morison traced by sea and ship every nautical mile traversed by Columbus over eight years of frantic research. Unlike many similar volumes, this one is as readable as it is accurate.
9. Jim Bishop was a popular syndicated newspaper columnist whose daily essays were read by millions of people throughout the United States. His book, *The Day Christ Died*, reads like a fifth Gospel insofar as he fills in many of the little details overlooked in the standard narratives of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. A meticulous journalist with a panoramic vision, Jim Bishop searched where others had failed to look, thus supplying readers with much colorful data from everyday life in first-century Palestine. Though surely not "inspired" in the normally accepted sense, Bishop's account is eminently more devotional than those of the "big four."
10. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen wrote even more books than the old country priest, and certainly the quality of his writings far surpassed those of his distant admirer. Of all the thousands of commentaries written on the subject, Sheen's *Life of Christ* has no peers. He places Jesus in the very center of history and tells the story of the Redeemer's brief but glorious life with reverence and a profound knowledge of His mission on earth. Even the non-believer will find this treatise a truly magnificent reading experience.

So, there you have my ten favorite books of all time, enumerated in random order. Everyone knows that shrouds have no pockets, but maybe some day there will be coffins with built-in bookracks.



'Shrouds have no pockets!' 📖

MINIATURE BOOK WORLD FLASHBACK,  
*The Microbibliophile*, November 1982,  
41 Years Ago:

**The Microbibliophile**  
*A bi-monthly review of literature concerning miniature books*

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Volume III, Number 5 November, 1979

*Editor's Note: The following article is a reprint from the November 1982 issue of "The Microbibliophile". Over the years from the beginning of "The Microbibliophile" there have been a wealth of articles written that I think will be of interest to our current readers, be they a novice or a more experienced and 'seasoned' collector. From time to time, I will select a 'flashback' to share with you. I hope that you will enjoy the experience. The current article is titled 'Miniature Books Containing Postage Stamps'*

*Bob Hanson always asked for comments from the readers and subscribers, waiting to hear from you.*

**FROM THE DAYS OF YESTERDAY,  
BUT NOT FORGOTTEN:**

**MINIM ONE:  
PUBLICATIONS**

- Miniature Books
- Bibliographic Booklets
- The Microbibliophile ☘

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## LXIVMOS

Last summer while browsing in Dawson's Book Shop I obtained another original copy of the NEWS-LETTER of the LXIVMOS (64 mos) and this one was dated August-September 1928. So, I say Happy 53rd Birthday, LXIVMOS!!

Parenthetically, I wonder if this can be self-serving since I, too, reached my 53rd birthday last September? Happy Birthday, Bob!!

This forerunner of THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE measures only 6 1/4" x 4 1/4", contains 30 typeset printed pages and on page 1 bears the No. 10, together with the publisher's address 55 Greene Street, Brookline, Massachusetts.

In this issue, James D. Henderson devoted the first ten pages to "Jewish Miniature Books" while pages 11 through 13 mentioned some newspaper reviews of the newsletter from: "New York Herald Tribune," "Hartford Courant," "The Boston Post," "The New York Times", and "Boston Transcript." Pages 14-16 welcomed new members, and pages 17 to 21 spoke of some achievements made by other member-collectors.

On pages 21-27, "The Scrivener" detailed much about Japanese miniature books. "The World's Smallest Newspaper" was highlighted on page 28, and on pages 29-30, Mr. Henderson spoke nostalgically about Harry Stone and his New York City bookshop which, inadvertently and indirectly, led to the formation of the club.

Any others out there for me??

How many of these publishers are on your bookshelf? 

## THE ROAD NOT TAKEN, A Poem by Robert Frost

Robert Frost [1874-1963] is probably one of the most distinguished poets within the realm of American literature. Bradbury lists four miniatures published with the work of Frost. One is *Road Not Taken*, published in 1993 by the Tabula Rasa Press. The volume is letterpress printed, 6 pp, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>"x 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" with paper wrappers and 300 copies in the edition.

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”



The poem describes the dilemma of a person facing two equally valid choices. The “fork” in the road symbolizes real-life situations, that we all face at one time or another. Sometimes, there comes a time when we must make a decision. Some are easy, but many are difficult and we cannot decide what is the right choice. Driven by our hopes and ambitions, we may make the decision to take the path less traveled.

Such is life. 📖

## BEAUTIFUL LIBRARIES, The Strahov Library, Prague, Czechoslovakia

Královská kanonie premonstrátů na Strahově | Strahovský klášter ([strahovskyclaster.cz](http://strahovskyclaster.cz))

The library of the Premonstratensian monastery at Strahov is one of the most valuable and best-preserved historical libraries – its collection consists of approximately 260,000 volumes and items.

The books are stored in the two halls and in adjacent depositories. Many of the works are old prints printed between 1501 and 1800. The library's incunabula (over 1,500 volumes) and manuscripts (approximately 3,000 sheaves) are very valuable and irreplaceable and are stored in a special treasury room.

The oldest part of the library, the Baroque Theological Hall, was established between 1671 and 1674; the main Classicist vaults of the Philosophical Hall date from 1794 and are two stories tall. Both halls are dominated by ceiling frescoes by Siard Nosecký and Anton Maulbertsch.



If you can believe your eyes! 📖

**PROPOSED FRONTISPIECE,**  
**Volume XLII, Nbr. 5 Issue 245 September – October 2023**

The tall clock in the hallway chimes 12 bells and we move into a new day though it is still without the light of the day....

Once again, as we do with each issue, we are offering you the opportunity to write a book tale for the next issue of *The Microbibliophile*. Either fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner self to spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/ book memory or even a dream about tomorrow. Storytelling can be very rewarding, even magical!

What interesting books have you read or what places have you perhaps visited? Maybe it was a 'favorite place' or an 'I always wanted to visit there'. Maybe you found a missing piece for your collection or something else to share about your adventures.

Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration will ignite your imagination or touch your spirit to share. Whether a fanciful yarn, a serious conversation about books, or the wish to embark on a true-life adventure, your contribution will bring you a feeling of accomplishment.

A memory image or a quick look at the calendar can bring things all back into focus; *"I heard the first sounds of the morning birds chirping outside my window dancing on the slate roof of the old keeper's house. I jumped out of bed because I wanted to be on the beach before the morning sunrise. When the screen door slams shut before dawn and the sounds of the still morning begin to play their symphony, the day is born."*

**(YOUR TURN).**

How about a bit of history from a famous author or a tale about some world events such as the most famous world series, highest balloon flight, favorite miniature holiday book, or a special family tradition...all great subjects to share your thoughts about.

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue will be October 15, 2023, electronic or paper. Either way, the choice is yours.

Email: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net) or send your thoughts and information via snail mail to our world headquarters campus at the confluence of the North & South Branches of the Raritan River, address on rear cover. 📬

## INTERESTING STUFF,

Link provided by Pat Pistner:

It is always good to hear from our readers. The world of miniature books is, as we say 'wider than the oceans'. It is almost impossible to see all that there is to see. Yes, we could use some special 'trolling scripts' to scrape information from the world-wide web but it would not be as much fun as hearing from the readers.

<https://www.liveauctioneers.com/news/be-smart/minature-books-command-monumental-auction-prices/>

Follow the link and enjoy the ride.



*(website image)*

Thank you, 📖

## WORK IN PROGRESS, Always Mov'N Along Through the Shelves:

Everyone has a 'bucket-list', some formal and some not so formal, some are large and some are short, some are loaded with expensive things, and some are built on things that are a bit simpler and maybe even utilitarian. The point being that most bibliophiles are people that are always looking at things, learning about things and Dream'N about that next project.

Two complex projects that have been on my list for a long time are:

1. A research database that will allow readers to locate and read any article that has been published by *The Microbibliophile*, since the first issue in 1977. The program would certainly allow searching information using keywords, such as 'date', 'subject', 'author', etc. This type of program is not as easy even in today's world of fancy computer software. Since its humble beginnings, before computers and the main copy printed using a manual typewriter, the MB has produced more than a few million words of content. It is not an impossible task, but we are working with some talented software professionals who can make it happen. Not only do you need the 'search engine' to parse and deliver the data but ultimately you need a location to store the data. Cloud storage is the answer. There is no timetable for completion, but things are moving along. So, if you have an idea about how you would like to use something like this, 'we are all ears'.
2. Over the years we have looked at a lot of methods and tools that people could use efficiently to document and maintain a 'list' of their library books. A simple list of tiles from A -Z is not too difficult but when you start to add features like 'date published', 'year acquired', 'shelf location', 'cover size', 'price paid', etc. the task becomes a bit more challenging. There are any number of software tools that you can purchase to accomplish this functionality. However, some are very expensive while others are complex and are difficult to use. So, that is the next item on the bucket-list...build the software using existing database software that can work in an easy to learn fashion including the arduous task of data entry through a simple 'user interface'.

I outlined the above two projects separately as they both are long-term things and require a considerable amount of additional help from outside the staff of the 'World Headquarters of *The Microbibliophile*. There is another project that we can bring to the readers over the next few months, perhaps with the new year. For some time we have maintained and published a list of research books that are shelved close to the 'squeaky old roll-top desk.' As I was reading Gail Curry's article in this issue *Miniature Reference Books About Miniature Books*, I thought that it would be an interesting thing to put together a tool set, maybe call it *The Microbibliophile 100*.

It would be comprised of 100 miniature books that are in fact books that are tools for research on miniature books. I have culled the beginning of the list from books that I have included in our ongoing research list but only those that fit the parameters of a miniature book will be included. Those of a larger format will be retained as a 'supplement' to the *The Microbibliophile 100* list. I have not published the 'ongoing list' in some time so I will include it for your review. Should you have any titles that should be added please let me know via email.

LIST retrieved from *The Microbibliophile*, Volume XXXIX, Number 1, Issue 223, January 2020.

(Updates and additions noted with bold font, miniature book format noted with highlighting)

*Antique United States Miniature Books 1690 - 1900*, Robert C. Bradbury, 2001, published by *The Microbibliophile*, North Clarendon, Vermont

*Twentieth Century United States Miniature Books*, Robert C. Bradbury, 2000, published by *The Microbibliophile*, North Clarendon, Vermont

*Catalogue of the Library of Miniature Books Collected* by Percy Edwin Spielman, 1961, Edward Arnold, London, also available as a reprint, 1992, Maurizio Martino Publisher, Storrs-Mansfield, CT

*The History of Miniature Books*, Doris V. Welsh, 1987, Fort Orange Press, Albany, NY

*A Bibliography of Miniature Books*, compiled by Doris Varner Welsh, 1989, published by Kathryn I. Rickard

*ABC For Book Collectors*, 9th edition, John Carter and Nicolas Barker, 2016, Oak Knoll Press, London

*Miniature Books 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures*, A. C. Bromer and J. I. Edison, 2007, published by Abrams, New York (available as a miniature as well as regular sized editions)

*Miniature Books*, Louis W. Bondy, 1981 Sheppard Press, London

*The Miniature Book Collector, 1960-1962*, Achille J. St. Onge, Publisher, Ruth Adomeit, Editor Worcester, MA

*The News-Letter of the LXIVMOS, 1927-1929*, James D. Henderson, Brookline, MA

*Forty Years Later, A Concise Review of the St. Onge Bibliomidgets*, by Robert E. Massmann, 1976

*The Bibliomidgets of Achille J. St. Onge*, by Robert E. Massmann, 1979, 'REM Miniatures'

*Encyclopedia of the Book*, by Geoffrey Ashall, Oak Knoll Press, 1979

*Principles of Bibliographical Description*, by Fredson Bowers, Princeton University Press, 1949

*The St. Onge Bibliography, Additional Titles, New Information, and Fascinating Conflicts*, by Robert E. Massmann, *MBS Newsletter*, October 1993, *Miniature Book Society*

***Essays By An Old Country Priest: Msgr. Francis J. Weber, Zamorano Club, Los Angeles, 2016***

*Collecting St. Onge Miniature Books*, by Robert C. Bradbury, 'The Microbibliophile', Volume XXVI, Number 6

**Lilliputian Newspapers, James D. Henderson, Achille J. St. Onge, Worcester, MA, 1936**

*An Illustrated Bibliography of Miniature Books Published by David Bryce and Son*, compiled by M. Garbett

*Fine Books and Collections Magazine*

*Biblio Magazine*, printed between 1996 and 1999

*Miniature Book News*, Julian I. Edison, Editor, published as a standalone as well as with the 'Miniature Book Society Newsletter'

*Miniature Book Society Newsletter* (available online at [www.mbs.org](http://www.mbs.org))

*The Microbibliophile*, (available online at [www.themicrobibliophile.com](http://www.themicrobibliophile.com))

*Catalogue of the Library of Miniature Books*, by Percy Edwin Spielman, published by Edward Arnold Ltd. London

Bibliography of Miniature Books, by Valentine J. Poska, Initial plus 15 supplements

Personal papers and ephemeral items of other book collectors

**Also, not to be overlooked, are special exhibition catalogues, such as:**

*A Matter of Size*, by Patricia J. Pistner and Jan Storm van Leeuwen, The Grolier Club, NY, NY 2019

*The Poet of Them All*, by Elisabeth R. Fairman, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, CT 2016

Always remember bookseller catalogues, as sometimes certain variants and special editions find their way into their catalogues and may not be mentioned elsewhere

Personal papers and ephemeral items of other book collectors

**Last but not least, always take a look at online 'resources' such as:**

<https://www.vialibri.net/>

<https://www.abcbooks.com>

<https://www.worldcat.org>

I would certainly add all of the titles noted by Gail Curry in her current article. Also, to be added are the seven titles which are the bibliographies of the REM Press mentioned on the following pages of this issue.

Changes, suggestions, and additions, at your convenience.

Email: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net) or send your thoughts and information via snail mail to our world headquarters campus at the confluence of the North & South Branches of the Raritan River, address on rear cover. 📖

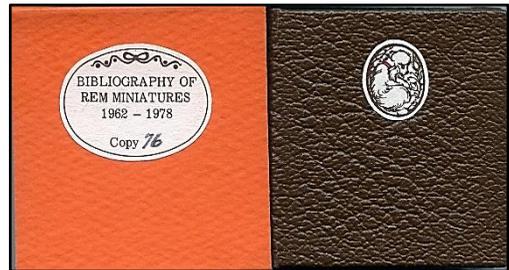
# BIBLOMANIA (advertisement)

## BOOKS FOR SALE:

*Robert E. Massmann, New Britain, Connecticut published a lifetime of miniatures under the imprint of his REM Miniatures. He was one of the six renaissance publishers of miniature books in the U.S. Listed for sale are a bibliography of his publications as well as five additional supplements to the original bibliography along with an additional volume defining an exhibition of his works at the Goddard Library in 1998. Sale prices include USPS First Class shipping within the United States, Overseas shipping carries an additional charge to be determined and quoted by destination. All volumes are in fine condition or better.*

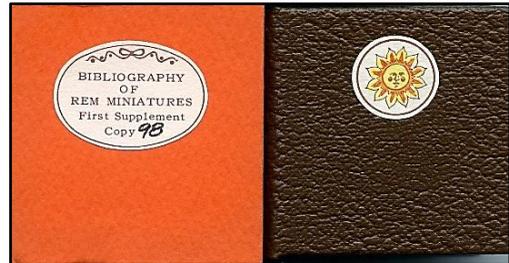
### **BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES 1962-1978**

*REM Miniatures, 1978, Leatherette bound. Miniature, limited edition of 250 copies, this copy Nbr. 76, 2" x 1 3/4", Dos-a-dos brown leatherette binding in orange paper slipcase, printed and bound by Massmann with hand-colored illustrations (Bradbury, REM # 51). \$85*



### **BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES, FIRST SUPPLEMENT, 1978-1982**

*REM Miniatures, 1982, Leatherette bound. Miniature, paper-covered slipcase w/paper labels on front cover, pictorial on cover of slipcase and book, Limited to 250 numbered copies, this copy Nbr. 98, 2" x 1 7/8", Bradbury, REM # 62). Foreword, typography, hand coloring, and binding by Robert E. Massmann. \$85*



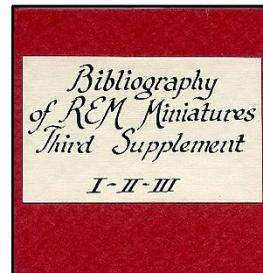
### **BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES, SECOND SUPPLEMENT, 1982-1987**

*REM Miniatures, 1987, Red leatherette bound. Miniature, paper-covered 2-piece slipcase w/paper labels on front cover, pictorial on cover of slipcase and books, includes 12 micro-miniature volumes each outlining a publication in Bradbury reference relationships #63-73, Limited to 250 numbered copies, this copy Nbr. 41, 1 1/8", x 1", Bradbury, REM # 74). Foreword, typography, hand coloring, and binding by Robert E. Massmann. \$80*



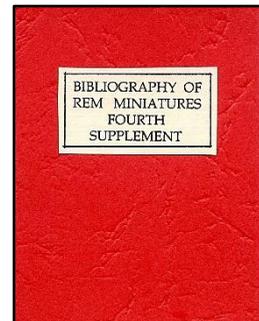
**BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES,  
THIRD SUPPLEMENT, I - II - III**

REM Miniatures, 1994, Red paper bound. Miniature, paper-covered slipcase w/paper labels on front cover, includes 3 triangular volumes separately outlining a publication in Bradbury reference relationships #88-94, Limited to 150 numbered copies, this copy Nbr. 12, 1 3/8", x 2 3/4", text is printed on three triangular 'fold-out structures', 'very REM creativity', Bradbury, REM # 74). Foreword, typography, hand coloring, and binding by Robert E. Massmann. \$80



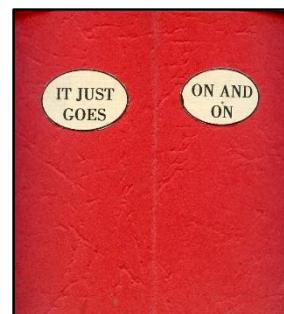
**BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES,  
FORTH SUPPLEMENT**

REM Miniatures, 1999, Red paper bound. Miniature, paper-covered slipcase w/paper labels on front cover of slipcase and miniature outlining the publications in Bradbury reference relationships #88-94, Limited to 200 copies, (not numbered), 2 7/8", x 2 1/4", text is printed on two 'pop-out' structures, Bradbury, REM # 101). Foreword, typography, hand coloring of illustrations, and binding by Robert E. Massmann. \$80



**BIBLIOGRAPHY of REM MINIATURES,  
FIFTH SUPPLEMENT,  
'IT JUST GOES ON AND ON'**

REM Miniatures, 2005, Red paper bound. Miniature, split paper cover accordion format, w/paper labels on front cover of triangular slipcase and miniature outlining five publications beyond Bradbury #103. Limited to 150 copies, (not numbered), 3", x 2 1/2", text is printed on two 'pop-out' structures, Bradbury, REM # 101). Preface, typography, and binding by Robert E. Massmann. \$80



**REM MINIATURES,  
36 Years and Counting,**

Clark University, Goddard Library, 1998, Dark brown paper bound, w/paper labels on front cover and light brown slipcase, documenting an exhibit of REM publications at the library, tipped in photo of 'Bob and Eloise'. Preface by Robert C. Bradbury, many paste-in illustrations by Ernest Massmann as well as pen drawings and slip out book mark by E. Helene Sherman included, Limited to 100 copies, copy # 88, 2 7/8" x 2 1/2", \$70



Inquires and payment: via PayPal to [J.Brogan@verizon.net](mailto:J.Brogan@verizon.net), check to J. Brogan, 53 Dreahook Rd. Branchburg, NJ 08876, cell 908-803-5647

## CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

### Buy, Sell, or Trade:

As a feature for subscribers, *The Microbibliophile* offers a classified listing service with each issue. Each message should be no more than 250 characters. Send your information to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue.

**Kathy Roberts** is looking for any Shannon Mitchell miniatures. Shannon was an illuminator and calligrapher publishing as Shannon's Miniature Manuscripts in Vancouver, Washington in the 1980's and 1990's

Contact information: E-mail: [kvr@comcast.net](mailto:kvr@comcast.net)

**Pat Pistner** is looking for 28 Raheb books (Mudlark Miniatures and Littlest Library) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published.

Contact information: E-mail: [Pistner@me.com](mailto:Pistner@me.com)

**Arno Gschwendtner** is looking for the extra paper stack of the REM Press title: *Miscellaneous Thoughts and Reflections - Dard Hunters mill.*

He is also searching for very special mini books in fine bindings and for French (hand colored) miniature books, e.g. *Paul et Virginie*, will pay a good price.

Contact information: E-mail: [arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch](mailto:arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch)

**Todd Sommerfeld** is looking for two Pairault et Cie titles, *Ali Baba*, and *La Fontaine* to complete his *La Gracieuse*.

Contact information: E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) or 216-965-7490.

**Caroline Brandt** is looking for the following miniatures:

*Westminster Abbey, III*, published by Boreman

*Young Sportsman's Instructor*, London, ca. 1700

*The Famous History of Valentine and Orson*, by Snagg, London, 1801

*L'Orange Geslagt*, by H. Spoormaker, 1749

*The Smoker's Text Book*, by J. Hamer, 1863

*Smallest complete Hebrew Bible*, (M. M. Scholtz publication)

*Short Account of the First Rise and Progress of Printing*, by T. Parker, 1763

Contact information: telephone 804-200-1260

**Jim Brogan** is looking to acquire:

*The 70th Academy Awards*, published by Gloria Stuart

Published by William Lewis Washburn: Bradbury Nbrs. 4. 5. 6. 7. 9. 10. 11. 12. 20. & 22.

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