

Repossessed Passion, Part 1



Among the varied passions that enliven our terrestrial journey, one such passion can develop for certain objects that we imbue with deep, near-incommunicable meaning...objects that transcend the ubiquitous extravagances and trivialities of daily life. It's been a minute, but such objects are found below.

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"The mail from America...leaves no doubt about the imminence of a civil war."

French business letters discussing the American Civil War

Flaviac and Lyon, 1861-1862

Correspondence between Durant, Frères, and Dumas of Flaviac and the Maison Repelin, de Micheaux & Cie of Lyon - fabric merchants who bought raw materials in the United States.

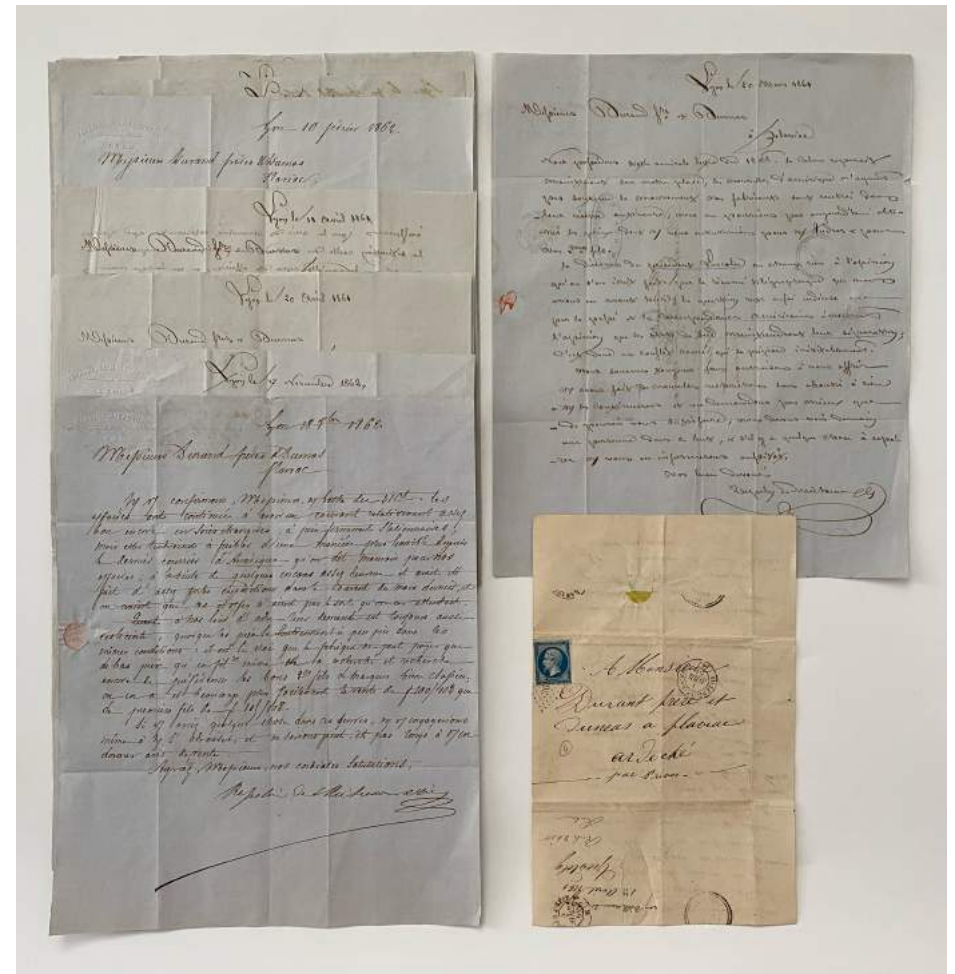
Fourteen handwritten letters from February 1861 to November 1862 with various references to the Civil War and its effect on their business. A dozen measure 26.5 x 21.5 cm. and two are 21.5 x 13.5 cm. General light wear, a few slight tears here and there, but overall in excellent shape. Near Fine.

An important letter from Lyon dated March 20, 1861 references Lincoln's famed first inaugural speech in which he denounced the secessionist ambitions as anarchical, but concluded with a heartfelt appeal for unity(his legendary "bonds of affection...mystic chords of memory," and so forth):

"... calm is now reappearing in our place, but the news in America isn't good, our manufacturers have returned to their previous reluctance; we will not be able to obtain today the prices of which we spoke to you...The speech of President Lincoln does not change the opinion that we had...the question remains as undecided as in the past, and American correspondence expresses the opinion that the Southern States will maintain their separation; it is therefore an armed conflict that is inevitably preparing..."

An intriguing collection of historical documents from a cataclysmically transformative time.

\$2950



Psalms and The New Testament

Copenhagen, circa 1750

Beautiful dos-a-dos leather binding with richly gilt spine and covers, all edges gilt, decorative endpapers. 14.25 x 8 cm. Light general wear, else



Fine.

Contains:

Den Forordnede Kirke Psalme-Bog, 1742. 264 pp. +1 blank leaf.

And:

Vor Herres og Frelseres Jesu Christi Nye Testamente, 1744.
357 pp. +3 unnumbered pages +1 blank leaf.

With ownership entries by Hans Kasper Mörch, 1746 and JK Mörch and Karen Nilsdotter, 1748.

A charming example of one of the more unique bookbinding styles ever devised.

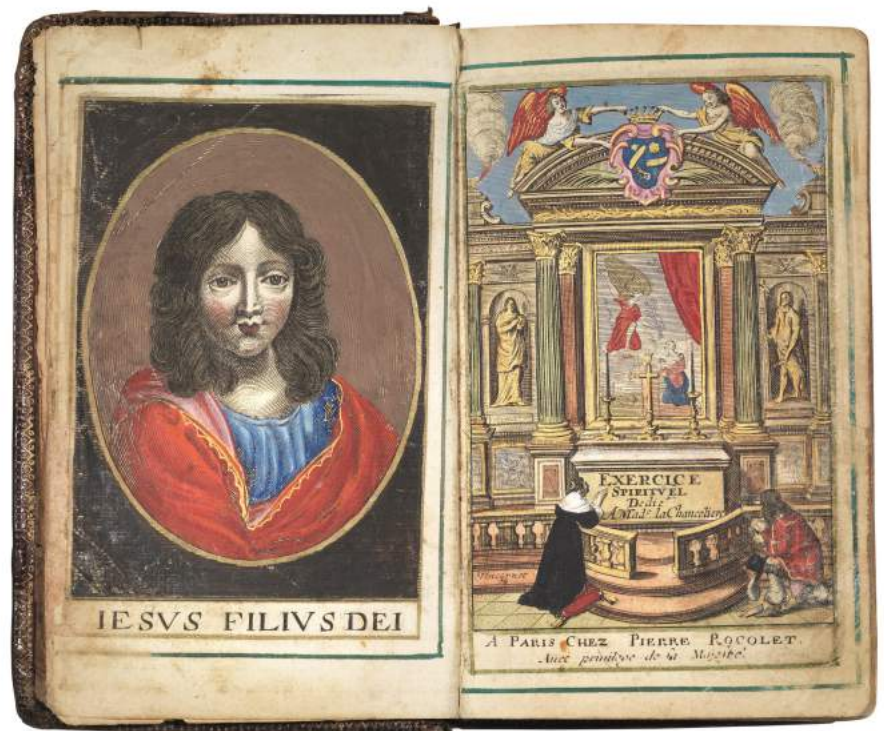
\$3950

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A beautiful 17th century French book of prayers

Exercice spirituel ou est enseigné au Chrestien la manière d'employer le iour au service de Dieu.

Pierre Rocolet

Paris, 1658



12 mo. (13.5 x 8.3 cm.) xvi, 276, 360, 8 pp. Fifteen contemporarily hand-colored plates. Woodcut initials, head and tailpieces. Contemporary calf beautifully decorated in pointillé style. Covers well-worn with a few old repairs along the edges, centers, and front hinge. Traces of clasps, portrait of Mary Magdalene with a repaired tear at the lower margin. Spine bowed from devoted use. Pages largely clean. Overall, a Good solid copy of a lovely book.



The book opens with two dedications to Madeleine Fabry, wife of Chancellor Pierre Séguier - one by Jean Ballesdens, Séguier's secretary and a great bibliophile, and the other by the printer Pierre Rocolet. Two of the fifteen plates bear the name of Balthasar Moncornet, a prolific Parisian painter, engraver, and print dealer, best known for his portraits of the nobility of the time. Christian maxims, spiritual exercises, the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary, litanies, psalms, and prayers follow.

The 15 plates placed throughout comprise:

- the adolescent Jesus
- an altar where the dedicatee Madame la Chanceliere is kneeling
- Moses with the Ten Commandments
- Mary with tablets of Six Church Commandments
- St. Hyacinth
- Mary Magdalene
- Saint Peter
- St. Simon receiving the Scapular from Mary
- young Jesus carrying the instruments of the Passion
- the Virgin Mary
- Mary nursing Jesus and the coat of arms of the Chancelière
- Mary with baby Jesus and St. John
- young Jesus with the cross-bearing orb and instruments of the Passion
- the Blessed Sacrament flanked by two angels
- King David

\$5950

—

Giant of Surrealism

Birth of Venus

Salvador Dali
New York, 1979

A work that evokes multi-faceted rumination from the iconic Spaniard, one of the most famous artists of the 20th century.

Color lithograph on Arches wove paper. Signed by Dali on the lower right. Approximately 23 x 17 in. (58.4 x 43.2 cm), in the ornate frame 41 1/4 x 35

1/4 in.(105 x 89 cm). A Fine example, accompanied by a certificate of authenticity.



"The egg is a favorite Dalinian theme, given the duality of its hard exterior and soft interior. Venus...is divided into two parts, with an egg lying on the base created by the cut...the egg symbolizes life, renewal, the continuation of existence and the future...The clock slides down the neck giving us two opposing messages. Its presence symbolizes, on one hand, the beauty of the flesh as temporary and destined to fade, and on the other, the beauty of art as eternal, and not bound by the passage of time.

The characteristic Dalinian symbol of time is one of the protagonists of this sculpture."(Dali Universe)

\$5450

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An iconic work of philosophy and literature

L'Etranger

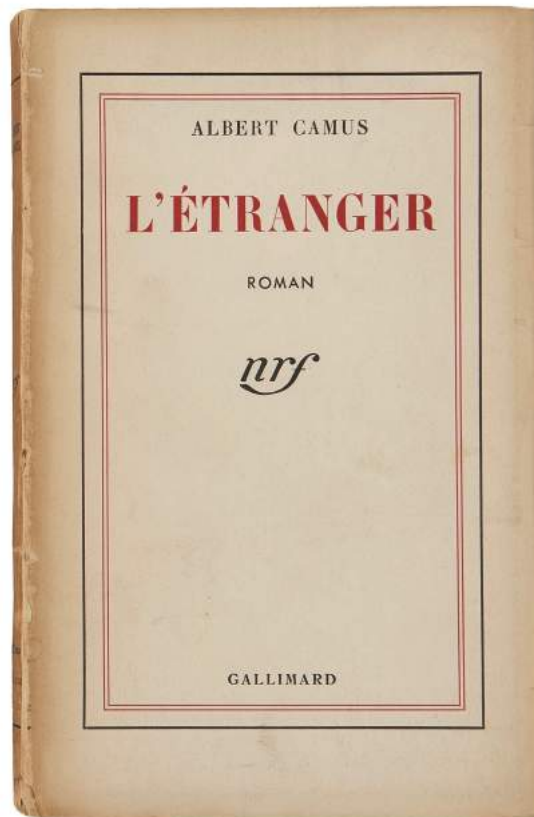
Albert Camus
Paris, 1942

An iconic work of philosophy and literature.

First edition, first printing. Original publisher's wrappers. In April 1942, 4400 copies were produced with varied imprints - 400 service de presse, 500 with no mention of edition, and 3500 with false mentions of editions from second through eighth. This copy bears the false fifth edition imprint.

Spine toned and chipped with some spotting, cover edges moderately worn, pages browned per usual, overall a Very Good copy. Rare in wrappers.

'*The Stranger* was completed as Camus worked during the day in a dingy hotel room in Paris, while in the evenings, he worked for a newspaper. It was a time of loneliness and tumult. As the war raged on, Camus moved from Paris to Oran in Algeria...With the Nazis' growing stranglehold over all French institutions, paper production was strictly regulated and censorship was in place. That Camus's book was published appears nothing short of miraculous...In the end, the Nazi head of propaganda in France, who had the final say in all publication matters, assented to *The Stranger*, as it was "asocial and apolitical.'"(Kumar)



With the publication of *The Stranger* and *The Myth of Sisyphus* in the same year, Camus became a public figure and an existential legend.(Haven)

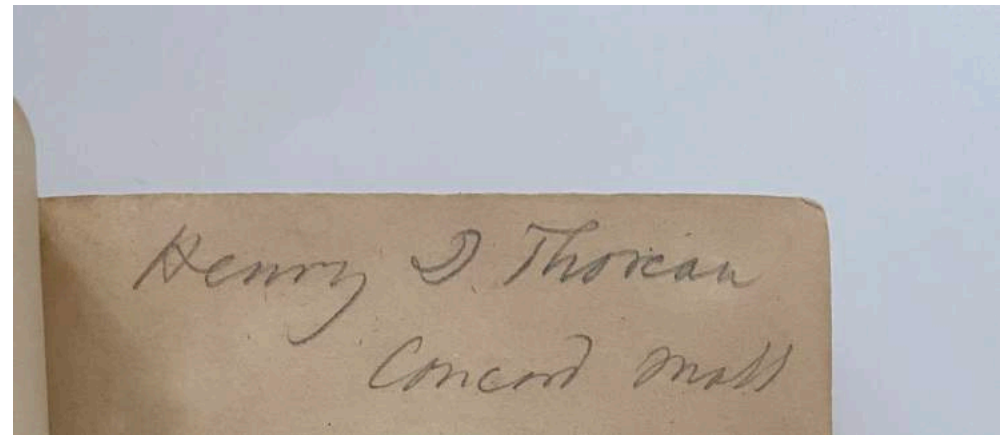
\$9,350

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A once-in-a-lifetime signed copy

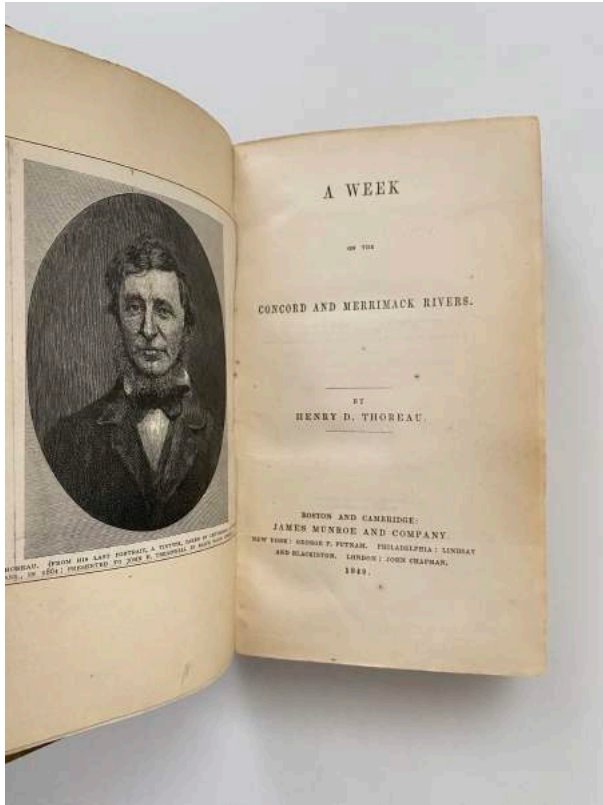
A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers

Henry David Thoreau
Boston, 1849



First edition, first printing of his first book - a mystical work that was most personal to him. Rebound in turn of the century cloth, covers and spine moderately rubbed and scratched, retaining the original cream endpapers with a portrait of Thoreau pasted on a subsequent one. Overall, a Very Good copy chemised in a beautiful blue quarter-morocco case.

Signed by Thoreau on the front endpaper, along with a couple of handwritten corrections to the text in his hand! This copy was for his friend Theo Brown, a local tailor who also signed his name on the verso of the endpaper. It is identified in a surviving letter from Brown to Thoreau on January 10, 1862 wherein Brown asks Thoreau for two signed copies of *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers*.



"In the back window of Theo. Brown's tailoring shop, corner of Main and Pearl Streets, where many a hard fought battle of chess had been won and lost, anon was wont to sit the philosopher Thoreau, fashioning the habiliments of the soul, while near him Theo would calmly continue cutting out habiliments for the wear of the body, and Harry Blake, with his eyes glistening with delight behind his gold-bowed glasses, would follow the arguments of each."(Walden.org)

This copy was once owned by Brown's grandson, Theo III. Two of his diary entries reference it.

7/10/48:

"Elise and I drove to Concord this morning to attend the annual meeting of the Thoreau Society...Showed the daguerrotype I have of Thoreau [and] also my 1st edition with Thoreau autograph of *[A] Week on the Concord & Merrimack[k] Rivers.*"

The following entry also physically describes this copy. Theo III had sent it for examination to the famed Thoreau collector, Albert Lowmes.

8/20/48:

'I've had several interesting letters from Albert E. Lowmes...about my copy of the "*[A] Week on the Concord & Merrimack Rivers*"...I sent him my copy and he wrote Aug 19:

"*A Week* came this morning and I took the first opportunity to examine it carefully. It is a most interesting copy and I congratulate you on owning it. Sometime in the past it must have been rebound. The original yellow or cream colored end papers have been retained, but the leaf bearing Thoreau's portrait has been added. It is quite different in quality from [other copies of this] book -- a heavier laid paper. I compared your copy with 4 others. In my earlier letter I referred to the corrections which Thoreau sometimes made. You may be interested to know that on page 120 he changed the word "work" to "wash." Thank you again for allowing me to see this precious volume. --- With great gratitude I am

Sincerely
Albert E. Lowmes."

"In the late summer of 1839, Thoreau and his older brother John made a two-week boat-and-hiking trip from Concord, Massachusetts, to the White Mountains of New Hampshire. After John's sudden death in 1842, Thoreau began to prepare a memorial account of their excursion. He wrote two drafts of this story at Walden Pond, which he continued to revise and

expand until 1849, when he arranged for its publication at his own expense. The book's heterodoxy and apparent formlessness troubled its contemporary audience. Thoreau interweaves descriptions of natural phenomena, the rural landscape, and local characters with digressions on literature and philosophy, the Native American and Puritan histories of New England, the *Bhagavad Gita*, the imperfections of Christianity, and many other subjects. Modern readers, however, have come to see it as an appropriate predecessor to *Walden*, with Thoreau's story of a river journey depicting the early years of his spiritual and artistic growth."(Princeton)

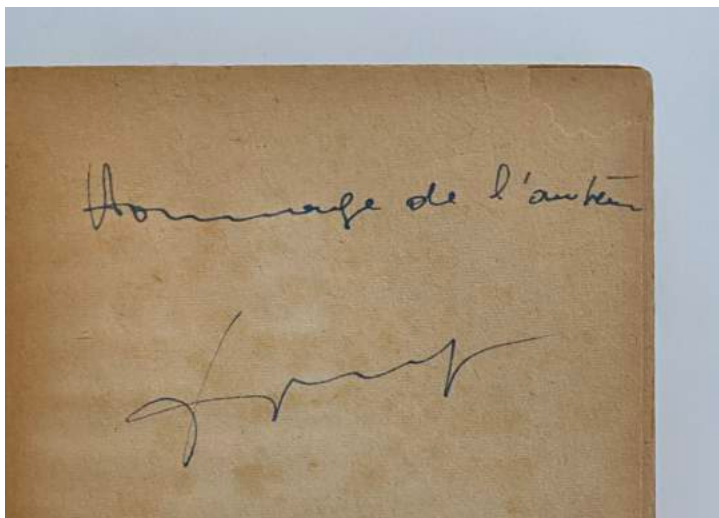
Thoreau's books signed by him are beyond scarce. Just a few appear in the sales records, the most recent being 70 years ago. Truly a once-in-a-lifetime copy.

\$98,800

Ref: *Theo Brown Diaries*, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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A truly scarce sighting of an inscribed copy



Peau Noire, Masques Blancs(Black Skin, White Masks)

Frantz Fanon

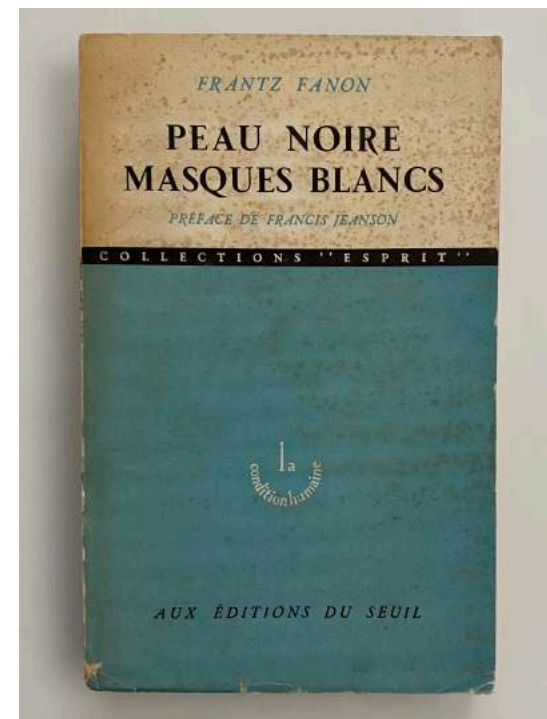
Paris, 1952

First edition, "service de presse" review copy, original wrappers. Pronounced foxing on front cover and first few leaves, small split to front lower joint, small chip to upper corner of front endpaper, usual textblock toning due to cheap paper stock, general wear mainly at the edges, uncut, binding solid. Overall, a sound, unread Good copy - other than two leaves from the first gathering, it's completely unopened.

Inscribed by Fanon on the front endpaper.

The legend died of leukemia at only 36, and his signed books are exceptionally scarce - I've only seen one other copy in the trade, and none appear in the sales records.

"Though just 27 at the time of its publication, the work displays incredible literacy in major intellectual trends of the time: psychoanalysis, existentialism, phenomenology, and dialectics, as well as, most prominently, the early Négritude movement and U.S. based critical race work in figures like Richard Wright. Modest in length, the book is notable for its enormous ambition, seeking to understand the foundations of anti-Black racism in the deepest recesses of consciousness and the social



world. The book is Fanon's major work on blackness. In fact, his focus shifts in the years following the publication of *Black Skin, White Masks*, moving away from blackness as a problem—perhaps *the* problem—of the modern world and toward a wider theory of the oppressed, colonialism, and revolutionary resistance to the reach of coloniality as a system.”(Stanford Philosophy)

\$4950

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An important precursor of Lenin's theories of revolution

Анархія мысли. Собрание критических очерковъ.[Anarchy of Thought. A Collection of Critical Essays.]

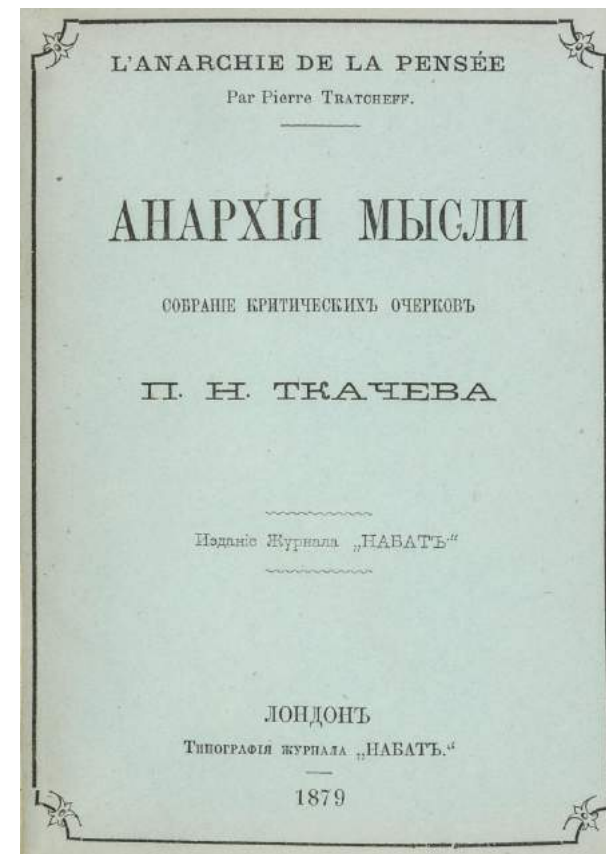
Pyotr Tkachev
London, 1879

First edition of this rare collection of anarchist-revolutionary essays.

15 x 10.8 cm., 78 pages. Original wrappers bound in mid-20th century full leather by the famed Alain Lobstein. A scratch to the label, textblock moderately browned, else Fine. An exceptionally rare survival with just two copies in WorldCat.

“Tkachev was the first to advance the program of a direct assault upon the government by an organized revolutionary minority, in preference to attempts at socialist propaganda among the masses or reliance on a general peasant uprising to be provoked by agitation...some of his fundamental concepts in the field of revolutionary strategy and tactics anticipate, in a striking fashion, Lenin's design for a revolution in Russia.” (Karpovich)

During the student riots in St. Petersburg in the 1860s, Tkachev led a small radical group and was repeatedly arrested and sentenced to



imprisonment, but escaped abroad in 1873. Ideological disagreements with Marx and Engels, and with Russian revolutionary émigré circles, would leave him isolated. In the mid-1870s, he published the radical magazine *Nabat* (*Alarm Bell*), which advocated the creation of secret revolutionary cells in Russia and sympathized with acts of terrorism. His ideas began to gain more traction – People's Will, a group influenced by him, assassinated Tsar Alexander II in 1881. Tkachev spent the last few years of his life in a

Parisian sanitarium, succumbing to cerebral palsy in 1886 at just 41 years old.

\$3950

Ref: *A Forerunner of Lenin: P.N. Tkachev, Karpovich
A History of Russian Philosophy*, Kuvakin

The first Western edition of Confucius

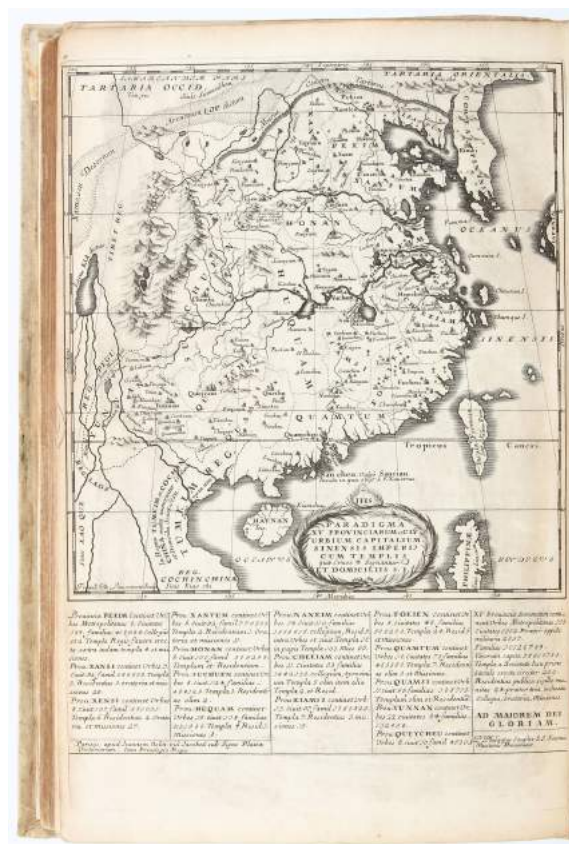
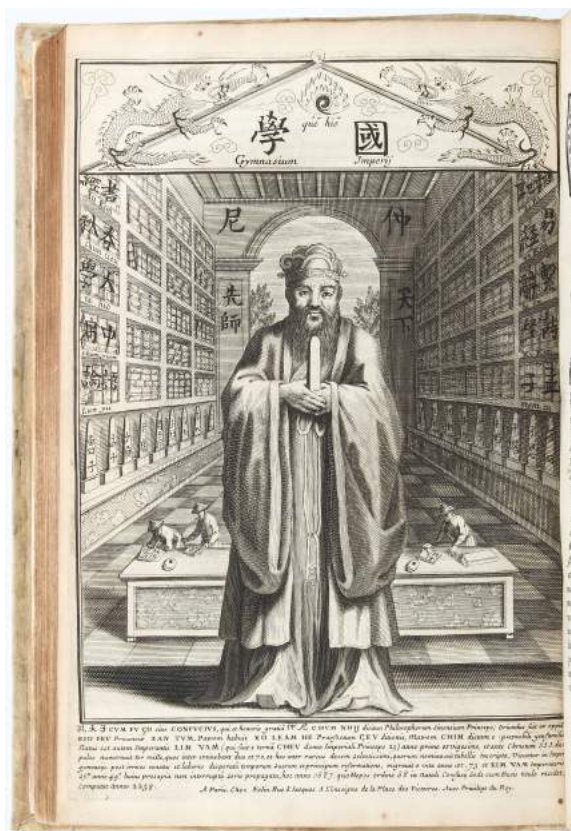
Confucius Sinarum Philosophus sive Scientia Sinensis Latine Exposita

Philippe Couplet, Prospero Intorcetta, Chrétien Herdrich, François de
Rougemont
Paris, 1687

First Edition. Folio(34 x 21.5 cm.) i-viii, 1-108, 1-21, blank leaf, 1-159, 1-8, ix-
cxxiv, i-xx, 1-106, map leaf, 105-108, colophon leaf. With two full-page
engraved plates: a portrait of Confucius and Couplet's map of China.

Textblock with some mild browning and light sporadic stains, repaired
contemporary vellum. An attractive, Near Fine copy of a really important
book.

"The first widely accessible Latin translation of three of the four Confucian
classics, *The Daxue(The Great Learning)*, *Lunyu(The Analects)*, and *The
Zhongyong(The Doctrine of the Mean)*, as well as a biographical sketch of
Confucius...This seminal work was the culmination of a century of Jesuit
attempts to translate and interpret the Confucian classics. The bulk of this
collective work was composed in China under the leadership of the
Sicilian Jesuit Prospero Intorcetta(1626-1696) in Guangzhou, where



twenty-four Jesuit missionaries, along with four Dominicans and a Franciscan, had been exiled in 1666 after the bitter confrontation between the Muslim astronomer Yang Guangxian(1597-1669) and Adam Schall von Bell(1591-1666). The final product was completed and heavily edited by Philippe Couplet(1623-1693), who presented it to Melchisédech Thévenot(1620-1692), librarian of Louis XIV, for publication with the Bibliothèque Royale.”(Canaris)

A landmark civilizational introduction to Confucius, the most famous Chinese person in history and one of the world’s most renowned philosophers.

\$11,800

Ref: *Peace and Reason of State in the Confucius Sinarum philosophus*, Daniel Canaris

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A copy that soothes one’s inner wolf

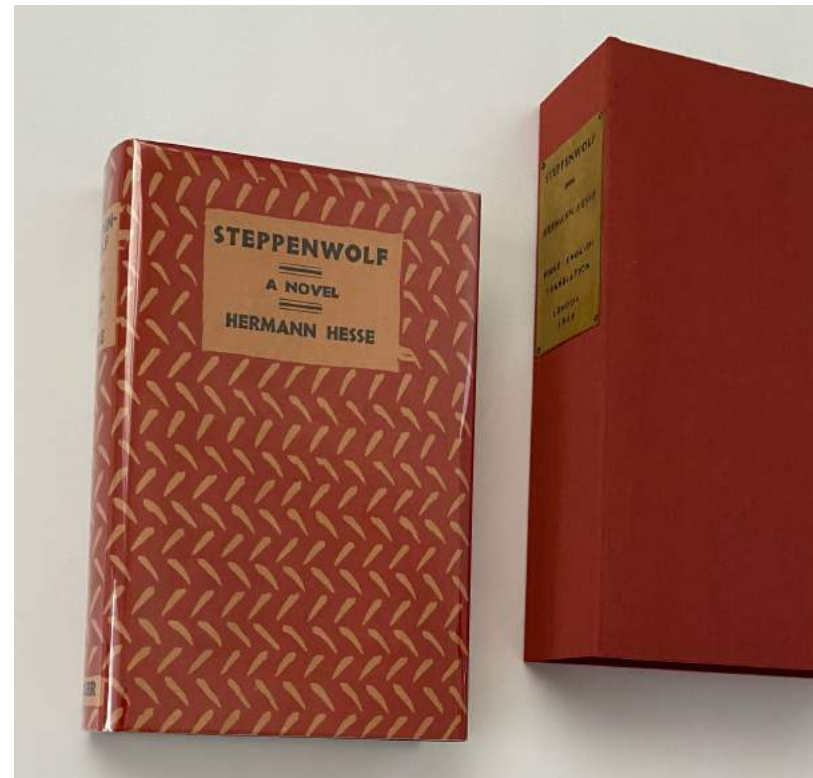
Steppenwolf

Hermann Hesse
London, 1929

First edition in English, first impression. Translated by the prolific Basil Creighton. Fine, original black cloth book with red top edge, Australian bookseller sticker on front pastedown, seemingly unread and even retains the publisher’s laid-in ads. In the rare, intriguingly designed jacket that appears from time to time, but never like this one - a Fine, unsurpassably pristine copy housed in a custom case.

Hesse’s classic, mystically philosophical text speaks to successive generations because it taps into our bone-deep yearning for something more fulfilling than the soul-draining banalities we’re taught to appreciatively accept.

Reality is an especially active force in the rare book world, routinely crushing our dreams of attaining perfect copies of cherished works. Every



so often, copies like this stymie its woeful force and enable our dreams to come true.

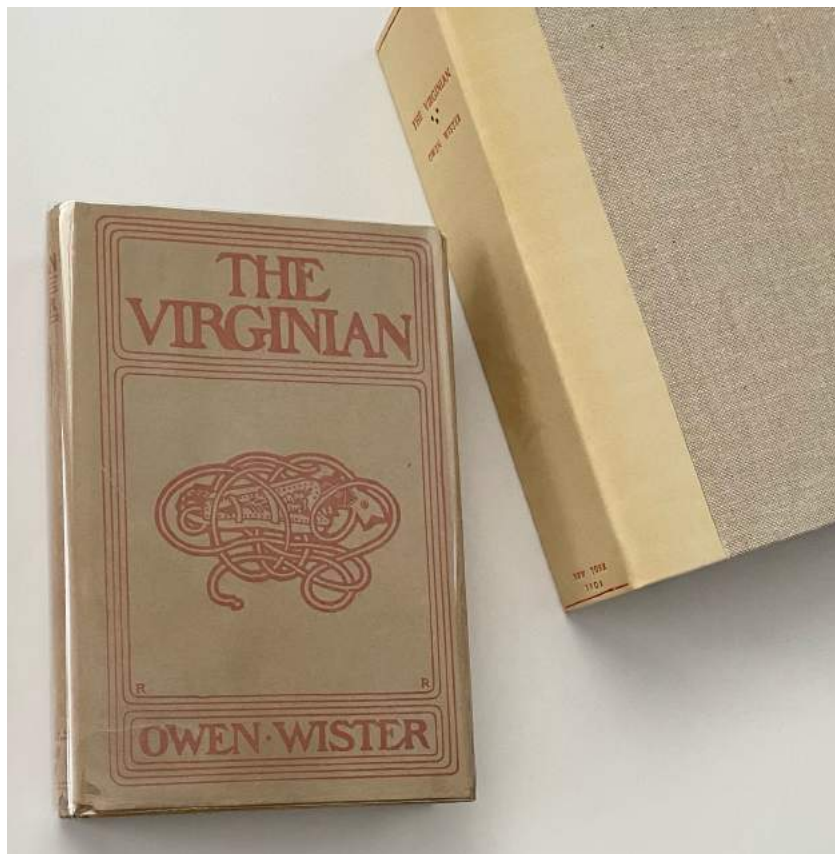
\$11,800

The genesis of an American mythos

The Virginian: A Horseman of the Plains

Owen Wister
New York, 1902

First edition, first printing. Illustrated plates by Arthur I. Keller. Fine, original tan cloth book with the rare jacket in tremendously satisfying shape - chipped at spine panel ends and corners, a few closed tears else a bright, Near Fine example that retains its visual dynamism. The few *Virginian*



jackets that occasionally surface typically look ravaged. Contemporary female owner signature on front endpaper dated June 1902, Boston. An excellent copy housed in a custom case.

In 1885, the Harvard educated Wister sought recuperation at a Wyoming ranch after suffering a nervous breakdown. He'd begin writing various pieces about the West, culminating in this 1902 magnum opus that he dedicated to his friend, President Theodore Roosevelt. It effectively created the Western genre we know today - a mysterious, chivalrous cowboy rides into the West, grapples with moral dilemmas, and encounters a schoolteacher love interest. It also contains classic genre features like horse-thievery, card playing, cattle driving, and a climactic gunfight that's the first "showdown" in fiction. Truly a landmark work that was the best-selling book in the country for two straight years, garnering Wister fame and fortune and etching a key mythos into the psyche of the nation.

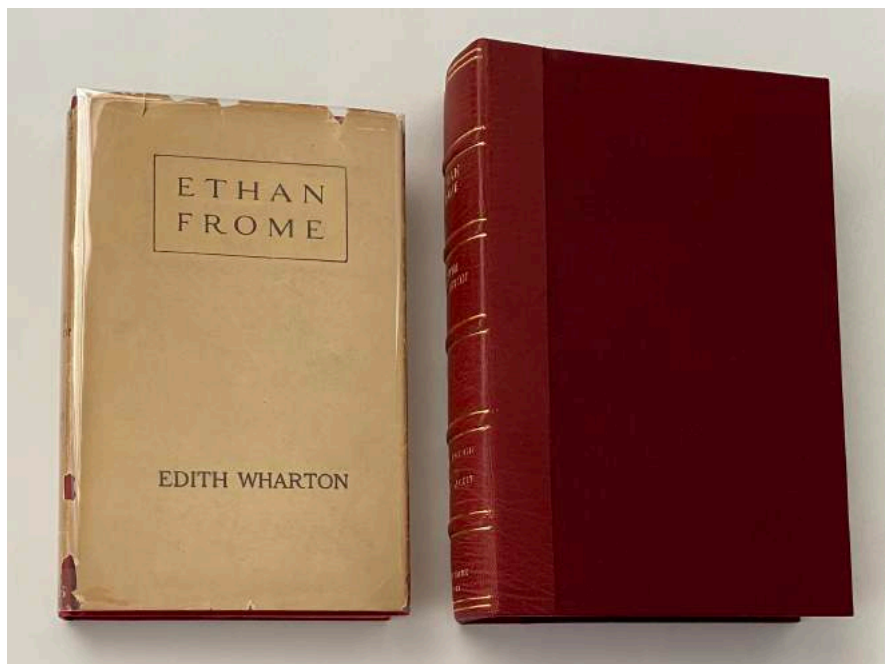
\$15,800

Ethan Frome

Edith Wharton
New York, 1911

First edition, first state("wearily" unbroken on page 135) of Wharton's highly lauded tragic novel of secret love set against a bleak New England winter. One of the first 2500 copies(top edge gilt) from an overall edition of 6000.

Publisher's red cloth in Fine condition with the crazy rare dust jacket - scattered chipping with a loss at the upper corner of the rear cover, toned, else Very Good. An unrepaired rarity housed in a custom case. No other unrepaired jackets appear in the sales records since the Truman presidency.



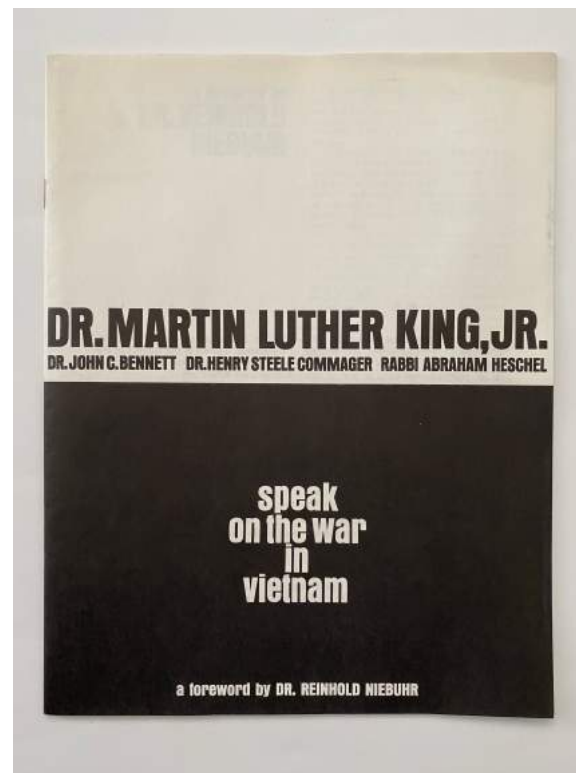
The legendary Wharton was the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for fiction. She would utilize her great literary talents to attack the character failings of the New York aristocracy she was a part of. *Ethan Frome* is a departure from that upper crust setting and was written during an emotionally turbulent time for her - living in a crumbling marriage with a flagrantly unfaithful husband as she sought solace in her own intense affair. Her real life grief and emotional distress would be channeled into this masterpiece, as great artists do with their pain. Finally in 1913, she was able to break free via divorce.

\$15,800

Ref: *Edith Wharton and Ethan Frome*, Orlene Murad

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.[et al.] Speak on the War in Vietnam
New York, 1967



First edition. Original wrappers. Minor occasional rubbing, a few creases, else Fine. A nice example of a rare survival. Decently represented in WorldCat libraries, but scarce in the market.

Ex-Rev. Addie Wyatt - a significant figure in the union, civil, and women's rights movements. One of *Time Magazine's* Twelve Women of the Year in 1976.

This magazine features anti-Vietnam war speeches by Dr. King, Dr. John C. Bennett, Dr. Henry Steel Commager, and Rabbi Abraham Heschel - members of Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam. In late 1965, Dr. King joined this organization of multi-faith leaders to oppose the war, one of the largest moral and geopolitical disasters in American history. King bravely risked his hard-earned reputation to oppose American involvement in the war.

\$575

Ref: Addie Wyatt, Marcia Walker
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Beyond Vietnam," HD Childree

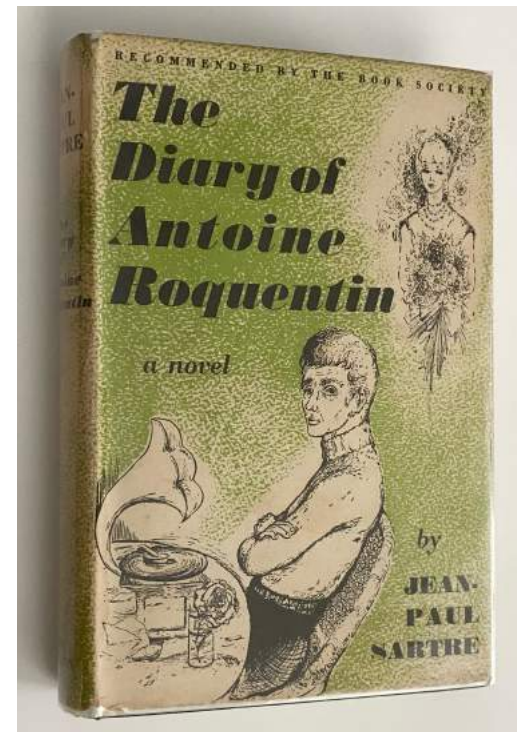
The Diary of Antoine Roquentin[La Nausee, Nausea]

Jean-Paul Sartre
London, 1949

First edition, first impression in English. An American edition more aptly titled, *Nausea*, was released in the same year using these British sheets. Another translation also titled, *Nausea*, would appear in the U.K. in 1962.

Publisher's cloth boards - bright covers and spine, spotting along textblock edges, first few leaves foxed otherwise internally clean. Very Good.

Unclipped dust jacket with light chips at some edges, spine a shade toned, light general wear. Overall a nice, Very Good example of the charismatic jacket.



The work follows the story of Antoine Roquentin, a loner young man who becomes increasingly nauseated by his own existence. 'The basic element that underlies the novel and Sartre's existentialism more generally is the matter of human freedom. At one part of the novel Roquentin says to himself, "I am free now. I do not have the slightest reason for living." Roquentin suffers by being confronted with his total freedom. He suffers from life's and the world's contingency, its randomness and superfluity, aspects that are all linked to the crucial aspect and matter of freedom.'(Boppert)

\$675

Tales

Edgar Allan Poe
London, 1845

First English edition, comprised of American first printing sheets from the same year with a cancel title-page bearing a London imprint - the subsequent 1846 English edition used second printing sheets. There were perhaps 1500 copies of these first printing sheets with an unknown number sent overseas for this English edition - it's a noted rarity. No other copies in the sales records since the height of the second World War. I've seen only one copy in the trade, and its pages were so foxed that it could have had a place in a grotesque Poe story. An exceptionally scarce copy of an iconic book.

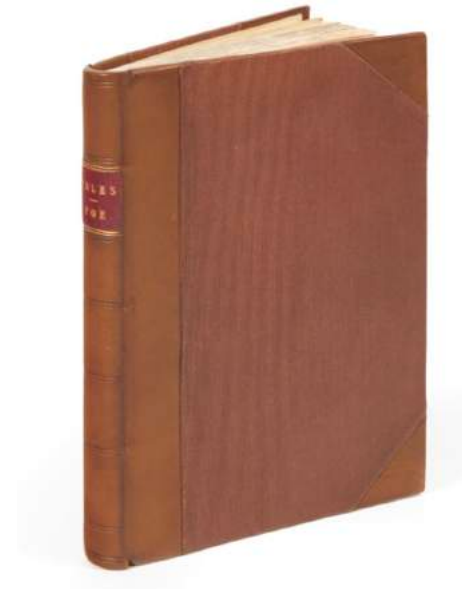
228 pp. and (4) pp. of advertisements. Late 19th century half-calf, browned title page repaired, another leaf with a tiny corner restoration, tear to last ad leaf repaired. Old owner signature in red pencil on title page. Minor sporadic smudges at the margins, otherwise the pages are quite clean. The text block is entirely untrimmed. Overall, a Very Good copy housed in a custom slipcase.

Ex-Vincent Starrett(1886-1974), signature on front endpaper - journalist, bibliophile, and author of detective novels.

With the character of C. Auguste Dupin, Poe popularized the modern detective genre. Dupin would be the model for subsequent characters like Sherlock Holmes. This volume contains the first appearance in book form of all three Dupin stories, *Murders in the Rue Morgue*, *The Mystery of Marie Rogêt*, and *The Purloined Letter*. Among other horror and suspense classics found herein are *The Gold-Bug* and *Fall of the House of Usher*.

Poe resides in literature's inner sanctum, and here is one of his landmark works - a most worthy addition to the collection, a joyful acquiescence to one's bibliomania.

\$24,800



Ref: *Queen's Quorum*, Ellery Queen

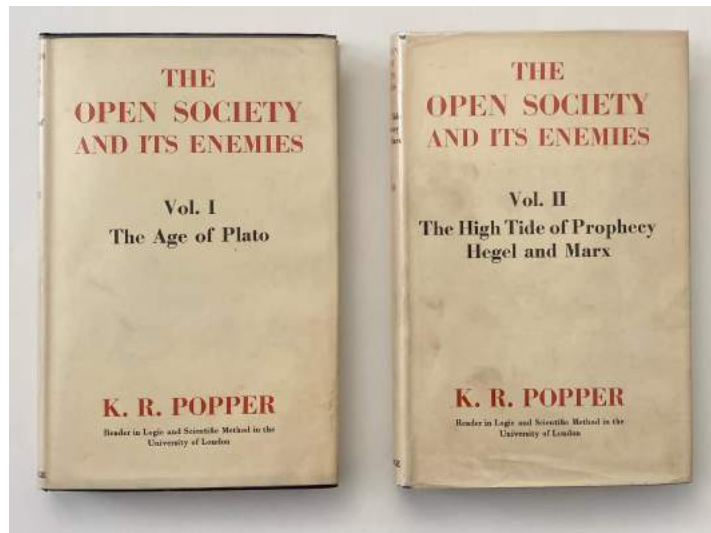
The Open Society and Its Enemies

Karl Popper
London, 1945

First edition, first printing of Popper's first book.

Two volumes. Publisher's black cloth, spine titles gilt. Ownership stamp to front free endpapers in both volumes. Corners lightly bumped on both volumes, volume 2 slightly bowed, else a bright Near Fine set.

Unclipped dust jackets with some light smudges, tiny chips and closed tears along edges, spines lightly toned, light general wear, else Very Good. Nice examples of the rare jackets.



One of the 20th century's landmark political philosophy works - written during Popper's political exile in New Zealand. He arrived there in 1937 to escape the forces of National Socialism in Austria. Within, he launches a

vigorous attack on totalitarianism and defense of liberal democracy with core values rooted in scientific rationality and debate.

\$8950

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Chain binding, an elusive thing

Theatrum Humanae Vitae

Theodor Zwinger
Basel, 1604



Parts 10-18(of 29 total) in one volume. Folio, 36.8 x 22.23 cm. Blind-stamped pigskin, clasps and one corner metal fitting gone, rusting, front wooden board renewed, covers well-worn, numerous wormholes particularly in the early leaves, text largely clean and crisp though, overall Good or slightly better. Importantly and excitingly, it retains a 5 link, 16 cm. chain on the rear cover.

Fifth edition of the Swiss physician and polymath's universal encyclopedia, posthumously enlarged and edited by his son, Jakob. It's a compilation of thousands of extracts to produce a universal history that displays how humanity's good and evil natures affect everything.

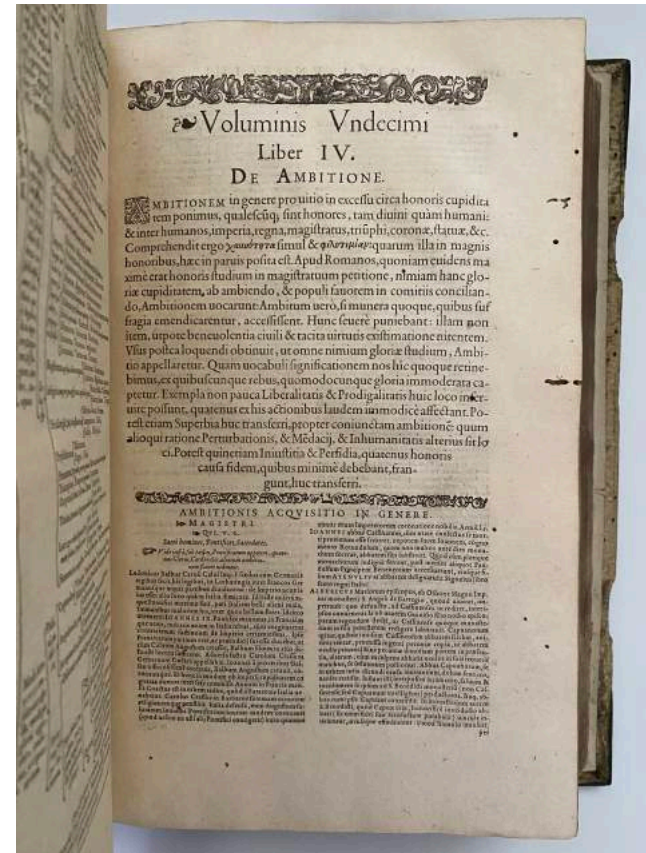
And now, more on this item's most significant feature. Starting in the late Middle Ages as a means of theft prevention, books housed in libraries and monasteries would be fashioned with a chain and connected to a desk; books were still rather expensive productions. While a cover's chain hook sometimes survives, the chain itself rarely does. It viscerally evokes the learned, perhaps dreary, yet compelling ambiance of the old library or monastery from which it came, with images of robed scholars studiously hunched over the tome playing their part in progressing human knowledge. Aside from purely religious texts, this tome is just the sort of wide-ranging work that would keep such a scholar ponderously occupied. It is indeed pretty magical.

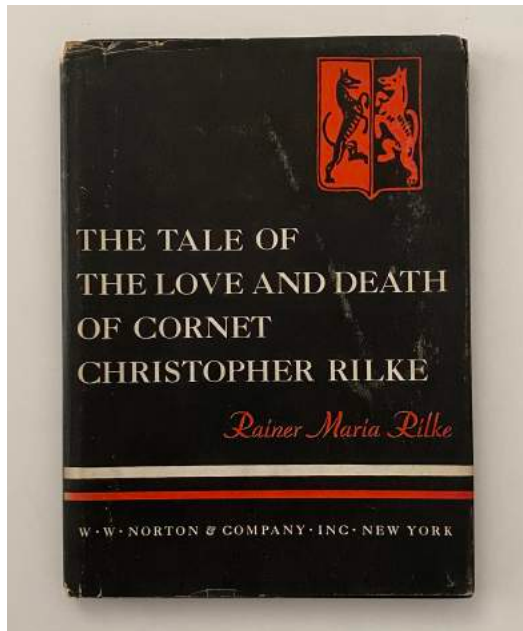
\$18,800

Ref:

Interfaces of the Word, Studies in the Evolution of Consciousness and Culture, Walter J. Ong

A History of Magic and Experimental Science, Lynn Thorndike





The Tale of the Love and Death of Cornet Christopher Rilke

Rainer Maria Rilke
New York, 1932

First American edition and likely first English language edition. This and several other Rilke works were translated by Mary D. Herter Norton and issued by the famous surnamed publishing house she founded with her husband.

Spine ends bumped, spine a shade toned, else Near Fine. Contemporary owner signature on front free endpaper. Unclipped jacket chipped at spine ends, moderate sporadic stains, edge and general wear, else Very Good.

"This little prose-poem about a young soldier in the Austro-Turkish war of the early 1660's was written during a single night in 1899, when Rilke was twenty-three. It had a modest success when it first came out. But when it was republished in 1912, in a more popular format, it took Germany by storm, much to the author's amazement. The first edition was sold out within weeks; there was one new printing after another; soldiers on the front lines during the World War I carried the book in their knapsacks, along with, possibly, the Bible. By 1920 it had sold 200,000 copies – an astounding figure for that time – and by the late '50's over a million. An intensely romantic meditation on the nature of masculinity, it is the book by which, among German readers, Rilke was primarily known and loved." (Stephen Mitchell)

\$135

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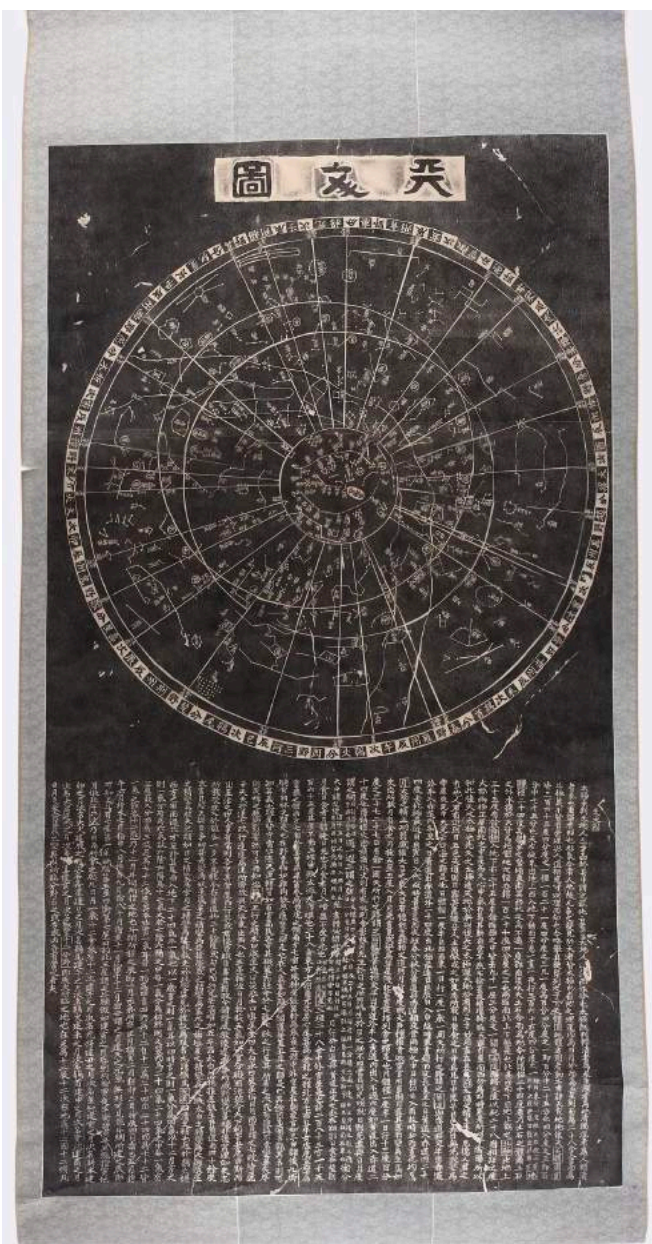
The Suzhou Astronomical Chart(Tienwen Tu)

Huang Shang and Wang Zhiyuan
Suzhou, 1247(stele), late 19th century(rubbing)

Ink rubbing taken from a famed 13th century stele, mounted on a hanging paper scroll fashioned with wooden rods. 227 x 106 cm. total size.

This highly detailed map of the visible cosmos was created between 1190 and 1193 by Huang Shang, scholar and tutor to the emperor's son. It was later engraved on a stone stele in 1247 by Wang Zhiyuan, from which this rubbing is taken. This stele, along with 3 other major Song Dynasty steles, is preserved in the Suzhou Confucian temple in the Jiangsu province.

Rubbings of this stele are rare and highly regulated as a preservation effort, this being only the third or fourth example on the market in the last fifty years.



A fine, dark impression, showing the stone in nice detail. Small closed tear on left side of mounting paper. Two small holes in the lower half. Slightly dusty, some folds and creasing throughout. Overall, a Near Fine example.

The chart portrays the entire visible sky from central China on a polar projection. The outline of the Milky Way, 28 lunar lodges, 280 constellations, and some 1440 stars indicated by small dots and joined into groups by straight lines are all shown. Some larger stars like Sirius are shown as larger dots. It's one of the world's oldest complex astronomical charts. The text also details an Earth creation story, its elemental composition, and hourly and monthly timekeeping - a remarkable scientific, historical, artistic and cultural artifact.

\$29,800

Ref:

- *Astronomy in Ancient and Medieval China*, J. Needham
- *Encyclopaedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*, Helaine Selin
- *The Soochow Astronomical Chart*, Carl Rufus and Hsing-Chih Tien

Signed by David Bowie and Mick Rock

Moonage Daydream: The Life and Times of Ziggy Stardust

David Bowie, Mick Rock
Surrey, 2002

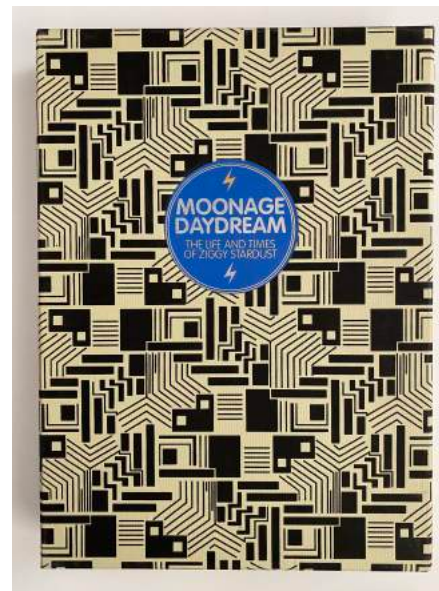
One of 350 specially-bound deluxe copies from the overall limited edition of 2500. Full blue leather with a gold Ziggy lightning bolt, gilt-lettered spine, text-block edges gilt. Publisher's cloth box. A Fine copy.

Signed by Bowie and legendary music photographer, Mick Rock. Each of these deluxe copies also contains a Rock signed print not found in the standard copies.

An exquisite publication printed on fourteen different paper stocks; a veritable visual wonder worthy of the celebratory occasion for which it was published, the 30th anniversary of the iconic Ziggy album.

"The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars made Bowie a household name and left a milestone on the highway of popular music, rewriting the terms of the performer's contract with his audience and ushering in a new approach to rock's relationship with artifice and theatre that permanently altered the cultural aesthetic of the twentieth century."
(*The Complete David Bowie*, Pegg)

\$4,850



We'll see you down the road for Part 2.