



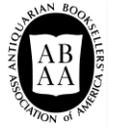
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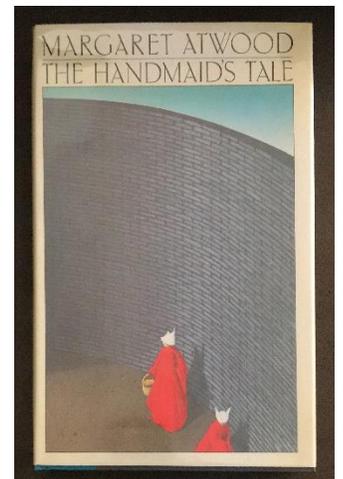


*Rootenberg Rare Books & Manuscripts is proud to present a short list of items in honor of the television return of *Handmaid's Tale* and the powerful women it portrays. We will donate ten percent (10%) of the proceeds from the sale of any item to the National Organization for Women, "the largest organization of feminist grassroots activities in the United States" (now.org).*

1. **ATWOOD, Margaret.** *The handmaid's tale.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1986. 8vo. Turquoise cloth-backed boards, title in silver on spine; dust jacket illustrated by Fred Marcellino. In absolute perfect condition, a fabulous copy. Publishers book card laid in.

First printing of the first American edition, first published in Canada the prior year. In Atwood's dystopian novel set in the near future, a totalitarian dictatorship has overthrown the U.S. government and women are at the mercy of a patriarchal society. In this gripping story following the journey of one handmaid, Atwood brilliantly portrays the power of religion, identity and gender. *The Handmaid's Tale* won the 1985 Governor General's Award, and in 1987 the first Arthur C. Clarke Award. It has been adapted into numerous formats, but most notably is now a popular television series.

Atwood (b. 1939) is a Canadian novelist, poet, essayist and literary critic. She has published sixteen novels, seventeen books of poetry, ten books of non-fiction, eight collections of short fiction, eight children's books, and one graphic novel. She has won several awards and honors including the National Book Critics and PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Awards.



\$ 250.00

2. **CARSON, Rachel.** *Silent Spring.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1962. 8vo. Original green publisher's cloth, dust jacket in rough condition with some loss; scattered highlighting and underlining, but otherwise in very good condition. With a small pamphlet by Justice William O. Douglas, reprinted from the Book-of-the-Month Club News, praising Carson's book.

First edition, later printing of the author's groundbreaking work on the environmental effects of synthetic pesticides in America. It immediately came under a tremendous amount of fire from the chemical industry, who not only criticized Carson and her findings but also threatened to sue for libel. Nevertheless, this enduring work was a major catalyst in creating laws to stem the use of pesticides, especially DDT, and helped bring environmental concerns to the forefront of American thought and politics from the 1960's on. Carson (1907-1964) was a prominent American biologist who became an early advocate of the environmental movement. Her first book, *The Sea Around us*, won the National Book Award, and she was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

\$ 125.00

MANUSCRIPT ARCHIVE FROM THE MOST PROLIFIC WOMAN EXPLORER OF HER TIME

3. DAVID-NÉEL, Alexandra. Small archive, consisting of 3 manuscript letters, all signed by David-Néel; manuscript in her hand of 4 pages; two (2) typescripts. All material dated no later than 23 November 1924.

French explorer and author Alexandra David-Néel (1868-1969) led a remarkable life. A scholar of Buddhism and Eastern religions, David-Néel was the first Western woman ever to visit the holy city of Lhasa, the center of Tibetan Buddhism. As a teen, she became involved in a group studying Eastern religion and the occult associated with the Theosophical Society of Madame Blavatsky. After learning Sanskrit and Tibetan she traveled through Ceylon and India, where she was introduced to the thirteenth Dalai Lama (1876–1933), born Thubten Gyatso, who had recently fled Tibet. Rarely constrained by the deference expected of her gender in either Western or Asian cultures, David-Néel was able to ask and receive answers to several questions on spiritual enlightenment from the Dalai Lama, which is believed to have made her the first white woman ever to address the leader of Tibetan Buddhism on such topics. She went on to the royal monastery in the nearby kingdom of Sikkim, where she met the crown prince, Sidkeong Tulku Namgyal, who would ascend to the throne in 1914 (there were rumors the two were romantically involved). She later journeyed to Lhasa and across China to a famous monastery called Kum-Bum, considered the birthplace of Tibetan Buddhism, where she translated Tibetan sacred texts into French. The letters in this archive were written in 1924 when she returned to Calcutta. The letters are written to Boshi Sen (1887-1971), a famous Indian agriculturalist and scientist, founder of the Vivikenanda Laboratory (and ultimately University) who was instrumental in creating a means to grow massive amounts of grain for the purpose of reducing famine in India. He was in America at the time these letters were written. In her letters, she also mentions her friend Prof. [Nicholas] Roerich (1874-1947), a Russian painter, writer, archaeologist and philosopher who was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. David-Néel returned to France in the spring of 1925. Her magazine articles were finally published and ultimately became sensational books that were translated into English as well as other languages. She was awarded the Gold Medal of the Geographical Society of France and named a chevalier of the French Legion of Honor. Her works also played a vital role in the rise of the Beat poets like Allen Ginsberg who asserted that it was David-Néel's writings that deepened his interest in Buddhism and led him to formally convert to the religion.

\$ 14,000.00

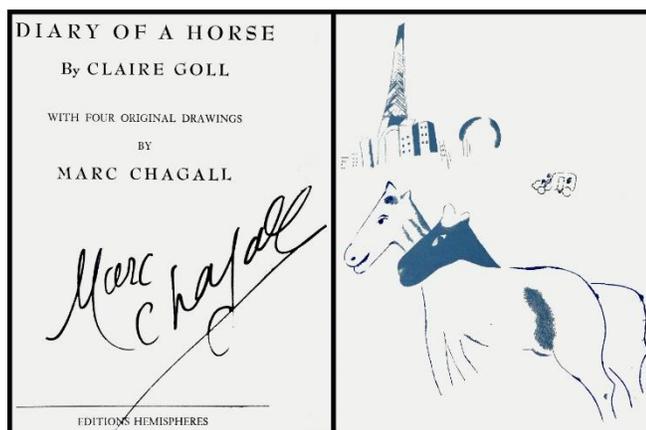
4. [DIOGENES]. AEGIDUS MENAGIUS. *In Diogenem Laetium Aegidii Menagii observationes & emendationes, hac editione plurimum auctae. Quibus subjungitur historia mulierum philosopharum eodem Menagio scriptore. Accedunt Joachimi Kühnii in Diogenem Laertium observationes. Ut & uariantes lectiones ex duobus codicibus MSS. . . .* Amsterdam: Henricum Wetstenium, 1692. 4to. Title in red and black with a small vignette. Contemporary vellum over boards, triple fillets enclosing double fillets with corner-pieces, with large center floral-decoration in blind, front and back; upper board separating, but still solid; red and black marbled endpapers, text somewhat soiled and spotted throughout. From the library of Schulbibliothek des Gymnasiums zu Salzwedel, with discard stamp and small German ownership signature.

This second volume, complete in itself, is famous for the author's work on women philosophers. Diogenes Laertius is the prime source of biographical information on Greek philosophers and the present volume, by Aegidius Menagius (Gilles Ménage of Angers, 1613-92), presents the commentator's elaborate notes on this author. Perhaps more interesting to modern readers is the small "Historical account of philosophic women" which includes, among many others, both Aspasia and Hypatia. That work Aegidius dedicated to the classicist Anna Dacier.

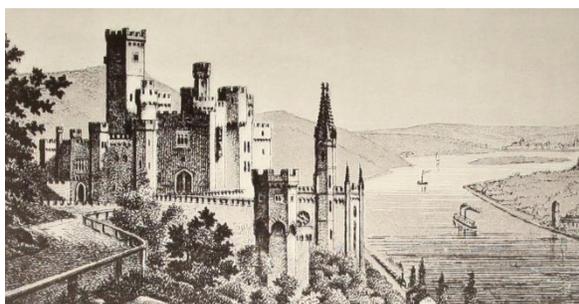
\$ 650.00

5. **GOLL, Claire.** *Diary of a horse.* New York: Editions Hemispheres, 1946 [colophon states November 1945]. 4to. With 4 original drawings by Marc Chagall. Original boards; an exquisite copy.

First edition, one of 320 copies printed overall. Ours is Number 156 printed on Ticonderoga paper, signed on the colophon by the author, plus Chagall's signature on the title page. Wonderful stories of a Paris cab-horse. Goll (1890-1977) was a German journalist, poet and writer who spent most of her life in Switzerland and France. **\$ 3500.00**



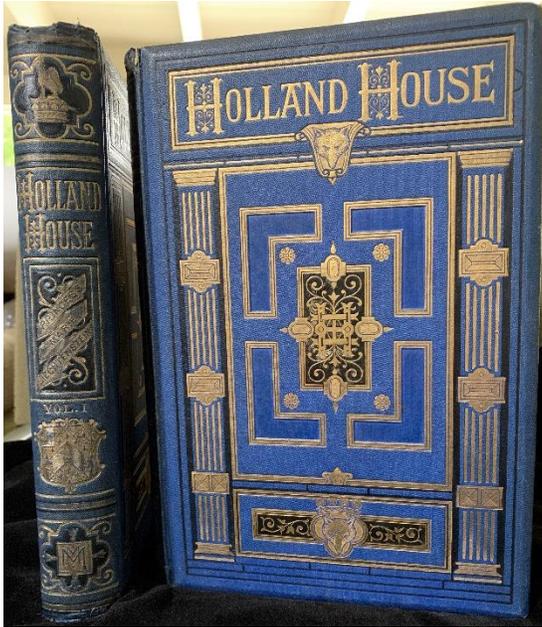
6. **HILL, Lucy A[nn].** *Rhine roamings.* Boston: Lee and Shepard, and New York: Charles T. Dillingham, 1880. 8vo in-4. Frontispiece and 3 plates. Publisher's cloth with gilt lettering on the front board, rubbed, spine nicked; interior very good, with pencil tracings on the tissue guards, and ownership inscriptions on the last plate rear end paper, both in pencil.



First and only edition of this rather rare travelogue written by a young woman studying and traveling throughout the Rhine valley, a particularly picturesque and historic area of the country. One of six teenagers sent to live and study in the region (the girls were from Spain, Germany, Scotland, England, France, and America) with the Widow von Heine, the author describes her days spent visiting museums, churches, gardens and other locales, some popular with other tourists, some off the beaten trail. Evenings were set aside for writing letters, playing games, and general partying. Of particular interest are her descriptions of early architecture and the new and interesting foods that were introduced during their travels. Of course there was some drama, as befalls teenage girls, even in the nineteenth century. Unique, as from the perspective of a young girl away from home.

Lucy Ann Hill (b.1831) apparently wrote one other book, a novel entitled *Marion's year in a German school*, published in 1899. **\$ 450.00**

7. **LIECHTENSTEIN, Princess Marie.** *Holland House.* London: Macmillan and Co., 1874. Two volumes. 8vo. With frontispiece portraits and title vignette portraits in both volumes, 25 additional lithograph and woodcut plates and numerous woodcut text illustrations. Original publisher's blue cloth with decorative front cover and spine in black and gold, head and tail of spine a bit worn, covers quite clean; text is clean and only slightly toned. Bookplate of James McDonald with the motto "Nec tempore nec fato" on paste-down in both volumes.



First edition. A history and physical description of this famous Kensington residence built in 1605. The mansion was acquired in 1767 by the first Baron Holland (1705-1774), the English politician Henry Fox. Starting in the late eighteenth century, Holland House became the center of social, literary and political events, with celebrated visitors such as Jeremy Bentham, Humphry Davy, Thomas Moore, Sir Walter Scott, Charles Dickens and Benjamin Disraeli stopping by to enjoy the intellectual environment as well as the famous meals offered. The book describes the various rooms (the China Room, the Map Room, the Print Room, Sir Joshua [Reynolds] Room, the Library, the Miniature Room) as well as the art and some of the antiquities, books and manuscripts on display.

Marie “Mary” Henriette Adelaide (1850-1878) was a French-born English writer. A foundling of unknown paternity, she was adopted by the childless English nobleman Henry Fox, Fourth Baron Holland (1802-1859) and his wife, and eventually married Prince Louis of Liechtenstein. **\$ 350.00**

8. MIZUSHIMA, Bokuya (scribe & artist). *Kesyo mayuzukuri kuden (Makeup instructions as handed down)*. [Kyoto, ca. 1690]. Calligraphic scroll (20 x 650 cm) in Japanese. With 33 brilliant illustrations, ten in color. Title inscription at beginning and signature of scribe at end. Enclosed in a handsome paulownia wood box certified with seal and signature inside top cover by Sigemi Komatsu, an expert in “old writing.” In excellent condition, with only two small marginal repairs and light discoloration at the beginning of the scroll.

Extraordinary calligraphic scroll, illustrating techniques for a woman to achieve beauty in the early Genroku period (1688-1704), the golden age of the Edo period (1603-1867). The desire to be beautiful is the theme of this elegant illustrated manuscript. Women were expected to be made up from early morning until late at night, even while they were in the bath. Depicted here are the secrets for makeup and hair styles (handed down through generations) with explanatory text and outstanding beauty.



Some of the images show the contours of faces applying their makeup. During the Edo period there were basically only three colors for make-up: white for face powders, black for eyebrows and teeth and beni for lips. When women married they were supposed to pluck or fully shave off their eyebrows (“hikimayu”) to hide their natural expression, and replace them with painted eyebrows. They also colored their teeth black,

which was an important color in the expression of beauty and splendor. These customs reflected the belief that modesty of expression was a virtue and part of a woman's proper demeanor.

Other images illustrate elaborate hairstyles. The kind of hairstyle a woman wore often indicated her class and marriage status. Two illustrations depict fully-ribboned decorative heads which refer to the ritualistic role of Katsura-Ra-Me, a Kyoto priestess with a white head-dress, who attended brides at aristocratic weddings. Illustrations also include hair pieces, a variety of thirteen makeup accessories, and a delightful figure of a lady dancer dressed in a colorful kimono decorated with braided bands, holding a fan; each part of her dress is described.

Bokuyu Mizushima (1607-1697) was active in the Imperial city of Kyoto and the example of his calligraphy here was based on the noteworthy tradition of Nobutado Kanoe. We have located a later copy (1810) at Waseda University library with fewer illustrations. \$ 18,000.00

9. OLSEN, Tillie. *Tell me a riddle.* Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott Company, 1961. 8vo. Grey cloth with white lettering on spine, dustjacket price clipped and in pristine condition, top edges red; overall a crisp and beautiful copy.

First edition of the author's first book. This is a collection of Olsen's fiction she had written thus far, "disarming in its simplicity, is a sounding of the depths of human love" (dustjacket). Tillie Olsen (1912-2007) was an American Jewish writer rooted in politics and an active participant in the first wave of feminists. \$ 500.00

10. PLATH, Sylvia. *The bell jar.* New York: Harper & Row, 1971. 8vo. Purple cloth with silver lettering on the spine, dustjacket slightly worn along the edges and price clipped; overall a gorgeous uncut copy.

First American edition of this important and historical work. Semi-autobiographical, the story follows the protagonist's descent into mental illness. "Step by careful step, Sylvia Plath takes us with Esther through a painful month in New York as a contest-winning junior editor on a magazine, her increasingly strained relationships with her mother and the boy she dated in college, and eventually, devastatingly, into the madness itself" (dustjacket).

Plath (1932-1963) committed suicide a month after *The bell jar's* UK publication. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize posthumously in 1982 for her work *The Collected Poems.* \$ 500.00

11. ROSCOE, William. *The nurse, a poem, translated from the Italian of Luigi Tansillo.* Liverpool: Printed by J. McCreery for Cadell and Davies, 1798. 4to. Engraved folding frontispiece portrait of Lorenzo de Medici. A fine copy in recent boards.

First edition of Roscoe's translation. Roscoe (1753-1831), a charismatic figure, was a pioneer in the study of Italian culture in England. He was a great collector and historian. In the preface, he provides a biography of Tansillo, referring to this poem as "the work of one of the brightest wits in that constellation of Genius which appeared in Italy in the sixteenth century, and which yet diffuses a permanent light over the horizon of literature. . . ." Among Roscoe's many works, he thought that Tansillo's *The Nurse*, written to encourage women to suckle their own children, was worthy of his attention: "The subject is in a high degree interesting, and is treated in a manner peculiarly pointed and direct, yet without violating that decorum which is due to the public at large, and in particular to the sex to whom it is addressed." Roscoe's contribution to this work is quite extensive, including the twelve-page preface, a sonnet and twelve additional pages of notes. The poem is printed in parallel Italian and English. \$ 750.00

12. [SEDGWICK, Catherine Maria]. *Letters from abroad to kindred at home*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1841. Two volumes. 12mo. With 29 pages of publisher's advertisements in Volume I and 2 pages of publisher's advertisements in Volume II. Without the half-titles. Cloth over hard boards, gilt design on front covers and red spine labels; new endpapers, very light foxing, tear to Volume II title page mended with tape. From the library of the noted Biblical scholar J[ames] Glentworth Butler (1821-1916) with a presentation label to the Long Island Historical Society pasted on the front free end-paper of each volume, library stamp and release on the title page of each volume.

First edition. Sedgwick (1789-1867) was a prominent early American novelist, writing at the same time as James Fenimore Cooper. She wrote mainly fiction and short stories with female protagonists, many of whom were quite unconventional for the time. This work is a departure from her normal genre and describes the author's travels through England, Belgium, Switzerland, and Germany in a series of letters.

\$ 400.00

13. SAVORY, Isabel. *A sportswoman in India. Personal adventures and experiences of travel in known and unknown India*. London: Hutchinson & Co., 1900. 8vo. Photogravure frontispiece and 48 plates. Half calf and marbled boards, lightly rubbed, with a library label on the front board; occasional foxing and staining, a few tape repairs to some of the plates. With the large bookplate of the Norfolk & Norwich library.

First edition. This fascinating account of the personal adventures and experiences of a female traveler and game hunter describes her journey to India. From Peshawar to Kashmir, through the Khyber Pass and into the Himalayas, Ms. Savory tracked leopards, bear, tigers, elephants and crocodiles. The photographs illustrate the hunting parties, the scenery, and of course the trophies. Savory describes India as "a country to visit but not to live in; parts of it, from a shooting point of view, are of course Paradise."

\$ 300.00



14. WHARTON, Edith. *Ethan Frome*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1911. 8vo. [vi], 195 pp., including author book list and 4 pages of publisher's advertisements. Red cloth with gilt title and author on front board and spine; gilt top edge, bottom and fore-edges untrimmed. Preserved in a clamshell box, spine label; an excellent copy.

First edition, first printing, with "wearily" unbattered on p. 135. Novella featuring the story of Ethan Frome's grim life and tragic accident in a bleak Massachusetts farm town through an extended flashback. A realistic social criticism of early twentieth century America, this tale provides insightful commentary into the contemporary economic and cultural realities of American suffering.

\$ 2000.00