

# ZOE ABRAMS RARE BOOKS

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*list three*



*Poisson d'Avril*

APRIL FOOLS 2016

[ANONYMOUS]. *Nugae venales sive thesaurus ridendi & jocandi ad gravissimos severissimosque viros, patres melancholicorum conscriptos*. Prostant apud Neminem; sed tamen Veique, [s.l., s.n.], 1648.

12mo, 12.8 x 6.5 cm. [iv], 252, [112]; 71, [1] pp. Two parts in one volume. Illustrated with engraved frontispiece of a clown, and woodcut vignette of a nobleman walking a dog on each title-page, plus woodcut initials and headpieces throughout (hole in one leaf and short tear in another both from natural paper flaws). Bound in contemporary full vellum with yapp edges, early ink manuscript title and date to spine, speckled edges. \$350

*Unidentified Western European university, 1648. Party at the frat house Friday, most hopeful of days. You lock eyes with Cornelia across a crowded room. She's wearing that cartwheel farthingale you like. She approaches, smiling mysteriously, papers in hand. Is it a long, longed-for love note?*

*No; rather, this series of ACADEMIC INSIDE JOKES, PUBLISHED ANONYMOUSLY. Friend zone.*



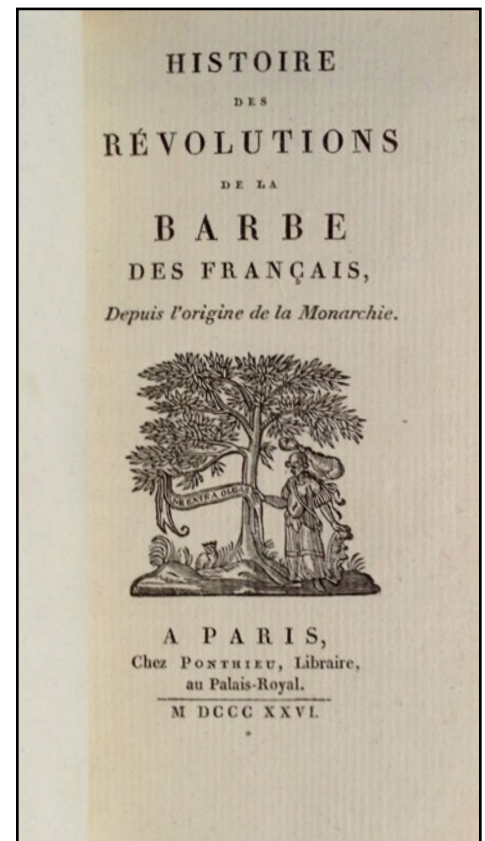
[MOTTELEY, Charles]. *Histoire des Révolutions de la Barbe des Français, depuis l'origine de la Monarchie*. Paris: Ponthieu, 1826.

16mo, 14 x 17 cm. 46, [2] pp. Woodcut device on title-page and woodcut ornaments throughout. Bound by P. Purgold in contemporary half tan morocco ruled in gilt over marbled boards, black gilt lettering piece on spine, marbled endpapers. Number 14 of an unknown edition printed on Hollande. OCLC finds only one location in the U.S. (NYPL). \$185

*Long before the hipsters of Brooklyn went to great lengths establishing their superior beards, the messieurs of Paris were cultivating facial hair long and triumphant. Theirs is a story of intrigue, romance, perseverance.*

*Only by dancing cheek-to-cheek with a hirsute nobleman can you experience the same thrill as reading this*

*HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE FRENCH BEARD.*

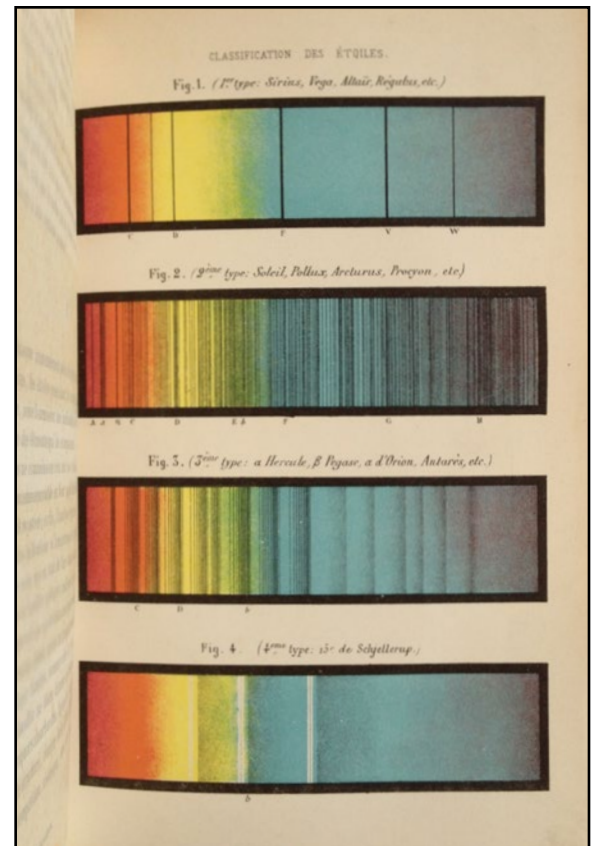


**RAMBOSSON, J.** *Histoire des Astres. Astronomie pour Tous.* Paris: Firmin-Didot Frères, Fils et Cie., 1874.

Large 8vo, 23.2 x 14.5 cm. viii, 468, [4] pp. (final blank). Illustrated with ten full-page color plates (including frontispiece) and three double-page color plates, plus 63 wood-engraved figures in text of which 12 full-page (mild foxing especially first few and final leaves, plates clean). Bound in dark green pebbled cloth ruled in blind, spine gilt in five compartments, white moiré endpapers, all edges gilt. Ex-libris of Auguste Van Assche of Ghent, his bookplate on front pastedown. **\$100**

*“Fly me to the moon!” She whispered hotly in her lover’s ear, quoting their favorite crooner. The night was dark and sparkling above them. Two entangled bodies like merging galaxies. He knew what she wanted; he wanted it, too. Tingly with excitement, he reached into his satchel, producing a book.*

*By the firelight, he began to read aloud from this*  
**ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY.**



**UZANNE, Octave.** *Coiffures de Style. La Parure Excéntrique Époque Louis XVI...Cent planches imprimées en plusieurs tons et rehaussées à l'aquarelle.* Paris: Édouard Rouveyre, [1895].

16mo, 11 x 7.5 cm. 38; [210] pp. comprising 100 colored plates of hairstyles each in a gold frame, numbered and described on facing verso, followed by an index. Bound in half red morocco over marbled boards, author and title gilt on spine, marbled endpapers, top edge speckled, with multi-colored ribbon place marker, original front wrapper bound in. Ex-libris of Lucien Jannin, his two bookplates on front pastedown and p. [6], and stamp on half-title. **\$350**

*Tony private schools and cotillion couture couldn’t prepare you for this, your first Louis XVI up-do. Ribbons and flowers lay strewn across the dressing table. Your suitor’s love song echoes through the halls of your one-bedroom apartment, “What’s taking so long?”*

*Don’t panic, dear ladies. Let this* **COLORED PLATE BOOK OF LOUIS XVI HAIRSTYLES** *be your guide.*



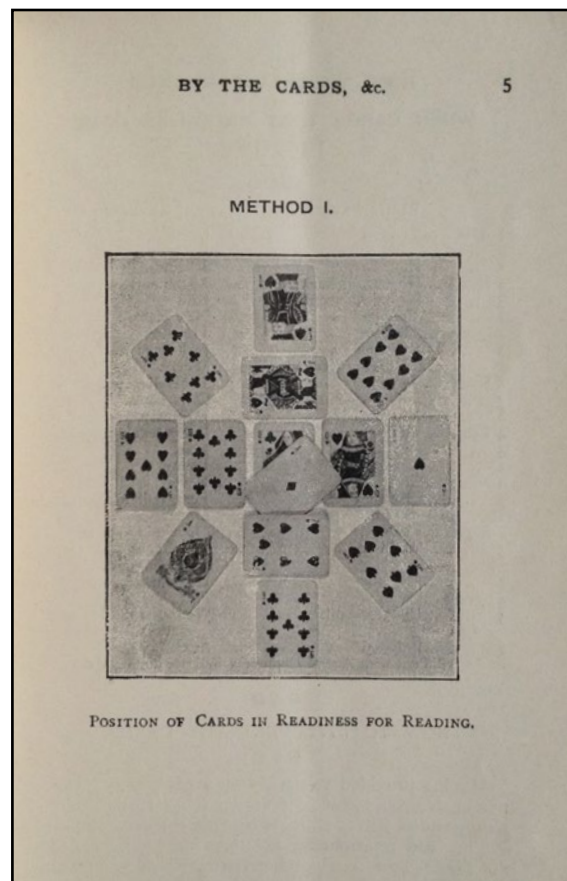


**RAPOZA.** *How to Tell Fortunes by the Cards. Tarot Method; Teuila Cards; Crystal Gazing; Teacup Lore, Etc.* London: Weldons, Ltd., s.d. [ca. 1910].

8vo, 16.5 x 10.5 cm. [8], 84 pp., with advertisements on fly-leaf verso (front) and recto (rear). Illustrated with photographs of card positions. Bound in original gray-green wrappers stamped in silver and black (spine chipped). \$35

*Enter the tent and take a seat on the floor cushion. Exotic perfumes mingle with the scent of burnt firewood as embers glow and crackle in the dark. A careworn fortune-teller examines your hands and looks at her cards, squinting in the candlelight. Someone is trying to contact you. Could it be your fifth-grade teacher? Your poodle? That man who asked you "Paper or plastic?" mere hours ago in the grocery store? Fighting your instincts to tell her everything, you wait in silence.*

*Finally she gives up and hands you her **MANUAL ON INTERPRETING TAROT CARDS, TEA LEAVES, AND CRYSTALS.** Do it yourself.*



**VAN DE PUTTE, W.** *Kortbondig en eenvoudig verhall van het Leven en de Marteldood der Heilige Godelieva van Ghistel wier reliquiën vereerd worden in de Kapel van het Klein Beggijnhof, te Gent...Vierde Druck.* Aalst: C. van de Putte-Goossens, 1912.

8vo, 15.5 x 12 cm. [2], 60, [2] pp. Illustrated with a frontispiece of Saint Godelieve and wood-engraved ornaments throughout (printing on temoine, p. 50). Stapled in original printed wrappers (dustsoiled and chipped on spine). Manuscript edit on final leaf changing 11 to 6 July as her feast day. [WITH]: **Four original photographs** marked for publication on the verso, plus five postcards from Gistel in West Flanders. \$45

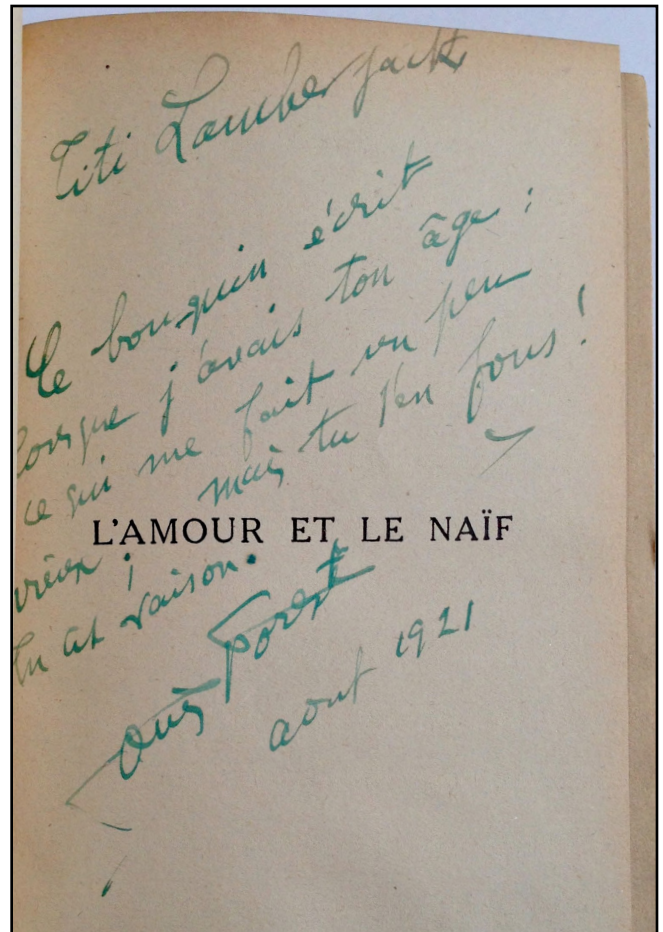
*Long ago, when the phrase "City of Women" evoked the dreams of Christine de Pizan rather than Federico Fellini, it was a lot harder for women to "lean in." Reading this **LIFE OF SAINT GODELIEVE, WITH ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS OF NUNS**, you get the picture.*



**FOREST, Louis.** *L'Amour et le Naïf*. Paris: La Renaissance du Livre, 1921.

8vo, 18 x 11.5 cm. 256 pp. (partially unopened, short tear in lower margin of one leaf). Original wrappers printed in red and black bound in quarter green morocco over green marbled boards, author and title gilt on spine, marbled endpapers and green ribbon place marker (upper half of spine faded to brown, extremities lightly rubbed, ink code written on front free endpaper verso). Ex-libris Ludovic Froissart, his bookplate on front pastedown. **\$100**

*Strolling along the Seine on a sunny day, you stop to browse a bouquiniste's wares. A leather spine catches your eye. You reach for the book, never expecting the FIRST EDITION OF THIS NOVEL INSCRIBED BY THE AUTHOR TO "TITI LUMBERJACK," continuing, "le bou-quin écrit/ lorsque j'avais ton âge:/ ce qui me fait un peu/ vieux; mais tu t'en fous!./ Tu as raison./ Louis Forest/ Aout 1921."* [Tití Lumberjack, the book was written when I was your age, which makes me a little old; but you don't care! You're right.] Who was she?



**[COSTUME].** *De Nationale Kleederdrachten.* Chocolate Finor Meurisse. Antwerp: Meurisse, s.d. [ca. 1930].

Square folio, 31 x 31 cm. [8] ff. (final blank), of which [1] p. text followed by [12] pp. complete with 48 chromolithographed costume cards (12 x 8 cm each, four per page) and flag cards (2.2 x 2.8 cm) pasted into respective windows (staining at lower edge of front pastedown and a few leaves). Bound in white cloth-backed boards decoratively lettered in gold and red on front cover (detached from boards, minor dustsoiling and scratches). **\$85**

*Be thankful for that person who struggled through mounds of Belgian chocolate to collect all the cards to complete this TRADE CARD ALBUM OF INTERNATIONAL COSTUMES AND FLAGS for posterity. It was a difficult job but somebody had to do it.*





[ASTROLOGY]. *La Cadran Babylonien*. Paris: Collège Astrologique de France, January 1939.

Cardboard astrological chart 15 x 9.5 cm closed (folded in two), with volvelle fastened by metal pin to front. Explanation and instructions on the verso for calculating “l’Heure Babylonienne” and “le Seigneur Horaire” using the dial, imprinted with days of the week and astrological signs that become visible through cut-outs as the wheel turns. \$45

*New York City. Your braless French cousin Gabrielle just arrived in town, touting her European sensibilities. You are annoyed. Friends and family hang on her every accented syllable. She commands the room wherever she goes, a smug kitten emitting an intoxicating perfume called “joie de vivre.” One night, long after the guests have left the dinner party, your head swirling with wine and jealousy, you implore her to share her secret.*

*Simple, she says, and gives you this* **ASTROLOGICAL DIAL WITH INSTRUCTIONS ON DIVINING YOUR STRENGTHS.**



[FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY]. *[Fur Coat Catalog]*. Paris: Georges Lang for Fourrures Brunswick, October 1953.

4to, 25.7 x 17.3 cm. [2] pp. text and [30] pp. with 39 black-and-white photographs, of which 19 full-page photographs of single models, eight full-page photographs of pairs, and 12 quarter-page photographs. Bound in faux red morocco, rows of gilt and black dot lattices on front cover, plain rear cover (spine and board corners lightly bumped, else remarkably fresh condition). \$125

*Paris in February. The winter chill bites your nose, your cheeks. You love Paris in the springtime, you love Paris in the fall, you thought you loved Paris in the winter, when it drizzles, but, “franchement,” you’ve changed your mind. Good thing you have a luxurious fur to nuzzle.*

*Or, at least, this* **SUMPTUOUS CATALOG OF FUR COATS** *to enjoy vicariously.*



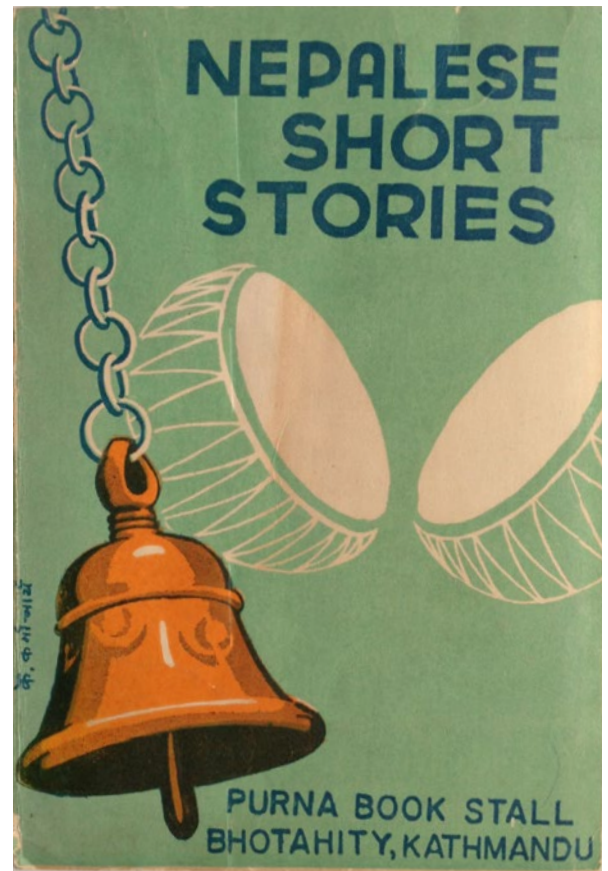
[VARIOUS]. *Nepalese Short Stories*. (Translated from the Original) by Karunakar Vaidya. Bhotahity, Kathmandu: Purna Book Stall, 1971.

8vo, 15.7 x 11 cm. [4], 152 pp. Eleven stories printed in an edition of 1,000 by Sahayogi Press Tripureswar for Mr. Purna Man Napit, with cover design by Mr. K. Karmacharya. Bound in original color printed wrappers (chipped on spine). \$75

*You're perched thousands of meters above sea level, gazing up at the world's highest peak and contemplating your mortality. A Sherpa appears in your peripheral vision, parting the mountain mist as he comes to sit beside you on the snowy rocks. What can he offer you, to assuage your climbing fears?*

**Behold!**

NEPALESE PARABLES FROM THE LOCAL BOOK STALL.



[PUBLISHER'S PROSPECTUS]. [APOLLINAIRE, Guillaume]. *Oeuvres. Quatre Volumes in Quarto... Aquarelles de Folon et Milton Glaser*. [Paris]: Éditions André Sauret, s.d. [1980?].

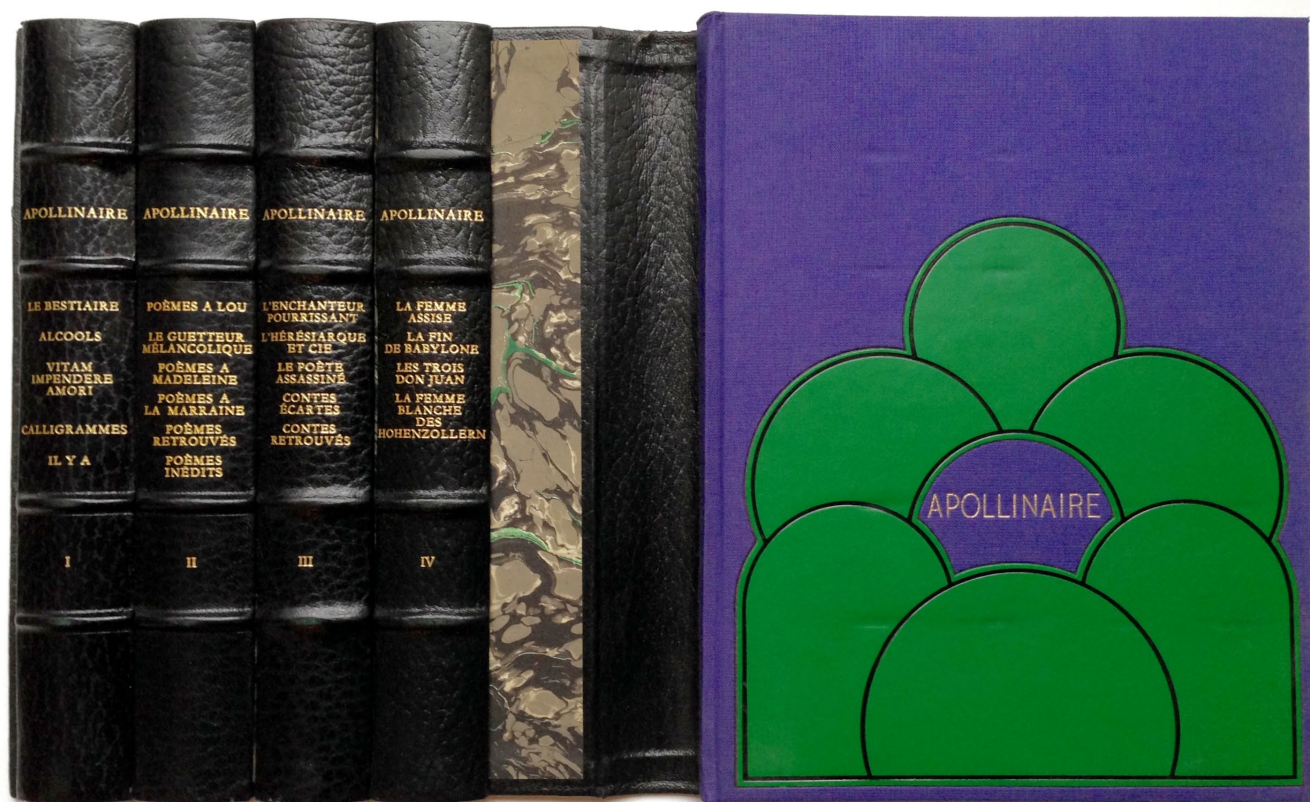
Folio, 27 x 21 cm. [6]; [8]; [6]; [12]; [12]; [12]; [10] pp., paginated intermittently. Illustrated with **eight full-page color plates by Folon and Glaser, plus four quarter-page woodcuts by Raoul Dufy, and concrete poetry**. Bound in black morocco with inlaid green calf, Apollinaire gilt on front cover, with four black morocco gilt spine samples on inside front, and blue cloth alternate cover bound in, green and black marbled endpapers (spine head nicked in one place, very minor scuffs to extremities). \$135

*Indecision. The appeal of practicality, the lure of luxury. Run your hands over the covers, searching the supple textures for answers. The question remains: cloth or leather?*

**Keep this PROSPECTUS WITH BINDING SAMPLES AND ILLUSTRATIONS and you can have it all.**







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