



ECLECTIC SELECTIONS FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

*Information and photographs of a variety of books housed in
Hofstra University Library Special Collections
that you might not expect!*



This exhibit is meant to show off some truly eclectic books that are available in Special Collections. Some are interesting because of their genre, some are interesting because they are rare and some just because they are so, well, so eclectic.

Cover illustration: *Alice's adventures in Wonderland* by Robert Sabuda c.2003. This volume has six two-page spreads consisting of large intricate pop-up illustrations.



This is an illuminated manuscript leaf from France, c.1440. It is a vellum page written in Latin with gold leaf.



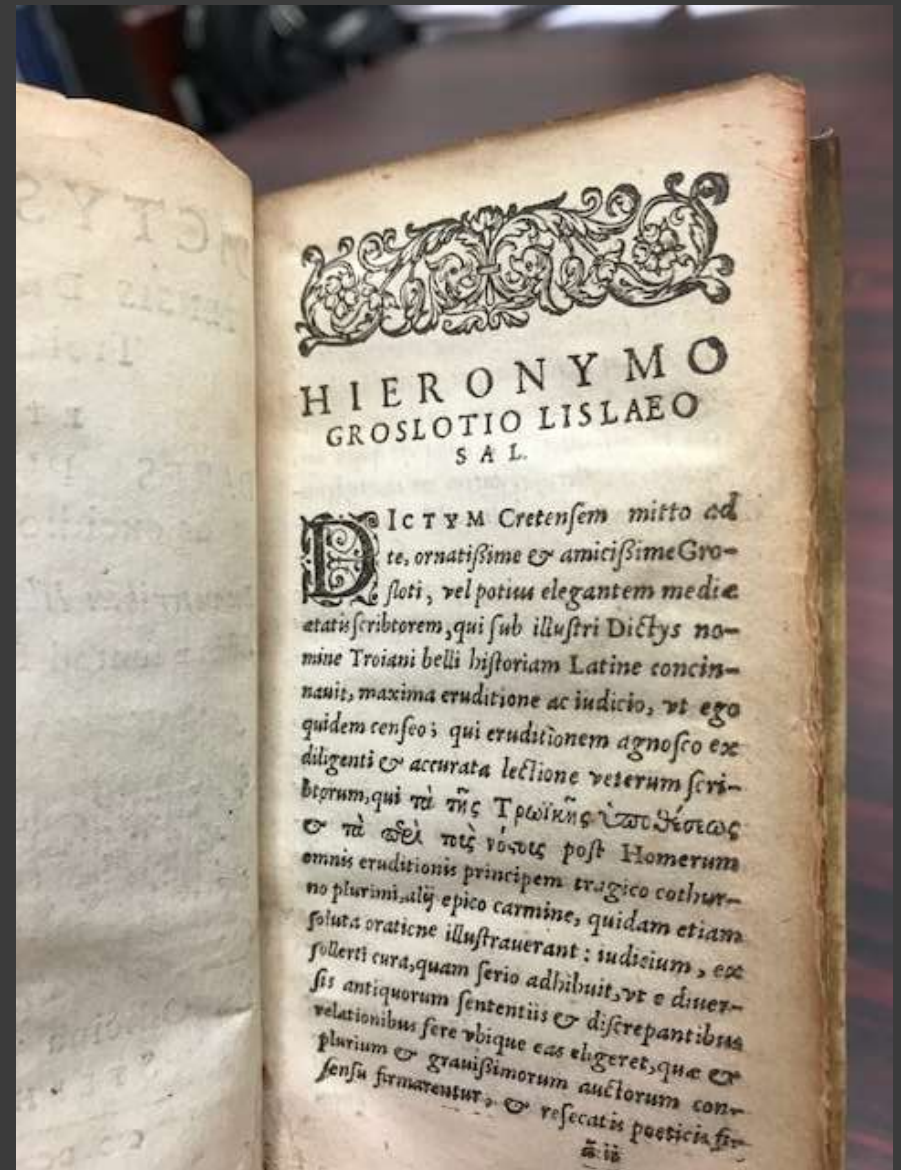
A section of the border from the same leaf depicts an anthropomorphic creature (in this case, a monkey with a human face.)



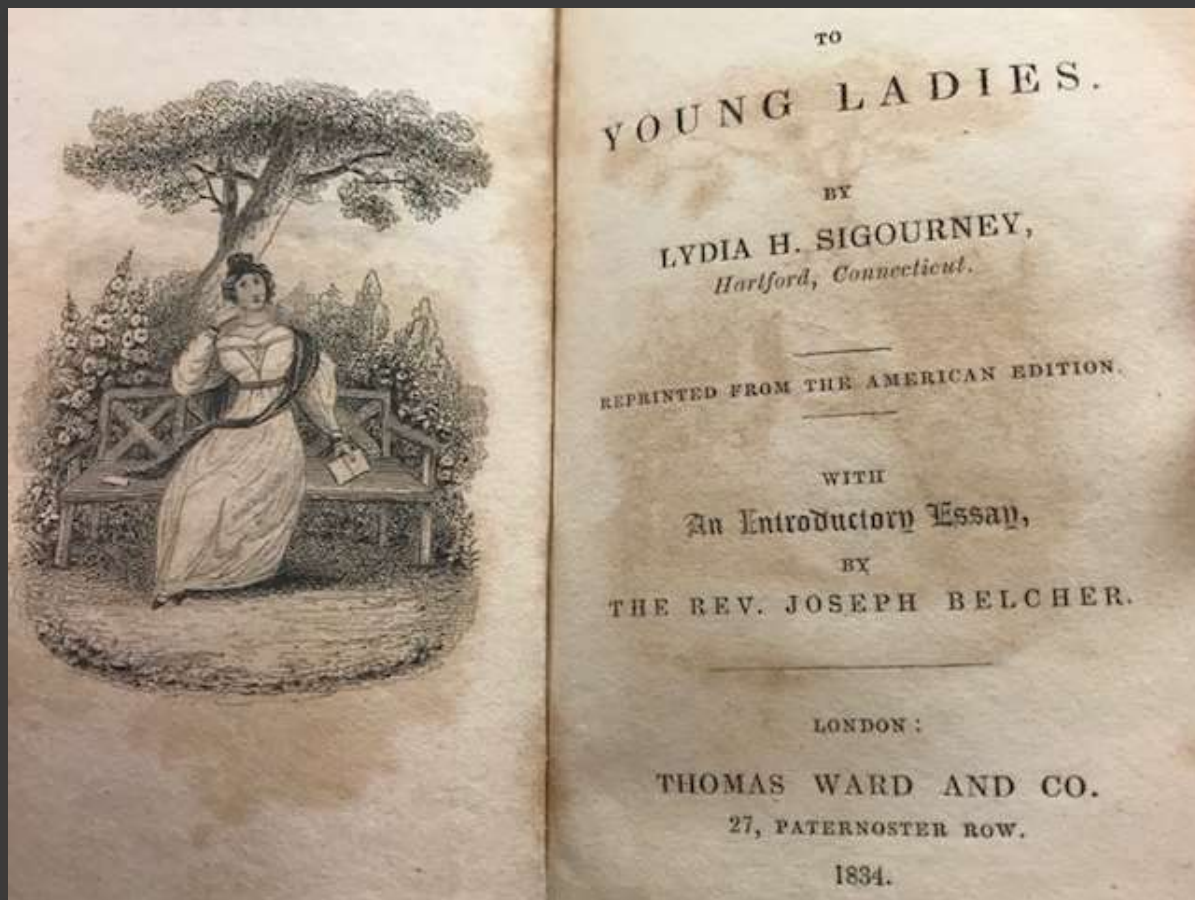
This is an antiphonal (written music for a choir to read and sing) and is from Spain, c.1550. It is written on vellum in Latin with annotations for the choir.



This volume, created in 1618 is bound in vellum and is titled, *De Bello Troiano*. It is written in Latin and was published in Paris.

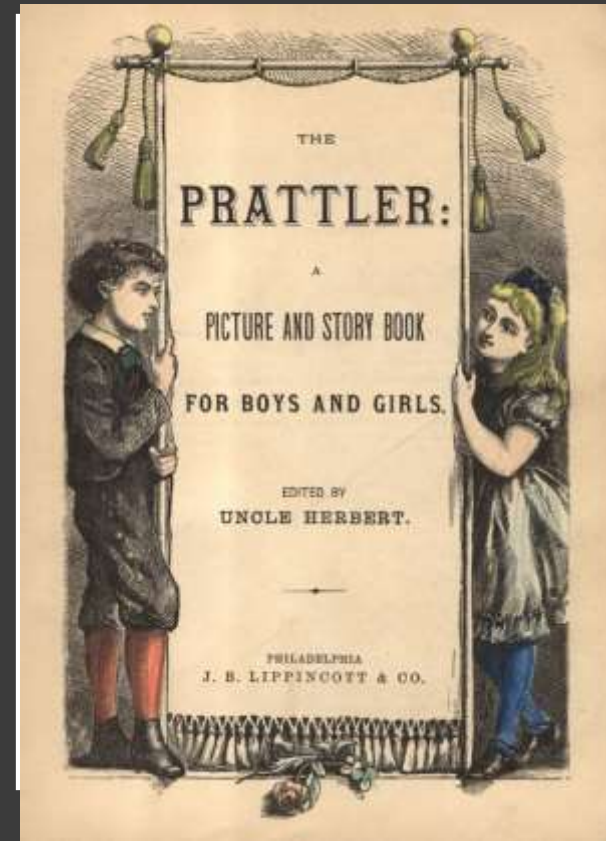
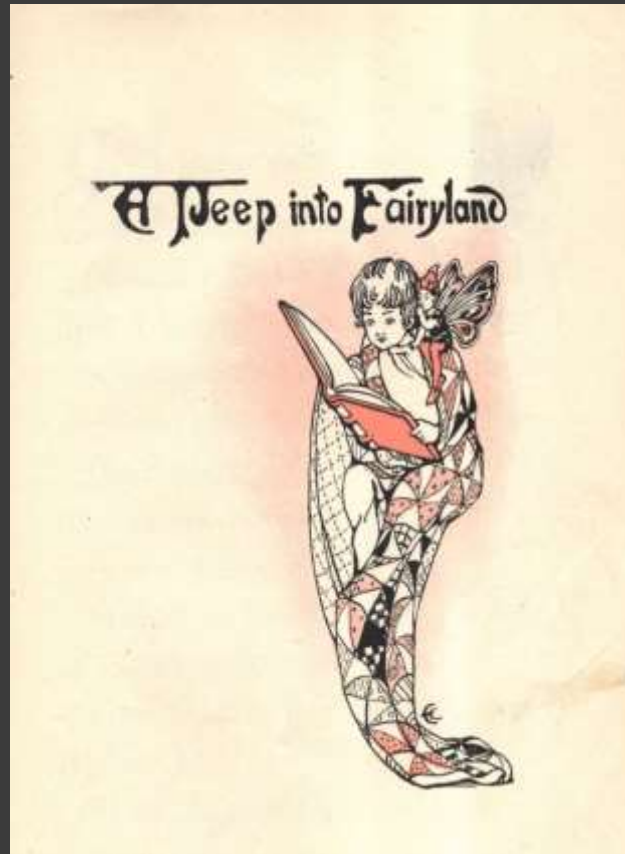
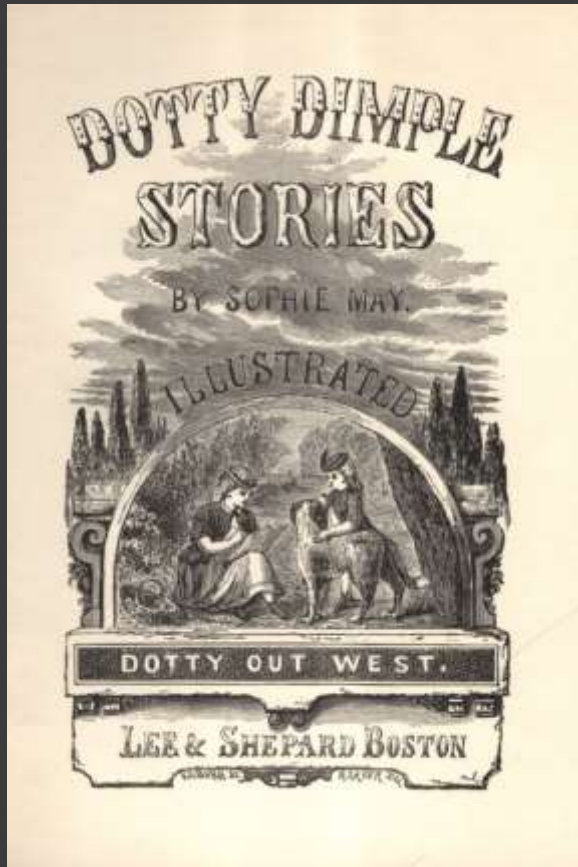


This volume is the London edition of an American book which detailed the way a “young lady” should conduct herself. It is the first English edition and has an introduction by Rev. Joseph Belcher. It is in its original cloth binding. Lydia Sigourney, the author, was known as “Sweet Singer of Hartford.” She wrote mostly poetry although this volume is one of her best known works.





A fore-edge painted book, means that you can see the illustrations only if your fan out the text block. The artist created the painting on the "fore edge" of the book and usually covered it with gold leaf to disguise it. This illustration depicts a castle, a gate and several figures on horseback. Most fore-edge paintings were done between the 16th to 19th century.



A large collection of children's books as well as children's series books are located in Special Collections. The collection also includes readers and books that teach children to read; these go back to the 1790's. There are various editions of the same title which can depict changes in the time period in which they were created.

When at last Cinderella
was all arrayed
In that marvellous
gown of gold lace
made,
With even her
slippers of solid
gold — —
She was a most
beautiful sight to
behold!

52

She rode away from
the house in state,
She came like a
queen to the
palace gate;
She was claimed for
the dance by the
King's own son,
Of other partners,
the Prince would
have none.



How they danced and
danced; all the
others stood by:
"Who can she be?
every one would
sigh;
"She must be a
Princess both rich
and great,
"She must come
from a far-off,
powerful state."

53

The step-sisters stood
among the throng
— — Dead in their
hearts were jest
and song:
They had hoped and
hoped with the
Prince to dance —
But he would'nt give
them so much as
a glance.

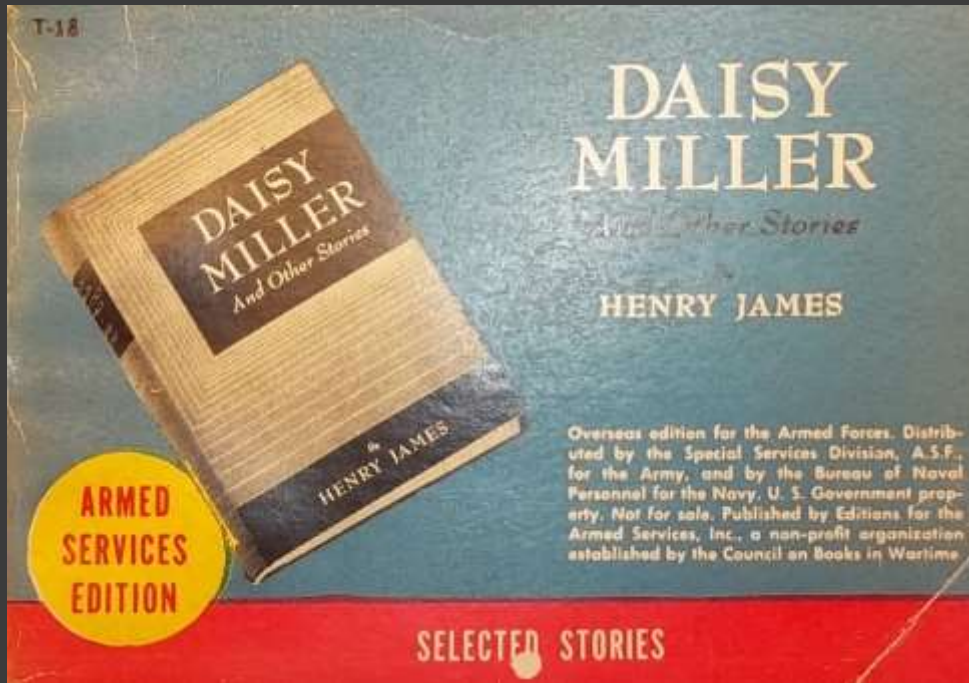
A pop-up edition of *Cinderella* printed with chromolithographed scenes and colored tissue-paper pop-ups from c.1900. This Triumph edition was printed in Germany.

This is a miniature book, published by Mermaid Press, a New York based publishing company in 1962. It is the only miniature book by this press that was printed in several colors. The book is an alphabetic rhyme.





This book entitled, *Far away and Long Ago*, is covered in cow hide with visible fur. It is a limited edition designed by Alberto Kraft and created in 1943.

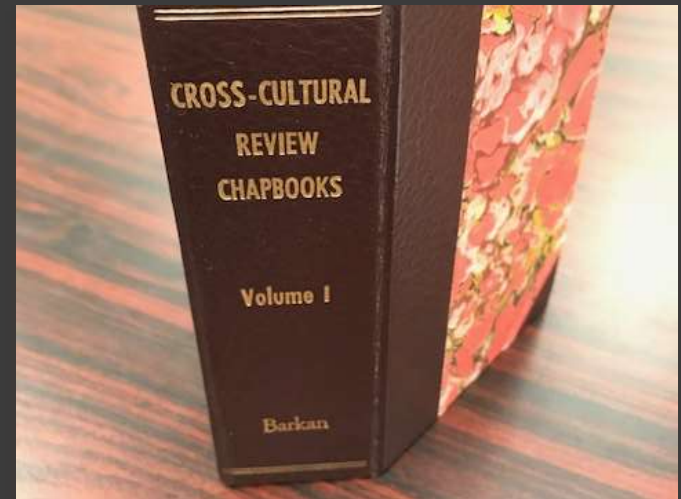


This edition of Henry James' *Daisy Miller* is an Armed Services edition published in 1945. Military editions were of a compact size and soft covered so that they were not too heavy to carry.

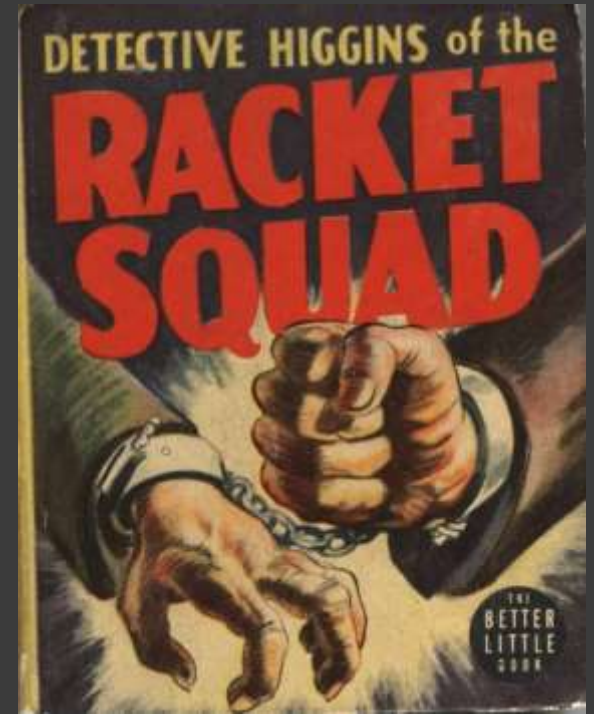
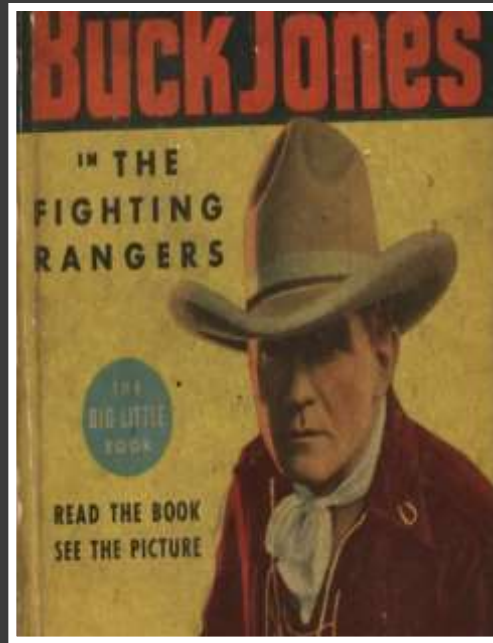


A children's book from 1965 is about hats and is in the shape of a hat! It was written by Leonard Shortall and was designed by the Artists and Writers Press.



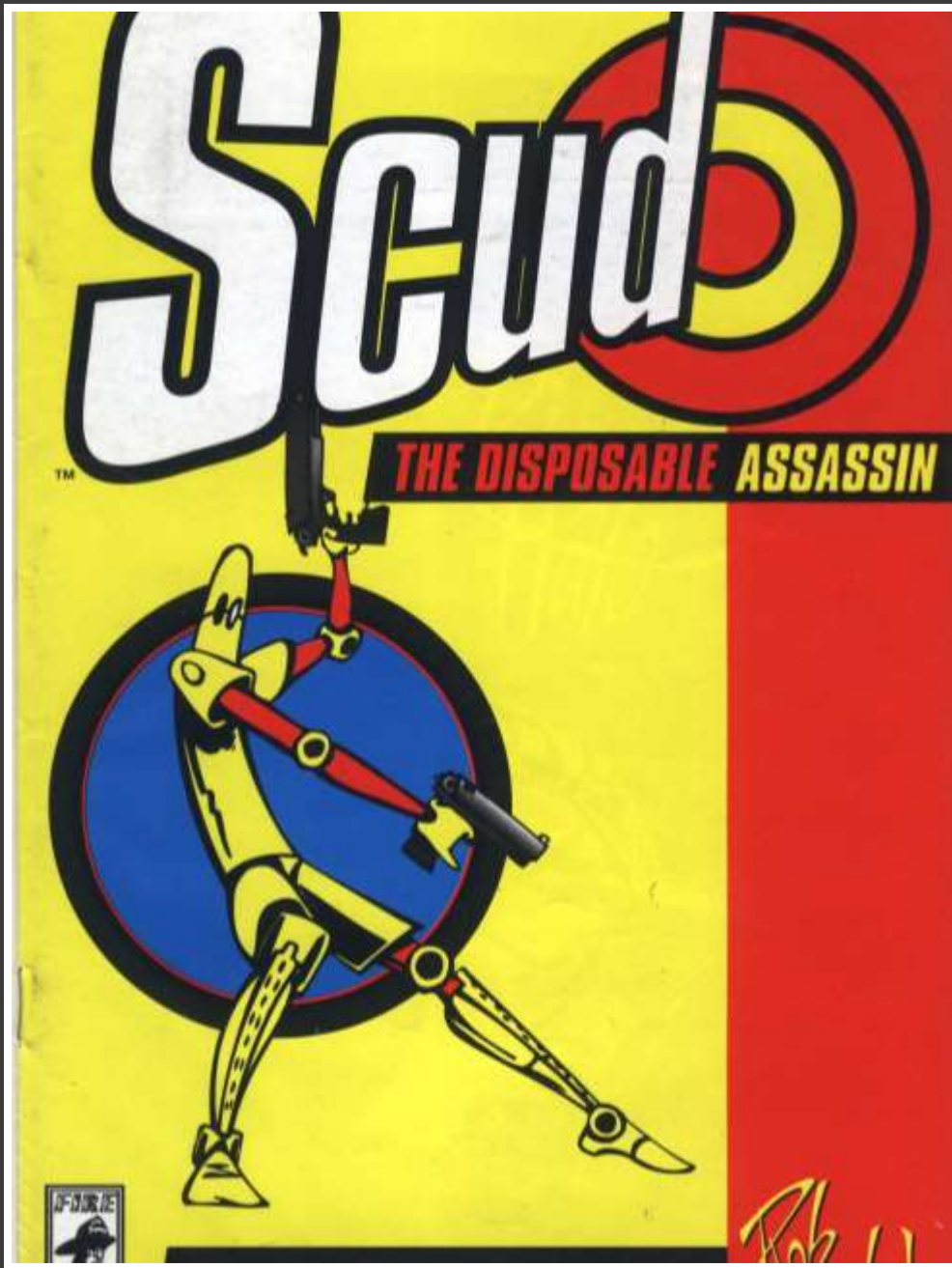


These chapbooks were printed by Cross Cultural Communications and include five miniature books stored in a marbled book box. The books are all palm sized and were created by a small press located on Long Island. Stanley Barkan founded the press in 1971.



THESE EXAMPLES ARE FROM THE POPULAR CULTURE COLLECTION.

The Popular Culture Collection contains science fiction and other pulp classics, as well as over 2,000 comic books.



In the comic book, *Scud*, first introduced in 1994 by Rob Schrab, he illustrates a world where you can buy robot assassins out of vending machines. This item is also part of the popular culture collection.



What seems like a small burlap bag, instead houses several nuts along with a hinged walnut that contains a book illustrating different nuts! Created by JoAnna Poehlmann in 1998, it is an artists' book. Special Collections has many different artists books of all shapes and sizes!



1990 PATENT NUMBER 27,541,118

Liquid Paper was originally called *Mistake Out* and was the invention of Bette Nesmith Graham, a divorcee who used to work in 1951 in copy

girl herself a
work as a typ
and develops
Using her kit
Graham, who a
secretaries an
continuing to
business with
she was satisfied
was really we
which turned
Graham than
Mistake Out
kept selling it

LIQUID PAPER by BETTE NESMITH GRAHAM

right after lunch
was good now
has mistakes
discovery and
not that often
to her. White
red Nesmith to
research until
ad developed
to Out to IBM
wanted, Bette
he came from
and Paper and
the next 15

years. By 1965 she was making a profit. And in 1979, the Gillett Corporation bought the Liquid Paper for \$47.5 million plus royalties

The Secret to Eternal Youth



We all have a secret, unobtainable complexion in the line for youthful looking skin. Don't you wish you could magically erase those junks like lines and wrinkles? Well, the secret is out! Just apply Scotch Magic Tape to your forehead in contact of your eyes and mouth. It is like an elixir cream, you can regain your youth and confidence. Forget your old age and be forever young!

Patented Item
Invented by
Bette Nesmith
1951



Scotch Magic Tape

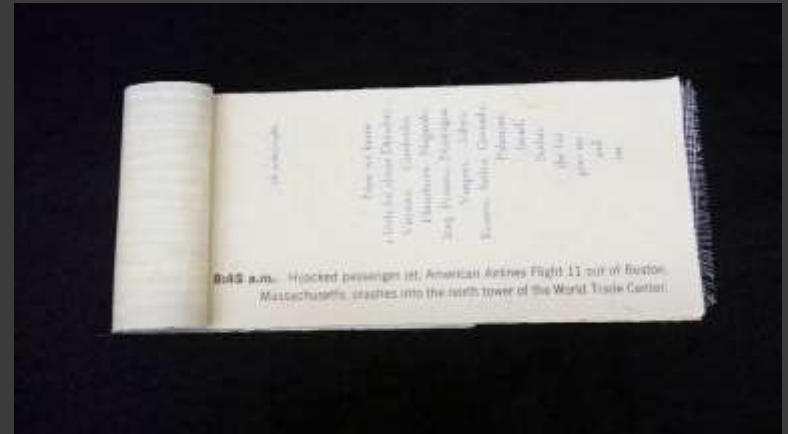
This volume is a limited edition book created by students at Archetype Press and published in 2005. It celebrates the inventions of 37 different random items including the Post-It and the Band-Aid.



Falling Leaves by Jill Timm is an example of a “tunnel book.” The book was created by scanning pressed leaves and then printing them on transparent pages.

This artist's book was published by Mystical Places Press in 2008.





A book written in remembrance of the September 11th Terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in NY. The entire book was created with a diaphanous fabric that is indicative of how fragile life is. A minute to minute timeline runs across the page vertically. Published in 2001 and created by Sara Parkel.

This is an example of an altered book. The text block of the original book (*The Scorpio Illusion*) was folded into two swans that meet to form a heart. The Literacy Volunteers of Ontario-Yates County created this book art in 2015.



There are many wonderful volumes of different ages and types in Special Collections. This is a small sample of the many eclectic items in our holdings. Please visit our webpages or come take a look at these items in person. Because some of these materials need special housing and care, we ask that you call in advance for an appointment: 516-463-6411.

