During the Yule season in Iceland, people celebrate the holiday with a tradition called Jólabókaflóð, which roughly translates to “Yule book flood” in English. Jólabókaflóð began in World War II, when almost everything was rationed, with the exception of paper. Since then, books and the printing of books have become an essential part of the holiday season for Icelanders. Gifts are traditionally opened on Christmas Eve night, and people tend to spend the evening reading.

While this tradition is deeply rooted in Icelandic culture, emphasizing the importance of literature and reading, we believe it should be celebrated everywhere. We offer here a handful of diverse items, each fascinating in its own right and a treat for any who might receive it.

Don’t see anything that tickles your fancy? We carry a wide range of subjects and price points, and would be happy to work with you to find the perfect gift.

**Lux Mentis, Booksellers**

Lux Mentis specializes in fine press, fine bindings, and esoterica in all areas, books that have been treasured and will continue to be treasured. As a primary focus is the building and/or deaccessioning of private collections, our selections are diverse and constantly evolving. If we do not have what you are seeking, please contact us and we will strive to find it. All items are subject to prior sale. Shipping and handling is calculated on a per order basis. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding terms and/or with any questions or concerns.

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**Yule Book Flood**


Nocturnal animals with accompanying text. Leonard Baskin (1922-2000) was a renowned artist (sculptor, illustrator, printer, and graphic artist), writer, teacher and general polymath.


From the Collection of Jenny Lens. Catalog for the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute's exhibition on punk fashion, featuring essays on punk performers Richard Hell and John Lydon, richly illustrated.


From the library of Dr. Oliver Sacks, the renowned neurologist, author, and educator. He was, in his life, celebrated for his contributions to the understanding of the human brain and his ability to communicate complex scientific concepts to a broader audience. In doing so, he highlighted the profound impact of neurological disorders on human identity and experience. His library is a reflection of this remarkable polymath's questing mind.


"The purpose of this catalog is to document a small bit of book arts history, and to perhaps provide a resource for collectors and scholars of Loyd Haberly's bindings."


Winifred Holmes, born Winifred Alice Young on 7 April 1903, was raised in India where her father worked for the Indian Civil Service. Educated at schools in Tasmania and England, she became a nursery teacher but soon abandoned this as a career to take up journalism as a nursery correspondent for the Evening Standard. After the war, Winifred directed a number of film documentaries, including A Cruel Kindness (1948), Consider the Carpet (1948) and A Brother for Susan (1953) as well as scripting others. She wrote a number of children's books and the 'Simon and Sally' strip in Robin. She also contributed to the first 9 editions of Robin (1953-61) and may have contributed to later volumes. She also wrote books on Indian art and Asian films, and this extensive study on four powerful and noble women in Egypt.


As well as being very public regarding his Witchcraft, Leo was also very much “out of the broom closet.” He was a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front (GLF), acting as its first moderator. Leo would help GLF beyond being an officer, as he also created an editorial arm, being among the first to publish a newsletter by and for gay people called Come Out! He remained active in GLF until he had a falling out with other members over political opinions. He would move on to become a champion for the gay community within the modern Pagan world.--Witches' Almanac. From the personal library and inventory of Leo Martello.


"My Amputations follows well-read parolee Mason Ellis as he impersonates an African-American novelist named Clarence McKay, whom he has taken hostage. McKay's literary agent plays along, and almost no one who meets the imposter on his worldwide lecture tour can tell the difference between Mason and the author whose identity he has usurped..." From review.

Currently a professor of twentieth century American literature at the University of California at Davis, Clarence Major is a poet, painter and novelist who was born in Atlanta and grew up in Chicago.


Leo Louis Martello was an author, graphologist, hypnotist and Witch of note who came to prominence during the Pagan/Witchcraft Renaissance of the late 1960s and early 1970s.


"Stories of holy pilgrimages, transformative journeys & revelatory voyages. Come rest by the hearth's fire and warm yourself, now that your travels are at an end. The night is long, and we are in no hurry. This is a time for reflection, to think back on where you have been -- and where it has led you to. Whether you have crossed oceans or deserts, wound your way through labyrinthine cities or long-forgotten ghost towns, followed untrodden paths or the pilgrim’s well-worn way -- you are no longer the same, and you have wisdom to share. This is the Wayfarer's Hearth: a gathering of voices and a recollection of transformative spiritual journeys."--Publisher.

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YULE BOOK FLOOD: HOLIDAY LIST


11. Pinkerton, Robert A. Forgery as a Profession. New York: Pinkerton, 1894. First Edition Thus. Lacking original wrappers, small tab of paper tipped on at spine, pencil notation at bottom left corner of title page, tiny close tear at bottom edge, small chip at rear, else bright and clean. 12mo. 18pp. Good+ in Wraps.. Original Wraps. (#6677) $55.00

The head of the infamous Pinkerton Detective Agency, a major tool for the suppression of workers’ rights, here writes about forgery in hopes of attracting business from banks and stock brokers. Actually, it is a very informative and authoritative article. It first appeared in the North American Review in April, 1894, three months prior to this printing.


Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832) was a Scottish historical novelist, playwright and poet. The Lady of the Lake is the classic poem by Scott, first published in 1810. Set in the Trossachs region of Scotland, it is composed of six cantos, each of which concerns the action of a single day.


Produced as a Christmas keepsake for friends of the publisher.


Likely a review copy or gift from the artist. Laid in photo of Wegman and Battina (the focus of the series), original photo of dogs at the table and a color proof/negative of Battina as Little Red Riding Hood. A very unusual collection.
Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

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Thank you, again, for your support and consideration.