

JOHN HOWELL  
 *for Books*

John Howell for Books  
Miniature Book Society - 2017 Conclave  
Christmas  
August 11-14, 2017



## John Howell for Books

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Shipping and handling additional. All items shipped via insured USPS Mail. Expedited shipping available upon request at cost. Standard domestic shipping \$ 5.00 for a typical octavo volume; additional items \$ 2.00 each. Large or heavy items may require additional postage.

We actively solicit offers of books to purchase, including estates, collections and consignments. Please inquire.

This list contains 15 miniature books. All the items focus on the Christmas holiday, or are a Christmas keepsake.

**1 BYRNE, Marian.** *The Twelve Days of Christmas.* [Huddersfield, UK]: (The Final Score, 2003). Miniature Book. 2 1/4 x 2 5/8 inches. Unpaginated. [30] pp. Color illustrations throughout; text clean, unmarked. Quarter green cloth, pictorial paper; binding square and tight. SIGNED by Marian Byrne on the colophon. Fine.

\$ 75

LIMITED EDITION of 50 copies, this is number 11, signed by Marian Byrne on the colophon. Partridges, turtle doves, and African drummers, Oh, My!

**2 [Black Cat Press] ZARA, Louis** (1910-2001). *The Santa Who Was Late.* Skokie, IL: The Black Cat Press, [1979]. Miniature Book. 2 7/16 x 1 13/16 inches. (48) pp. Half-title, color frontispiece by Dale Nichols, title page printed in red and black, decorative initial and tailpiece in red; text clean, unmarked, paper lightly toned. Gilt-stamped red leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

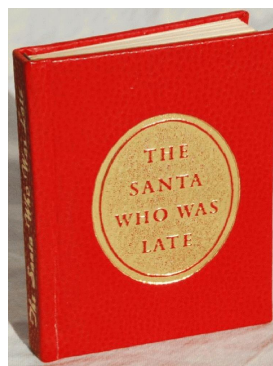
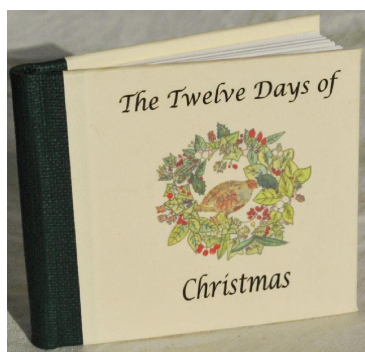
\$ 50

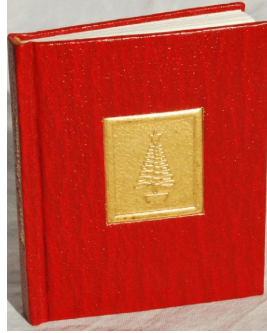
LIMITED EDITION 249 copies, design, typography and production by Norman Fogue, composed in Linotype Garamond and Garamond italic, printed offset on Strathmore Smooth Pastelle paper, binding by Bela Blau. Louis Zara was a publisher and magazine editor who was perhaps best know for his historical novels. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 3337.

**3 [Black Cat Press] FORGUE, Norman W.** (1905-1985), editor. *Four Christmas Stories.* Skokie, IL: The Black Cat Press, 1981. Miniature Book. 2 7/16 x 1 13/16 inches. Unpaginated. [72] pp. Green Christmas wreath ornament on title page, red headpieces, ornaments printed in green; text clean, unmarked. Gold leather stamped in red foil with a Santa decoration on the front cover, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 85

LIMITED EDITION of 249 copies, design and typography by Norman Fogue, printed at the Schori Press on Teton text paper, ornaments selected from the 1923 edition of the American Typefounder's specimen book, hand bound by Bela Blau. This is a collection of 4 stories by Beth Weinhouse, Pam Hait, Francine Glagsbrun, and Katherine Barrett. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 122.

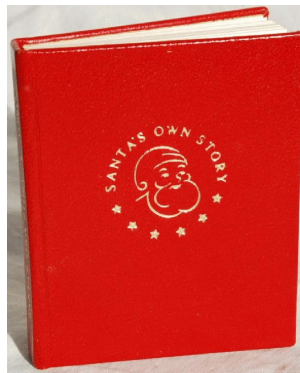




**4 [Black Cat Press] FORGUE, Norman W.** (1905-1985), editor. *It is Once Again Time to Celebrate the Spirit of Christmas.* [Skokie, IL]: The Black Cat Press, 1984. Miniature Book. 2 7/16 x 1 15/16 inches. Unpaginated. [46] pp. Green Christmas tree ornament on title page, printed in black, green and red inks with various ornaments in the text throughout; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped red leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 85

LIMITED EDITION of 249 copies, printed in a variety of typefaces on Strathmore Text paper at the Schori Press. This is a collection of four essays on the meaning of Christmas. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 2778.



**5 [Black Cat Press] JONES, E. Willis.** *Santa's Own Story of His Many Lives as He Told it to....* Skokie, IL: The Black Cat Press, 1977. Miniature Book. 2 13/16 x 2 1/4 inches. (56) pp. Half-title, frontispiece, printed in red and black throughout, 36 illustrations throughout by Rainey Bennett made from watercolors specially done to illustrate this story for a projected larger format; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped red leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 65

LIMITED EDITION of 249 copies designed by E. Willis Jones, composed in Times Roman and printed on Strathmore Pastel, binding by Bela Blau. Santa traces his life over the centuries. E. Willis Jones was the Art Director for the Chicago public relations firm Needham, Louis, & Brorby. He is known for his *The Santa Claus Book* (1976). REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 1619.

**6 CHESTERTON, Gilbert Keith** (1874-1936). *The New Christmas*. Los Angeles: Wallace & Corry Nethery, 1990. Miniature Book. 2 5/8 x 2 3/8 inches. [ii], 12, [2] pp. Title-page vignette printed in red, the whole printed letterpress; text clean, unmarked. Wrappers of laid paper, printed paper label on front cover, stitched; binding square and tight. SCARCE. Fine.

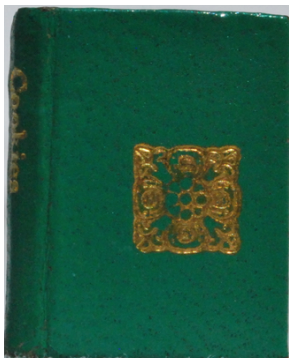
\$ 40

Printed by Corry and Wallace Nethery for their friends at Christmas 1990. "The New Christmas" appeared in G. K.'s Weekly, December 25, 1926 and was subsequently collected by Marie Smith in "The Spirit of Christmas," 1984. "Wallace Nethery was one of a group of five printers that Glen Dawson refers to as 'pioneer printers of Southern California.' In addition to publishing 25 miniature books, Nethery printed several miniature books for Dawson's Book Shop.... Annual Christmas greetings from the Netherys were often in the form of miniature books." Bradbury, p. 162. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 697.

**7 [Borrower's Press] DICKENS, Charles** (1812-1870). *A Christmas Carol*. Winterport, ME: Borrower's Press, 1976. Miniature Book. 7/8 x 3/4 inches. (31) pp. Frontispiece; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped full red leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. SIGNED by Jane Bernier on colophon. Fine. Cross-ref: Borrower's Press.

\$ 100

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies, this is number 191. An abbreviated version of Dicken's famous *Christmas Carol*. Jane Bernier published dollhouse scale miniature books under her imprint Borrower's Press. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 898.



**8 [Borrower's Press] [BERNIER, Jane]**. *Christmas Cookies*. Winterport, ME: Borrower's Press, 1984. Miniature Book. 3/4 x 5/8 inches. 47 pp. Hand-colored frontispiece and illustrations throughout, recipes; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped full green leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. SIGNED by Jane Bernier on colophon. Fine. Cross-ref: Borrower's Press.

\$ 125

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies, this is number 136. A collection of recipes for various Christmas cookies. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 323.



**9 [Hilleary & Petko] HILLEARY, Elizabeth and HILLEARY, Roger** (1931-2011). *The Cat Who Loved Christmas*. Monterey: Hilleary & Petko, 1981. Miniature Book. 2 3/4 x 2 inches. [16] pp. 5 full-page illustrations, red and green poinsettia vignette on the title page, red and green Christmas tree vignette on the colophon, silhouette of a child with candle on copyright page; text clean, unmarked. Red card stock covers with a child and candle and Christmas tree silhouettes on the front, stitched with green yarn; binding square and tight, light aging to covers. SCARCE. Very Good.



\$ 75

LIMITED EDITION of 180 copies printed by Roger Hilleary on a 1900 Chandler & Price Pilot press with handset Joanna types designed by Eric Gill. The story begins, "Once there was a comely cat named Cleo, who shared a Spanish house with a family in old Monterey. She led a happy life and exercised her purr every day without fail..." REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 1442.



**10 [Keepsake].** *Christmas Treasury*. N. P.: n. p., n. d. Miniature Book. 3/4 x 1/2 inches. Unpaginated. Hand-written text; text clean, unmarked. Spine glued together as in a notepad; binding square, tight, pages bowed from use. Comes in a balsa-wood box with a color label on top. Good.

\$ 10

A handmade book of blank pages. First several pages filled-in with hand-written holiday wishes.

**11 [Schori Press] RILEY, James Whitcomb** (1849-1916). *Christmas Poems*. Evanston, IL: The Press of Ward Schori, (1982). Miniature Book. 1 13/16 x 1 1/2 inches. Unpaginated. [38] pp. Half-title, double-page title page with red decorations, red decorations throughout the text, woodcut illustration; text clean, unmarked. White cloth stamped in blue, including an illustration on the front cover designed by Andre Chappaz, top edge gilt; binding square and tight. Fine.

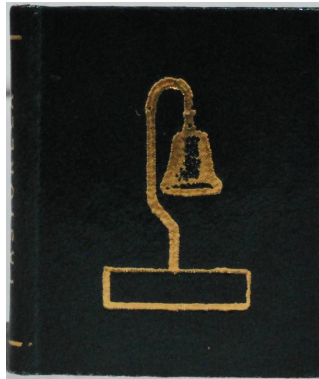
\$ 50

LIMITED EDITION of 241 copies, design, hand-typesetting and production by Ward Schori, poems typeset by Chuck Davis and printed photo-offset, headings, title page and miscellaneous matter handset by Schori, end-grain wood engraving by Sarah Chamberlain printed letterpress from the block. James Whitcomb Riley was an American writer, poet, and best-selling author. During his lifetime he was known as the Children's Poet for his humorous and sentimental poems. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 2565.

**12 [Tabula Rasa Press] CARDENAS, Dorlene.** *A Christmas Story.* Pasadena: Tabula Rasa Press, 1981. Miniature Book. 15/16 x 7/8 inches. (61) pp. Title page in decorative border, decorative initial, black-and-white illustrations throughout; text clean, unmarked. Silver-stamped full red leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 35

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies, this is number 21. An original story by Dorlene Cardenas, illustrated by Drusilla Cottrell. There were two sizes of this book printed; this is the smaller version. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, Tabula Rasa Press, No. 28.



**13 WEBER, Francis J.** (b. 1933). *Christmas in Pastoral California.* Los Angeles: Bela Blau, (1971). Miniature Book. 1 9/16 x 1 1/4 inches. (27) pp. Text printed in red, typographic ornaments in the text in green; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped green leather, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight, small defect on front pastedown. SIGNED by Bela Blau on colophon. Mel Kavin's copy. Very Good.

\$ 45

Hand-set, printed, and bound by Bela Blau. A meditation on the *Pastorela*, a popular folk drama brought to California by Spanish friars and *Californio* settlers, and performed at the California Missions during Christmastime. Francis J. Weber is not only a dedicated miniature book collector and publisher who has written or edited miniature books for nearly all the top miniature book publishers for the past four decades, but he is also an expert on the history of the California missions. Bela Blau was a successful and well-respected Los Angeles-based printer and book binder. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 3088.

**14 WEBER, Francis J.** (b. 1933). *Christmas Cards.* San Buenaventura, CA: Junipero Serra Press, 1977. Oblong Miniature Book. 2 3/16 x 3 inches. [ii], (17) pp. Black-and-white illustration on verso of title page; text clean, unmarked, one small spot on pp. 2, mirrored on pp. 3. Gilt-stamped green leather, all edges gilt; binding square and tight, light shelf wear. Very Good.

\$ 75

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies, designed by Francis Braun. Father Weber ruminates on the tradition of Christmas cards and their significance in American culture. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 3087.

**15 WELCH, Doris Varner**, editor. *Christmas*. Chicago: Le Petit Oiseau Press, 1963. Miniature Book. 1 7/8 x 1 1/2 inches. [viii], [34] pp. Color frontispiece tipped in, printer's device on title page and colophon, typographic ornaments throughout; text clean, unmarked. Half dark green cloth, green paper, front cover illustrated in green; binding square and tight. Very Good.

\$ 125

LIMITED EDITION of 150 copies. Doris V. Welch was a publisher, collector, historian and bibliographer of miniature books. For many years, Welch was Head of the Catalogue Department at Chicago's Newberry Library; she collected miniature books as her private passion. Having taken several classes in printing and binding at the Newberry, she decided to print miniature books of her own. This is her last miniature book, her activities restricted due to a stroke she suffered in 1965. She is remembered today for her important miniature book references, including *A Bibliography of Miniature Books (1470-1965)*. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th-Century U.S. Miniature Books*, No. 3198.

