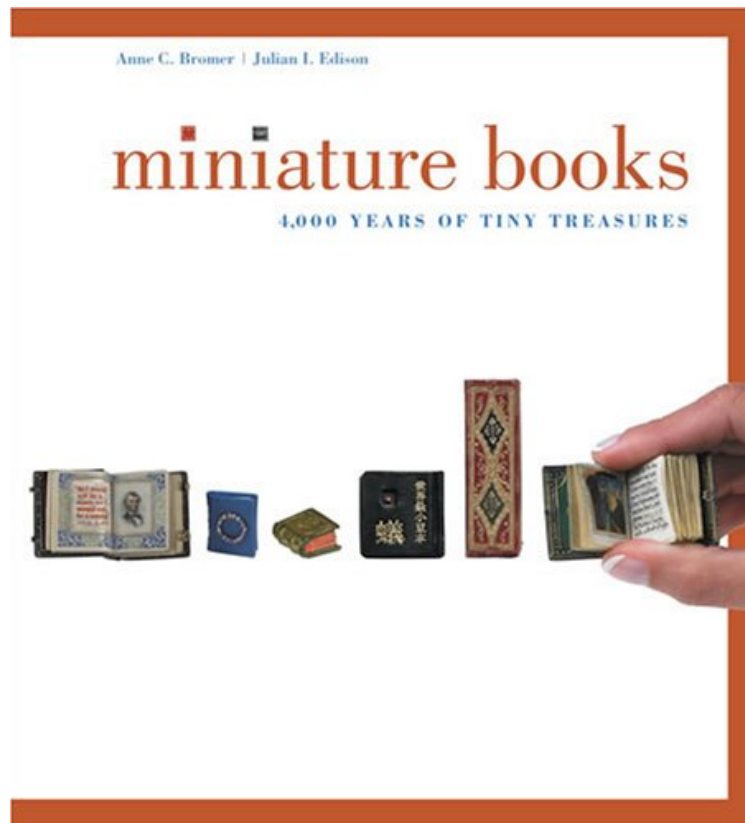


Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures

Anne C. Bromer, Julian I Edison
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Anne C. Bromer, Julian I Edison : Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Sizing up Miniature BooksBy Melanie GilbertFor many of us, the Nutshell Library (Caldecott Collection) by Maurice Sendak was probably our first exposure to miniature books. At 3.9 x 3 x 1.8 inches they are massive tomes compared to the wee books featured in this collection the smallest of which are 1 x 1 mm and come with a magnifying glass.The selection of works in this beautifully crafted book are mind boggling. There are accordion-style books that unfold from a nutshell, books in a locket, stacking doll-style books, and hundreds of tiny works that were sold as novelties or commemorative pieces. The books are a mix of religious and naughty, silly and serious, political and irreverent, educational and playful. Dictionaries, flipbooks, Bibles, maps, music - the selection is as varied as the regular-sized world of books.The page layout and richness of the material shows the attention to detail and love that these authors have for this unique art form. The authors also do a good job of blowing up the smallest images to bring out tiny detail while also showing real-sized pictures so that the miniature size can be appreciated as much as possible.Publisher Abrams honors their effort with an exquisite and expensive printing presentation. The inside endpapers are printed, all the paper is heavy coated stock with metallic edges, full-page bleeds fill many of the pages with rich color. I even appreciated the cloth ribbon with which to mark your page.

It's a beautiful and dramatic work. The book itself is a piece of art.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Worlds words
By Tim Lukeman
There's a certain delight fascination in the miniature ... and especially so in this history of the miniature book. A sumptuous work of art in its own right, from the rich paper exquisite photography to the gold edging of the pages, it gives us an expansive highly informative history of these "tiny treasures." Each photograph of a miniature book invites lengthy viewing, not only to absorb the craft beauty of making something so small, but to also appreciate it simply as a gorgeous, limited edition book regardless of size. I was lucky enough to see the exhibition of these miniature books in New York -- yes, magnifying glasses were provided to all visitors! -- and this volume is as close to actually being there as you could hope to get. From tiny Mesopotamian baked clay tablets inscribed with cuneiform, to Medieval illuminated manuscripts that fit into the palm of your hand, to the unique miniature artist's books by noted creators from the 20th Century, there's a wealth of wonders to be found here. They really are like whole, perfect little worlds. Before long, you may find yourself wanting to make a miniature book of your own ... and why not give it a try?

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lover of all things book will enjoy this treasure
By catLover of all things book will enjoy this treasure! I collect miniature books, and would love to have even some of the really microscopic ones! Any way, lots of info on this little gems, their history, collecting them, famous collectors, etc... And lots of photos of the little treasures!

Miniature Books is the first lavishly illustrated, authoritative book on the delightful subject of books no taller than three inches. A dazzling array of books on subjects ranging from Shakespeare's plays and the Holy Bible to politics and presidents, children's books, the pleasures of life, and more are shown—with few exceptions—at their actual size. Here is the prayer book that Anne Boleyn carried to her execution, seen open to its sole illustration, a portrait of Henry VIII. Here also are the world's two smallest books (impossible to be sure which is tinier). There are books studded with gemstones, books that Napoleon carried with him on his campaigns, books illustrated by artists such as Picasso, Miró, and Edward Gorey. And there is a section dealing with the papers, printing, and binding of these tiny marvels. The text is lively and accessible, full of great stories and fascinating people. It will appeal to the experienced collector, but also to the one just starting out and to anyone who loves the look and feel of a good book.

From Publishers Weekly
Published in conjunction with a May 16–July 28 exhibition at the Grolier Club in New York, this handsome volume traces the history of books ranging in height from three inches to less than a quarter of an inch. Included are books of many kinds, often containing beautiful illustrations—illuminated medieval and Renaissance devotional books, including the world's smallest Bible, chained to its own little lectern; Arabic and Indian scriptures; and the complete works of Shakespeare in a miniature revolving bookcase. Some of these books were intended for amusement, such as those made for Queen Mary's dolls' house; others have more practical uses, such as small traveling libraries and little Hebrew books that could be concealed in times of persecution. The smallest book ever is a New Testament printed in 24-karat gold on a silicon chip. There are elegant bindings in materials such as leather, mother-of-pearl and gold filigree. In their informative text, Bromer, a rare book dealer, and Edison, a collector, discuss the diverse contents of these tiny volumes, as well as papermaking, printing processes and publishers. Their delightful book is a feast for the eye, with more than 260 color illustrations in which most of the books are pictured in actual size. (May) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

About the Author
Anne C. Bromer and her husband are internationally respected rare book dealers in Boston
Julian I. Edison began his collecting career while still at Harvard College. He has been editor of *Miniature Book News* for more than forty years. He lives in St. Louis.