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Bibliomania

By T F Dibdin

Tiger of the Stripe. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 264 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.6in. x 0.9in. Dibdin's *Bibliomania* is an anthem to the printed book, a warning to the unwary about the perils of obsessive book-collecting, and the confessions of a rabid book-collector. As a casual glance at the book will show, Dibdin's footnotes predominate over text, and it is in the footnotes that the interest lies. They invite questions as often as they answer them. What is the supposed similarity between Orator Henley's library and Addison's memoranda for the *Spectator*? What cutting words did Edward Gibbon write about Thomas Hearne? Why should we not be surprised to find a book on American history by a Spanish admiral in the library of the President of the Royal Society? Who was Captain Cox who could talk as much without book, as any Innholder betwixt Brentford and Bagshot? Was Polydore Vergil a plagiarist and John Bagford a biblioclast? What is blotterature? Sometimes Dibdin tells us, sometimes he assumes we know, and sometimes he chooses to tantalise us. The endnotes provide some of the answers and will, it is hoped, lead readers to discover new books and new writers, or, more often and...



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