

MOLIÈRE was right in saying that it was something to be bound, even in calf. A book which is not bound is not a book; it is "a pamphlet," which one forgets in a railroad car or cab, which one lends, which one leaves on a garden seat, where it gets wet, or on a toilet table, where it gets soiled, which the chambermaid, who finds it under a chair, tears up to kindle the fire. Bound, it is another thing. A book bound is a book which one has read, and which one wishes to read again, which one keeps for days of sadness, ennui. It is one of the family, a friend, the friend who never changes, always ready to converse, to instruct and to console.

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