

NML / LibGuides / Visions & Voices: Mary Roach / Mary Roach books

## Visions & Voices: Mary Roach: Mary Roach books



Gulp, Stiff, Spook, Bonk and Packing for Mars An Action-Packed Conversation with Mary Roach

[Mary Roach books](#)
[Rare books related to Bonk](#)
[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### Books by Mary Roach



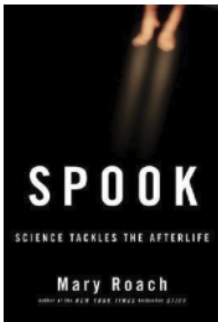
#### Stiff by Mary Roach

Call Number: QZ 35 R628c 2003

ISBN: 9780393050936

Publication Date: 2003-04-17

This hilarious debut from Mary Roach digs into all the unusual ways bodies are used when they're donated to science: from anatomical dissection to ballistics testing to transportation safety and more.

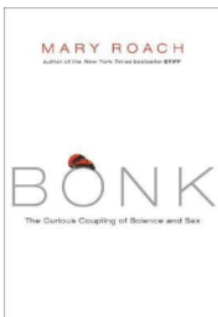


#### Spook by Mary Roach

ISBN: 0393059626

Publication Date: 2005-09-17

The historical and contemporary fringes of scientific exploration are revealed in this look at scientific attempts at proving the existence of an afterlife.

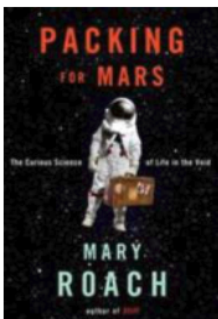


#### Bonk by Mary Roach

ISBN: 9780393064643

Publication Date: 2008-03-17

Because of cultural taboos, sex researchers face many challenges trying to uncover the scientific truths about our sexual selves.



#### Packing for Mars by Mary Roach

Call Number: WD 750 R628p 2010

ISBN: 9780393068474

Publication Date: 2010-08-02

NASA push human endurance to extremes with physical and psychological experiments to find out just how far the human body and mind can be pushed in service of space exploration.

### Subject Guide



Megan Rosenbloom

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#### Contact:

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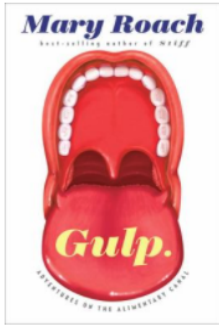
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P: 323.442.1134

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**Gulp** by Mary Roach

Call Number: WI 113 R628g 2013

ISBN: 9780393081572

Publication Date: 2013-04-01

This internal trip along the alimentary canal also takes readers to unusual places, including a pet food tasting factory and federal prison.

## Visions & Voices: Mary Roach: Rare books related to Bonk



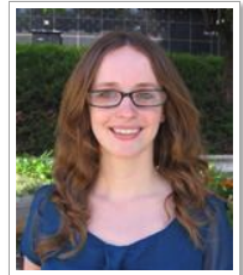
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[Rare books related to Bonk](#)
[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### USC Rare Books Related to Mary Roach's *Bonk*

- [Priapeia, sive, Diversorum poetarum in Priapum lusus by Priapea. 1664.](#)  
This 17th century volume displays 95 poems dedicated to Priapus, ancient Greek god of fertility and, as Ms. Roach points out, "protector of all garden produce," who is usually depicted with an absurdly large erect penis. Fittingly, priapism is a painful medical condition when an erection will not return to its flaccid state, a frequent side effect from certain medications.
- [Female sexuality by Princess Marie Bonaparte. 1958.](#)  
Great-grandniece of Napoleon Bonaparte, Princess Marie distinguished herself as a sex researcher who was not afraid to experiment on herself (though pseudonymously) and sometimes to horrifying results. After positing that women with a distance between their clitoris and vagina of longer than 2.5cm were unlikely to be able to achieve vaginal orgasm, she underwent multiple experimental surgeries to try to move her clitoris closer to her vagina. She later became a devout Freudian, even to the point of paying a ransom to save Freud from Nazi Germany.
- [Some thoughts on the science of onanism by Mark Twain. 1952 print of a 1879 speech.](#)  
In this brief but amusing speech, Mark Twain gives a history of onanism (or masturbation as we most often refer to it today) while jumbling up attributed quotes to hilarious results. For example, "Homer, in the second book of the Iliad, says with fine enthusiasm, 'Give me masturbation or give me death.'"
- [Sexual behavior in the human male by Alfred C. Kinsey. 1948.](#)  
In this benchmark work, Kinsey explored male sexuality in a systematic way for the first time, which included observations of the sexual act of volunteers in his attic. This chart shows the results of Kinsey's probing interviews which notate the incidence of various sexual encounters of white adolescent males including masturbation, nocturnal emissions, homosexual activity, and even sexual activity with animals.
- [Sex hostility in marriage; its origin, prevention and treatment by Theodoor H. van de Velde. 1931.](#)  
To our modern eyes this book is hilariously outdated, but it's important to remember that van de Velde was quite serious about this undertaking and thought imparting his wisdom might help save marriages, although he described the institution as "that morass of disillusion and depression." Here in the table of contents it becomes clear that "It is a Natural Necessity for the man to Strive to perfect his Qualities" and that one must recognize "his need to Concentrate his Mental Powers on Work" while the "Vulnerability innate in the Woman" might also contribute to a "Grudge against the Man who allows himself to be Conquered."
- [Human sexual response by William Masters & Virginia Johnson. 1966.](#)  
The names Masters and Johnson, like Kinsey, have become synonymous with debunking long-storied beliefs about human sexual practice. One such belief was the "upsuck" theory, about which Ms. Roach goes into detail in *Bonk*. These figures show for once and for all that female orgasm does not cause semen to be more easily brought into the uterus; in fact, it expels it.

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## Visions & Voices: Mary Roach: Rare books related to Packing for Mars



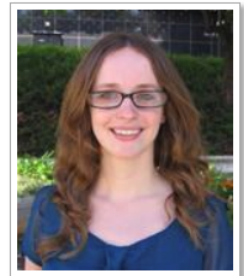
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[Mary Roach books](#)
[Rare books related to Bonk](#)
[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### USC Rare Books Related to Mary Roach's *Packing For Mars*

- The poeticon astronomicon : being the illustrious astronomer's exposition of the lore of the world and the heavenly sphere, together with the stories of the planets and constellations, now for the first time rendered complete into English... by Julius C. This beautifully illustrated astronomical work shows the constellation Aries, astrologically the ruling planet of Mars. This facsimile of the medieval text was printed in California thanks to UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library and The Huntington Library in San Marino.
- *De la sfera del mondo... libri quattro... di nuouo ricorretta, & ampliata. De le stelle fisse, libro vno.* by Alessandro Piccolomini. 1578.  
Piccolomini was a Siense philosopher and humanist who felt that knowledge should be made available to the broader public by publishing important works in the vernacular. This work, translated as *The Sphere of the world and the fixed stars*, followed the Ptolemaic view of astronomy.
- *Natures secrets, or, The admirable and wonderfull history of the generation of meteors* by Thomas Willford. 1658  
This early work about meteors shows an elemental view of the universe, where the seven known planets corresponded with the four elements that ruled everything in nature, including our bodies. Here Mars is depicted as the male symbol, and is shown as fiery, hot, dry and "choleric." For more information on the four humors in a medical context, check out the exhibit in the front foyer of Norris Medical Library.
- *Exploration of the celestial cards, and of two of the games in which they are used : viz. Conjunction and Combination ; to which is prefixed a brief introduction to astronomy* printed by G. Woodfall. 1830.  
This gorgeous set of 19th century celestial cards shows the known planets at the time and other astronomical phenomena. These cards could be used for learning and for games.
- *Atlas céleste de Flamstéed, approuvé par l'Académie royal des sciences, et publié sous le privilege de cette compagnie*  
These celestial maps, approved by the French Royal Academy of the Sciences, showed the latest in astronomical knowledge around the time America was conceived.
- *Ars magna lucis et umbrae, in X. libros digesta. Quibus admirandae lucis & umbrae in mundo, atque adeò universa natura, vires effectusque uti nova, ita varia novorum reconditorumque speciminum exhibitione, ad varios mortalium usus, panduntur* by Atha  
Kircher was a 17th-century German polymath who is often compared to Leonardo da Vinci due to the breadth of his scholarly interests. He published 40 books in his lifetime, including this study of light and shadow, which includes a number of astronomical elements.

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[Mary Roach books](#)
[Rare books related to Bonk](#)
[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### USC RARE BOOKS RELATED TO MARY ROACH'S SPOOK

- [Renati des Cartes Meditationes de prima philosophia : in quibus Dei existentia, & animae humanae à corpore distinctio, demonstrantur : his adjuncta sunt variae objectiones doctorum virorum in istas de Deo & anima demonstrationes by Rene Descartes. 1698.](#)

René Descartes is one of the earliest (and one of the most continuously respected) scientists who searched for a physical seat in the body where the soul resided. He concluded that the soul lives in the pineal gland, a pea-sized structure physiologically situated in the center of the brain system.
- [An encyclopedic outline of masonic, hermetic, cabbalistic and rosicrucian symbolical philosophy; being an interpretation of the secret teachings concealed within the rituals, allegories and mysteries of all ages by Manly Palmer Hall. 1928.](#)

Manly Hall was a luminary in the world of California mystics. This exceedingly rare edition, considered a bastion of printing and bookbinding of the age and more commonly known as *The Secret Teachings of All Ages*, catapulted the 27-year-old preacher into stardom. Among other disciplines, Hall was a theosophist who investigated the world's mysteries by exploring a variety of spiritual traditions. In this plate the break between the ancient Greek land of the living and Hades' land of the dead is depicted.
- [Ghosts I have met and some others by John Kendrick Bangs. 1898.](#)

"Coleridge, I think it was, was once asked by a lady if he believed in ghosts, and he replied, "No, madame; I have seen too many of them."" Bangs brings his spectral encounters to life in this book, with such diverting drawing captions as a ghost telling a beleaguered haunted man "I shall keep shoving you for exactly one year" and his admission that one spectre had him in an uncomfortable position, "I was forcibly unclad."
- [Spirit & matter before the bar of modern science by Isaac Winter Heysinger. 1910.](#)

This book is an earnest attempt to reconcile science with the brand of spiritualism that was very popular at this time period. He felt that science, spiritualism, and especially Christianity would all benefit from proving spiritualist's claims about protoplasm and the existence of life after death.
- [The diary of a spiritualist : together with comments on the happenings therein described by John B. Reimer. 1930.](#)

This medium's personal diary was intended for circulation only amongst his friends, and is signed by the author. The pages displayed show the medium allegedly interacting with a spirit, who placed a tambourine on his head in the middle of a séance. Some other photos in this book include a spirit with a trumpet, a spirit wiping the medium's brow, and a bizarre image of a hand coming out of the medium's pants.
- [Continuatio arcanorum naturae detectorum, qua continetur quicquid hactenus ab auctore lingua vernacula editum, & in linguam Latinam transfusum non fuit by Antoni van Leeuwenhoek. 1697.](#)

Van Leeuwenhoek is credited as the father of microbiology, creating a microscope that would become the model for those that would follow (there's a replica of it in a bell jar on this table). He explored the "animalcules" residing between his own teeth, but he balked when the Royal Society wanted him to examine his semen in hopes that they would find the material that creates the human soul. Eventually he relented, becoming the first to observe live spermatozoa. But he made a great error in saying he could see miniature people inside of the sperm, that we were "preformed" in the sperm and then grow bigger inside the womb and are then born.

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## Visions & Voices: Mary Roach: Rare books related to Stiff



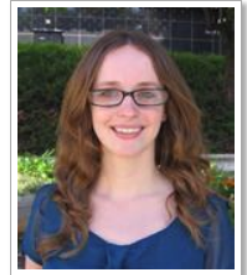
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[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### USC RARE BOOKS RELATED TO MARY ROACH'S STIFF

- [Exercitationes anatomicae, de motu cordis & sanguinis circulatione](#) by [William Harvey](#). 1661.  
This work is known by some as the most important book in the history of medicine, as it is the first to accurately describe the blood's circulation in the body. William Harvey was a great anatomist and also a daring one; he dissected his own father and sister (and nearly any other body he could get his hands on) all in the name of medical advancement.
- [The Dance of Death](#) edited and translated by [Henry Green](#). 1869 facsimile of 1538 work.  
The Dance of Death is the most famous example of a memento mori, a piece of art with the underlying purpose to remind people that they will die someday. Throughout these pages, skeletons menace or playfully mock people of all social classes and moral leanings, showing that death spares no one.
- [Tables of the skeleton and muscles of the human body](#) by [Bernhard Siegfried Albinus](#). 1749.  
Albinus is one of the greatest anatomical illustrators of all time. Between this work and his images in the Vesalius also displayed here, he has created some of the most enduring images in the history of medicine. His work is particularly famous for his treatment of skeletons in an artistic and melancholy fashion.
- [Opera omnia anatomica & chirurgica](#) by [Andreas Vesalius](#). 1725.  
In the 16th century, Andreas Vesalius took medicine into the modern era by insisting on dissection to learn about the human body instead of relying on Galenic texts where only rhesus monkeys were dissected. On the frontispiece of this compendium, you can see Vesalius, front and center with the cadaver doing a dissection with students all around, representing a revolution in medical education. There is even a rhesus monkey in the crowd.
- [Gunther von Hagens' Body worlds: the anatomical exhibition of real human bodies](#) by [Gunther von Hagens](#). 2003.  
Von Hagens was inspired by Albinus and other classical anatomical artists to pose his plastinated human cadavers in life-like and sometimes whimsical poses. His Bodyworlds exhibits have proven to be as popular as they are controversial all over the world.
- [The Pig as a laboratory animal](#) by [L.E. Mount & D.L. Ingram](#). 1971.  
When a human cadaver is hard to come by, researchers often turn to porcine subjects, as their physiology is much like our own. This book delineates the care of pigs in a laboratory setting and while they are often the ideal human stand in.

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[Rare books related to Bonk](#)
[Rare books related to Packing for Mars](#)
[Rare books related to Spook](#)
[Rare books related to Stiff](#)
[Rare books related to Gulp](#)

### USC RARE BOOKS RELATED TO MARY ROACH'S GULP

- [The Works of Thomas Sydenham, vol. 1. by Thomas Sydenham. 1848.](#)  
Among other medical pursuits, Sydenham was preoccupied with helping those suffering from constipation. He advocated animal-assisted therapy to relax patients, whether it was petting a kitten or going for a jostling horseback ride. To begin this volume of his work he gives many recipes for remedies, featuring some with strange ingredients. An old "Anti-Epileptick Water" includes a number of flowers, spices, and "shavings of a man's skull."
- [Boerhaave's aphorisms: concerning the knowledge and cure of diseases by Herman Boerhaave. 1724.](#)  
Boerhaave lays out a number of maxims in his Aphorisms that address issues featured in Gulp. "It is a known observation among the vulgar that the saliva is efficacious in cleansing foul wounds," for instance. On these pages he talks about the features of various different types of people's "fibres" (or feces) and how to adjust their qualities for maximum health.
- [Dr. Chase's recipes, or Information for everybody: an invaluable collection of about eight hundred practical recipes by A.W. Chase. 1878.](#)  
Dr. Chase's book includes a wide swath of practical information about food and also home remedies, from cures for piles, consumptive syrups, cures for drunkenness, to the unappetizing sounding "Diarrhea Cordial," you name it, it's in here.
- [Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice, and the Physiology of Digestion by William Beaumont. 1838.](#)  
Perhaps the most psychologically disturbing story in Gulp details the bizarre relationship between renowned physician William Beaumont and Alexis St. Martin, a worker with a fistulated hole in his stomach. Beaumont had the man move in with him so that he could feed him through his stomach hole and record the rates of digestion of various foods and non-foods. The result was a revolution in understanding how digestion works in live humans, but such a study would be unlikely to pass an Institutional Review Board today.
- [Intestinal obstruction, its varieties with their pathology, diagnosis, and treatment by Frederick Treves. 1884.](#)  
Frederick Treves was one of the surgeons who sought to debunk the strange but popular notion that people could have live snakes living inside them. He called the delusion "intestinal neurosis." Pictured in Treves books are some comparably disturbing images of "strangulations" of various parts of the human digestive tract.
- [The work of the digestive glands by I.P. Pavlov. 1910.](#)  
Pavlov and his slobbering dogs became famous in the field of behaviorism, but Pavlov also did other experiments with saliva. This table shows the amount of saliva that mouths' produced when confronted with foods like white bread, milk, and "raw flesh" but the menu gets a little stranger when items like sulphuric acid, glycerine, and sand are added.

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