

# Guide to the Larry Townsend Collection

MS 1975



compiled by Mary Caldera

December 2010

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	4
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	9

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1975

**CREATOR:** Townsend, Larry

**TITLE:** Larry Townsend collection

**DATES:** 1972-1999

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.5 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** The materials are in English and German.

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of publications authored, compiled by, or edited by Larry Townsend and published by his publishing house, L. T. Publications. The publications include fiction and comics and are illustrated with drawings and photographs. The collection also includes works by others, including catalogs for products for the leather lifestyle, comics, a manual, and an autobiographical work. A few of these items include letters and inscriptions to Townsend. The publications document the gay male leather community and sadomasochistic sexual practices through fiction, nonfiction, drawings, photographs, and product catalogs.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1975>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1975>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred by the Librarian for Gay and Lesbian Studies, 2010.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Larry Townsend Collection (MS 1975). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Larry Townsend (pseudonym for Bernhardt) was born on October 27, 1930. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950-1954. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1957, and pursued graduate study at the State University of California, Los Angeles. He became involved in the leather community of Los Angeles in the early 1960s and became an activist in the late 1960s, serving as the president of the "Homophile Effort for Legal Protection" in 1972. As a novelist, photographer, and publisher, he both chronicled and shaped the gay leather community from the late 1960s to 2008, the year of his death. He authored many books and articles on leather and sadomasochism, including *The Leatherman's Handbook*, published in 1971. Additionally, he published his own work, as well as that of others, through his publishing house, L. T. Publications. Many of his works have been reprinted by other publishers. Townsend died on July 29, 2008.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of publications authored, compiled by, or edited by Larry Townsend and published by his publishing house, L. T. Publications. The publications include fiction and comics and are illustrated with drawings and photographs. The collection also includes works by others, including catalogs for products for the leather lifestyle, comics, a manual, and an autobiographical work. A few of these items include letters and inscriptions to Townsend. The publications document the gay male leather community and sadomasochistic sexual practices through fiction, nonfiction, drawings, photographs, and product catalogs.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged by author and title.

## Collection Contents

### Books authored or edited by Townsend

b. 1, f. 1	<i>7 tales of whips, slaves &amp; retribution</i> Stories by Victor Terry, Jeff Kincaid, and others.	1989
b. 1, f. 2	<i>Anthology of S&amp;M</i>	1978-1979
b. 1, f. 3	<i>The Art of Tom "Ropes" McGurk</i>	1995
b. 1, f. 4	<i>Beware the god who smiles</i>	1983
b. 1, f. 5	<i>The Bondage photos of Tom "Ropes" McGurk</i>	1994
b. 1, f. 6	<i>Chains</i>	1974
b. 1, f. 7	<i>The Construction worker</i>	1981
b. 1, f. 8	<i>The Contest book</i>	1974
b. 1, f. 9	<i>Disziplin extra: das beste von Larry Townsend</i>	1976
b. 1, f. 10	<i>The Faustus contract</i>	1982
b. 1, f. 11	<i>The Fledermaus anthology</i>	1982
b. 1, f. 12	<i>Four SM tales of experimentation, punishment &amp; revenge</i> Stories by Jeff Kincaid and Rob, illustrations by Sean and Zane, bondage photos by Don Russo.	1993
b. 1, f. 13	<i>The Lance/Jeff Kincaid SM</i>	1988
b. 1, f. 14	<i>Larry Townsend Presents Masters: a collection of male-to-male SM stories</i>	1987
b. 1, f. 15	<i>Larry Townsend Presents Studbusters II</i> Stories by Jeff Kincaid.	1985
b. 1, f. 16	<i>Larry Townsend's book of men in bondage: a collection of the best photographs from his early books</i>	1980
b. 1, f. 17	<i>Larry Townsend's favorite bondage photos</i>	1987
b. 1, f. 18	<i>Larry Townsend's photo collection</i>	1992
b. 1, f. 19	<i>Larry Townsend's second book of men in bondage</i>	1986
b. 2, f. 1	<i>Leather AD volume 1.M and volume 2.S</i>	1976
b. 2, f. 2	<i>Leather AD_S</i>	1988
b. 2, f. 3	<i>Leatherman's workbook, Vols. III-V</i>	1976, undated
b. 2, f. 4	<i>Leatherman's workbook, Vols. 6-8</i>	1977-1979
b. 2, f. 5	<i>The Long leather cord</i>	1982

b. 2, f. 6	<i>Macbeth: the bloody tower</i>	1980
b. 2, f. 7	<i>The Mack anthology</i>	1982
b. 2, f. 8	<i>Man sword</i>	1981
b. 2, f. 9	<i>Mind Master</i>	1983
b. 2, f. 10	<i>More dungeons, more barns and more slaves</i> Mockup copy, with several pieces cut out but present.	[1987]
b. 2, f. 11	<i>More dungeons, more barns and more slaves errata</i>	Undated
b. 2, f. 12	<i>New treasury of SM, Vols. 1-5</i>	1982
b. 3, f. 1	<i>Of slaves &amp; ropes &amp; lovers</i>	1995
b. 3, f. 2	<i>Potpourri of S&amp;M, Vols. 1-5</i>	1976-1980
b. 3, f. 3	<i>The Power gods 2+2</i>	1981
b. 3, f. 4	<i>Rituals of the gag: a collection of SM stories</i> Illustrated by Sean and Rob.	1988
b. 3, f. 5	<i>Run, little leather boy</i> Illustrations by Zane, photographs by Townsend.	1987
b. 3, f. 6	<i>Run no more</i> Mockup of first issue with several pieces cut out and missing.	1972
b. 3, f. 7	<i>Run no more</i> Illustrations by Zane, photographs by Townsend.	1988
b. 3, f. 8	<i>School master and other stories of SM at school</i>	1985
b. 3, f. 9	<i>The Slaves</i>	1980
b. 3, f. 10	<i>SM contrasts</i>	1986
b. 3, f. 11	<i>An SM scrapbook</i>	1983
b. 3, f. 12	<i>SM scrapbook 2</i>	1984
b. 3, f. 13	<i>SM/SD: a collection of 5 stories by Victor Terry</i>	1980
b. 3, f. 14	<i>Tales of arrogance, whips &amp; humiliation</i>	1992
b. 3, f. 15	<i>Tales of discipline, obedience &amp; submission</i>	1994
b. 3, f. 16	<i>Tales of servitude &amp; surrender</i>	1991
b. 4, f. 1	<i>To take a slave</i>	1987
b. 4, f. 2-6	<i>A Treasury of S&amp;M, Nos. 1, 3, 6, 8-9</i>	1975-1977, undated
b. 4, f. 7	<i>Two tales of SM fantasy &amp; magic</i>	1987

b. 4, f. 8	<i>Whitewater run, a leather SM adventure by Victor Terry</i>	1981
Books authored by others		
The Hun (Schmeling, Bill)		
b. 4, f. 9	<i>Gohr: a tale of the new age #2</i> Inscribed to Townsend and signed by the author.	1997
b. 4, f. 10	<i>The Hun book of bondage</i> Inscribed to Townsend by the author.	1998
b. 4, f. 11	<i>Hun Comics</i> , Iss. 1-3, 5-7, 9-1 All but issue 9 inscribed to Townsend by the author.	1996-1999
b. 4, f. 12	J.W., <i>Overtime parking</i>	1995
b. 4, f. 13	J. D., <i>The Return of the Coney Island Knights</i> Typed letter signed from the publisher to Townsend tipped in.	1992
b. 4, f. 14	Man's Hand Films, <i>Catalog</i>	1996
b. 4, f. 15	<i>Man's Hand Films presents spanking, an anthology</i> , Vols. I-IV	1991-1992, 1995
b. 5, f. 1	<i>Man's Hand Films presents spanking, an anthology</i> , Vols. V-VII	1993-1994
b. 5, f. 2	<i>Mr. Fetters, the catalog</i> , parts one and two (2 volumes)	1992
b. 5, f. 3	<i>Mr. S Leather</i>	1990
b. 5, f. 4	<i>Old Reliable audio cassette tale library catalogue</i>	1994
b. 5, f. 5	<i>Old Reliable solo videotape catalogue</i>	1995
b. 5, f. 6	<i>Old Reliable wrestling catalogue</i>	1992
b. 5, f. 7	R.F.M., <i>The Life of a masochist</i>	1985
b. 5, f. 8	<i>Rob Amsterdam</i> [catalogue]	1985
Sean		
b. 5, f. 9	<i>Biff</i> , Nos. 1-2	Undated
b. 5, f. 10	<i>Bigfoot and a half! The enigma of the northwest</i> Nine-sheet unbound comic inscribed to Townsend by the author.	1978
Stephen		
b. 5, f. 11	<i>Adventure time</i> Mockup with publishing data stapled to rear wrap.	Undated
b. 5, f. 12	<i>Adventure time, collector's edition</i>	1981
b. 5, f. 13	Ward, R. Gary, <i>The Coney Island Knights</i> Typed letter signed from the publisher to Townsend tipped in.	1991

b. 5, f. 14	Wiseman, Jay, <i>SM 101, a realistic introduction</i>	1992
b. 5, f. 15	Zeus Collection	
b. 5, f. 15	<i>1984 Mr Zeus contest issue</i>	1984
b. 5, f. 15	<i>Sado island</i>	1985
b. 5, f. 15	<i>Zeus</i>	1984
b. 5, f. 15	<i>Zeus collector's edition, Vol. 1</i>	1985



## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Bondage (Sexual behavior)  
Gay men -- Fiction  
Gay men -- Sexual behavior  
Gay men -- Sexual behavior -- Fiction  
Homosexuality  
Leather lifestyle  
LGBTQ resource  
Sadomasochism  
Sadomasochism -- Fiction  
Sexual dominance and submission

### **Names**

Townsend, Larry