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## Stacked Decks: The Art and History of Erotic Playing Cards

*The Rotenberg Collection*

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**The Rotenberg Collection : Stacked Decks: The Art and History of Erotic Playing Cards** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stacked Decks: The Art and History of Erotic Playing Cards:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A lot of pictures but short on content By BirdOPrey5I was expecting more details on the decks- but few, if any, shown are complete. He just chooses a few cars from each deck. I was also hoping for info on value of various decks and facts as to their rarity but it's mostly just like someone showing you his card collection and telling you why he likes this or that rather than hard facts. The pictures are all "soft" pornography, he mentions the hard code stuff but doesn't show it- not a complaint- just an observation. He teases us telling us about the first erotic decks had the erotic parts as hidden watermarks but when he prints the cards from the deck no attempt

is made to show the watermarked images which could have been done in a photograph, even if he had to obscure the worst of it, seems cruel to bring it up and not give us a taste. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Ooh La La! By m00nman "Ooh La La!" - that's what my nephew said when he flipped through one of my "safe" 1950's decks of glamor models (the "unsafe" nude decks are kept on an out-of-reach shelf, I'm a good uncle!)...and his exclamation says it all: there is a sense of naughty FUN to these things, something that makes you want to share them, even though they might be something you're supposed to hide. This book has that same sense of fun (I keep it on that same high shelf, BTW). With lots of different versions in full color, what is there not to like? I was particularly taken with the descriptions of a very old European deck, which wasn't even known to be "dirty" until the present day, when a collector happened to notice what showed through the Victorian etchings when the cards were held up to a light! Ingenious! I was a bit disappointed to find out that the hidden portions were considered to be "too dirty" for this book...once they told me about them, I was curious to see them! Oh well. All in all, a very worthwhile book. Not for kids, of course, but nice, light-hearted kitschy sexy fun for grownups (or just middle-aged juveniles, like myself!). 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Naked girls deserve a better scanner!! By RCH Who doesn't like girlie playing cards? Unfortunately most of these images look like they were done with a 20-year-old scanner from the thrift shop. Not even the moire patterns are removed with a few clicks of a cheap graphics program. What should be easy on the eyes, is hard on the eyes!! The book has the look of a Eastern European clothing catalog from the 1960s. And right now I feel SO sleazy.

The Rotenberg Collection is one of the worlds largest archives of vintage erotica, with more than 20,000 erotic playing cards in its holdings and Stacked Decks highlights the best of the best. Within these pages, readers will discover illustrated cards dating back to 1835, dazzling pin-up portraits from renowned artists such as Gil Elvgren, cards with instructions for promoting a healthy marriage, oversized cards, miniature cards, round cards, square cards, and comic cards. There are cards from Sweden, France, and the United Kingdom; cards from Africa to Asia and beyond. And of course, there are women. There are models, flappers, and strippers; there are blondes, brunettes, and redheads. There are women holding guns. Women in sports cars. Women wearing sombreros and pith helmets. Women encountering large exotic animals. Women reclining on shag carpets. Women dressed like Eskimos. Women posing in ways that defy description you simply have to see for yourself. So what are you waiting for? Ante up and turn the page!

About the Author Mark Lee Rotenberg, the curator of the Rotenberg Collection, has been searching the planet for vintage erotica for more than 25 years. His archive presently includes more than 200,000 works, including vintage erotic photographs in every genre and format, reels of film, Tijuana Bibles, playing cards, books, magazines, and much more. The Rotenberg Collection has also been the basis for several books, including *I Was a 1950s Pin-Up Model!* (1995), *The Rotenberg Collection: Cheesecake!* (1999), *The Rotenberg Collection: Forbidden Erotica* (2000), and *1000 Forbidden Pictures* (2002). Readers can visit the Rotenberg Collection online at [www.vintagenudephotos.com](http://www.vintagenudephotos.com).