

***THE NATURAL PHILOSOPHY OF LOVE –
SYMBOLIST WRITER REMY DE GOURMONT’S VERY EARLY
ATTEMPT AT UNDERSTANDING THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN
LOVE AND SEXUALITY***

de Gourmont, Remy and Ezra Pound (trans.). *The Natural Philosophy of Love*. London: The Casanova Society, 1926. 183 pages. Hardcover. #169/1,500.

The Natural Philosophy of Love represents the attempt of French Symbolist writer Remy de Gourmont (1858-1915) to understand human love and sexuality from a psychological perspective – “to enlarge the general psychology of love, starting it in the very beginning of male and female activity, and giving man’s sexual life its place in the one plan of universal sexuality”.^{*} It addresses diverse aspects of human and animal sexuality including sexual dimorphism, love, asexuality, polygamy, instinct versus intellect, and aberrations. Gourmont first penned *The Natural Philosophy of Love* (or *Physique de l'Amour. Essai sur l'Instinct Sexuel* in his native French) in 1903, making it a very early text in the study of sexuality written several decades before the groundbreaking work of Alfred Kinsey (1894-1956). American-born writer Ezra Pound translated this work as well as many others by Gourmont and wrote a postscript for it as well.

This book is numbered 169 in a limited edition of 1,500 copies, only 1,430 of which were made available for sale. It was printed on deckled-edged paper with an “antique de luxe” watermark. It has grey board covers, which are now faded and discolored. There are also losses to the navy blue spine strip. The interior and pages are in fine condition with occasional, minor water stains on the margins only.

*de Gourmont, Remy and Ezra Pound (trans.). *The Natural Philosophy of Love*. London: The Casanova Society, 1926. 1.

\$65.00

