

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

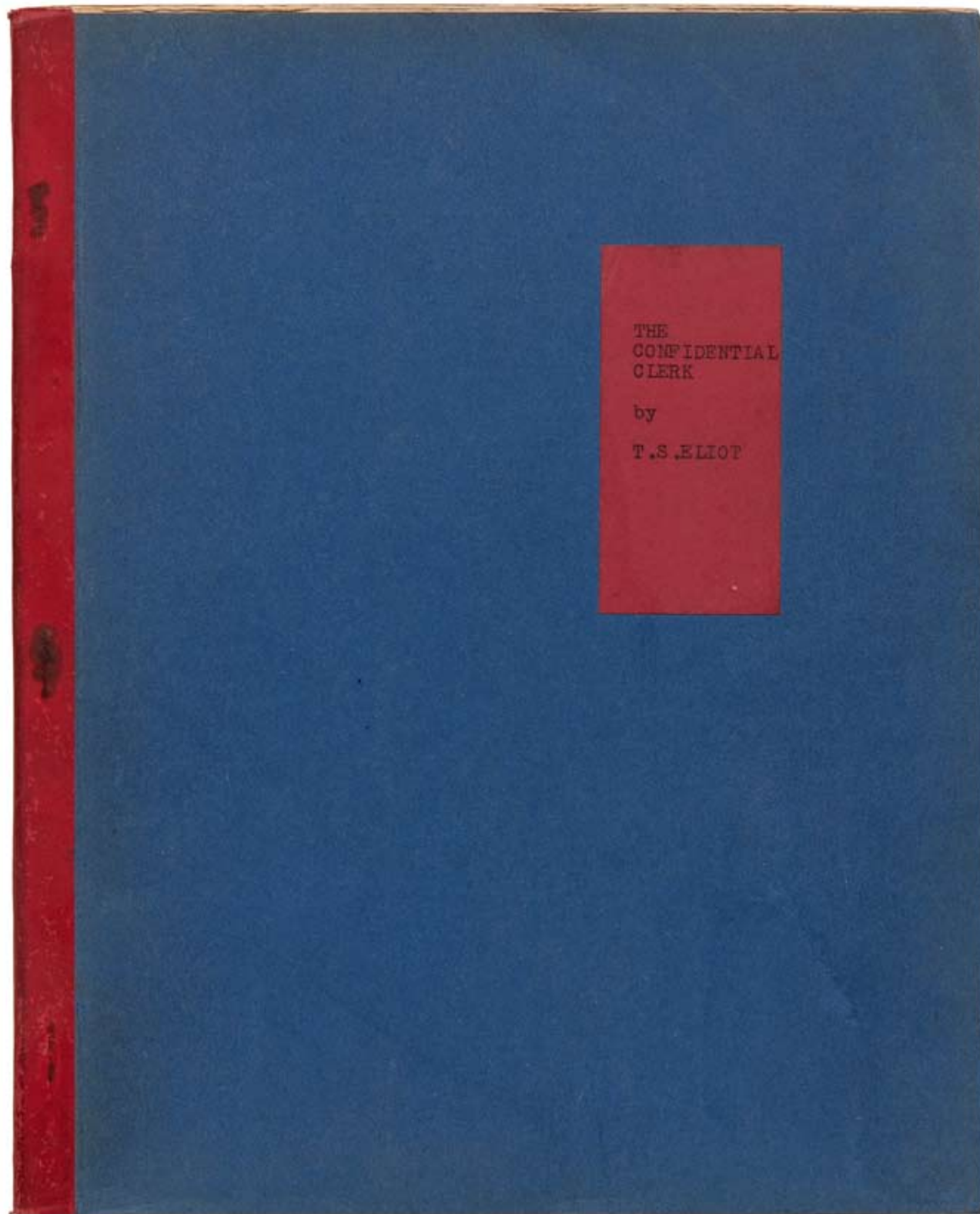
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T.S. Eliot

[Playscript]: The Confidential Clerk

(London): Henry Sherek Ltd. [1953?]

\$8500



Carbon typescript. Quarter red canvas over stapled blue card stock with title and author on typed red paper label on upper cover and with the printed name and address of May Hemery typewriting, stenography service on inner front cover. (2), 1-31; 1-31; 1-38 pp. Each act interleaved with plain yellow paper. Collated and complete.

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With pencil number "4" on first leaf (presumably copy number 4 of an unspecified number of copies. Stapled have oxidized and bled through the red canvas spine a little, else very near fine. Playscript issued previous to all published versions of the play, made for the play's original producer Henry Sherek.

The Henry Sherek typescript held with the T.S. Eliot papers at Yale University is collated (2), 30, 30, 35 pp., thus this version would appear to have 5 additional pages that the Yale version does not. Although essentially similar to the published version, the last several pages of the final act displays some substantial differences in the dialogue and arrangement. From the Estate of Muriel Large (1923-2009), a ballet administrator associated with several companies, and a well-known figure in the English theatre and dance world. A rarity, *OCLC* locates six additional copies aside from Yale's (over two records). At least four of those seem to collate exactly with the Yale copy; the other two (both in the U.K.) do not specify. [BTC#402898]

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THE CONFIDENTIAL CLERK

by

T.S. ELIOT

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HENRY SHEREK LTD.,
40, Pall Mall,
London, S.W.1.

Whitehall 6628/9.
.....

EGGERSON: There'll be no one so pleased as Mrs. E.;
Of that I can assure you. I'm longing to tell her.

MRS. G.: Mr. Eggerston, I cannot see eye to eye with you -
Having been, myself, the wife of an organist -
Still, I think that you and I have something in
common.
- I believe that this interview can now be
terminated.
At least, there is no further need for my presence.
If you will excuse me, Sir Claude ...

SIR CLAUDE: Excuse you ? Yes.

MRS. G.: I shall return to Teddington. Colby,
Will you get me a taxi to go to Waterloo ?

COLBY: Get you a taxi ? Yes, Aunt Sarah;
But I should see you home.

MRS. G.: Home ? Only to a taxi.
Do you mind if I take my departure, Sir Claude ?
I'm no longer needed here.

SIR CLAUDE: Mind ? What do I mind ?

MRS. G.: Then I will say goodbye. You have all had your
wish
In one form or another. You and I, Sir Claude,
Had our wishes twenty-five years ago;
But we failed to observe, when we had our wishes,
That there was a time-limit clause in the contract.

SIR CLAUDE: What's that ? Oh. Good bye, Mrs. Guzzard.

EXIT MRS. GUZZARD, escorted by COLBY.

SIR CLAUDE: What's happened. Have they gone ? Is Colby
coming back ?

LADY E.: My poor Claude !

LUCASTA: Poor Claude ! I'm going to call you Daddy.
Would you like that, Claude ?

SIR CLAUDE: Don't leave me, Lucasta.
Eggerson ! Do you really believe her ?

CURTAIN