

# A Golden Thread

*A Contemporary Illumination*  
featuring, “The Minotaur” by Nathaniel Hawthorne



From Intima Press Fine Letterpress Editions, New York City

**exhibition:** *A Golden Thread* was prominently featured in an exhibition at the **Peabody Essex Museum** titled, “*The Creative Legacy of Nathaniel Hawthorne: Selections from the Phillips Library*” (September 2019 - March 2020).

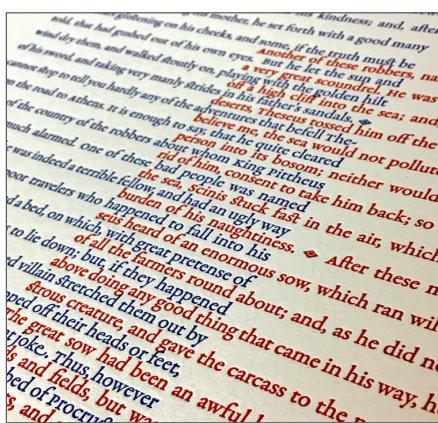
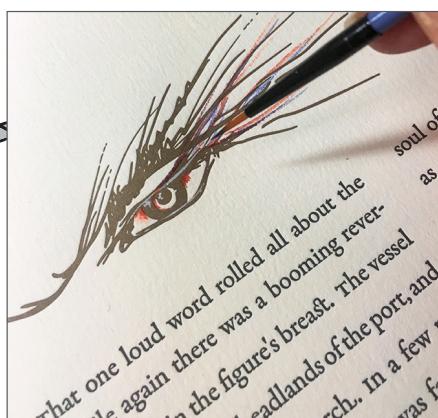
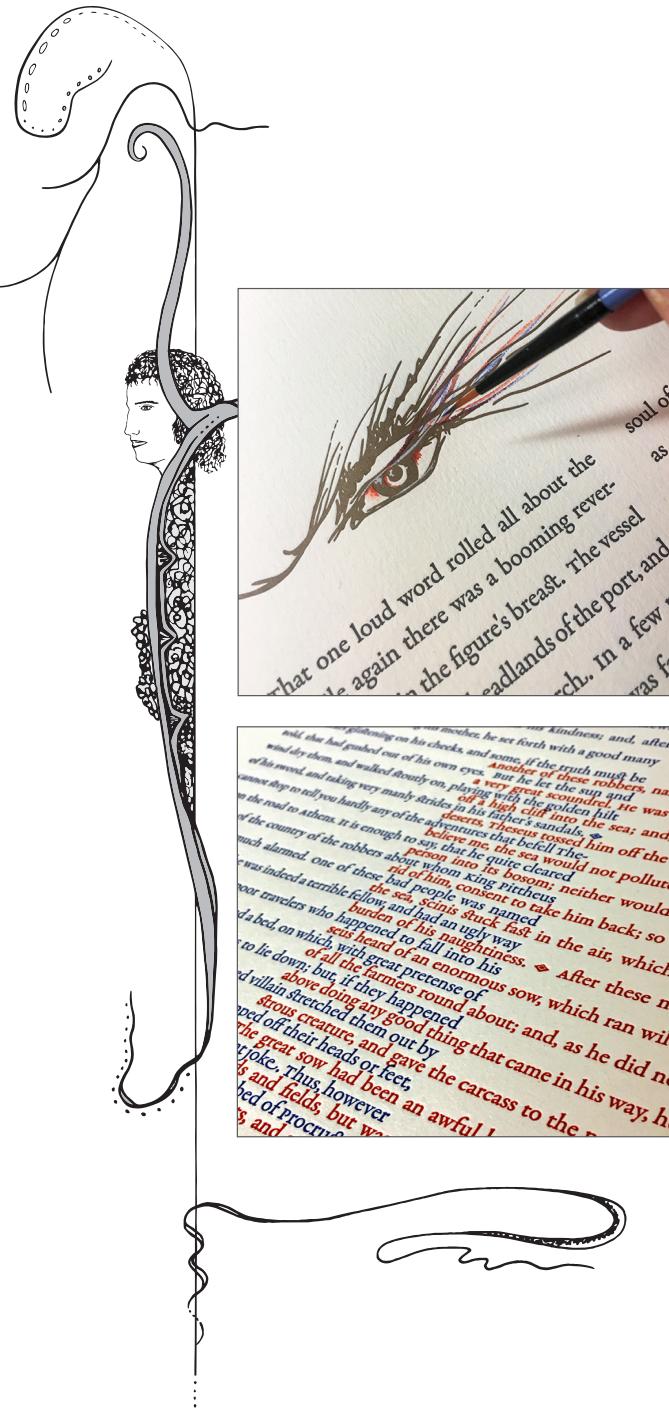
**Award winning book:** *A Golden Thread: The Minotaur* received a Fine Press Book Association Collector’s Prize considered among the **Best in Show** at the 2020 **Manhattan Fine Press Book Fair**.

**A Companion book** to *The Golden Hair of Medusa*, award winning volume, Oxford, 2025

**Parenthesis Journal Review:** Michael Ryan described *A Golden Thread* as, “**a genuine masterpiece** of art and design, an exuberant mix of color, texture, style, and format,” and concluded, “The book is **a stunning achievement** by one of our most gifted artists, mature and at the peak of her powers.”

# A GOLDEN THREAD

*Art, design, printing,  
& publishing by Mindy Belloff*



***A Golden Thread*** is a *tour de force* from Intima Press. This classic Greek tragedy recounts the story of Theseus, brave son of King Aegeus, who ventures into Daedalus' labyrinth with his sword at the ready to slay the Minotaur. Ariadne, who devised the plan, provides the thread - his life line - as she awaits at the entrance to the maze, while Theseus descends into its depths. She alone, holds the fate of our hero in her capable hands.

## About the Edition

Beautifully composed of 100 original drawings, each page is meticulously designed and letterpress printed in multiple press runs with an elegant color palette. The story unfolds in an array of blues, reds, light black and gold inks on ivory colored pages. Deeper blues, browns and blacks are added to the palette and printed on a darker tan paper, as our hero enters the mizmaze. The paper transitions to bright white with vibrant inks, when Theseus emerges victorious.

With inspiration from Japanese Inro and historic Illuminations, the pages in the first and third sections are adorned with hand drawn ornamented initials, ornate borders, and lively calligrams. A selection of the exquisite illustrations are hand painted with watercolor and gouache. Elegantly type-set in Adobe Garamond with additional type faces highlighting passages (in Old English, Goudy, Caslon, Gothic, Apple Chancery, Lithos, Minon, Givry, Herculaneum, Luminari, Caxton, Bodoni, Ganjuri, Berliner, and Jenson) the text comes alive, as it gradually becomes larger and more animated with each page, the deeper Theseus bravely winds his way through the labyrinth, penetrating the heart of the dreaded maze to confront the bull-headed monster. The dynamic typographic designs of the middle section of the book become more frenzied and chaotic as the narrative describes the fight between the hero and the beast.

The volume is a contemporary twist on the medieval manuscript and includes whimsical bas-de-page images, labyrinthine quotes of Carl Jung, musings on Lorem Ipsum, and a nod to the weavings of Arachne.



## edition limited to 40

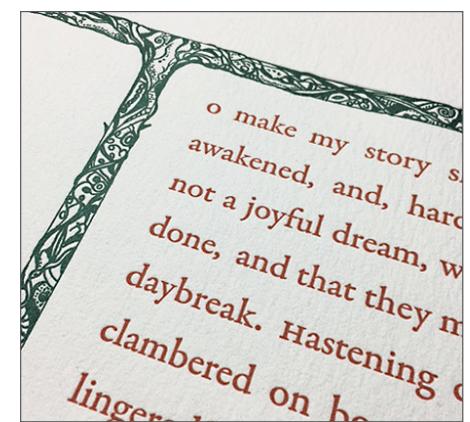
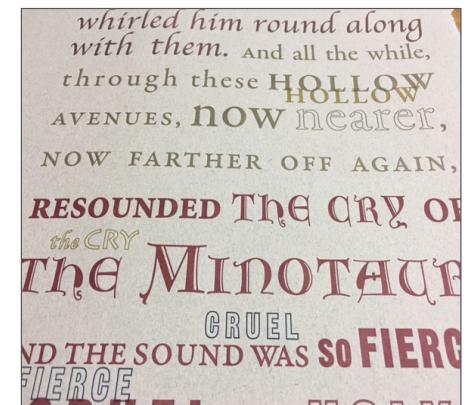
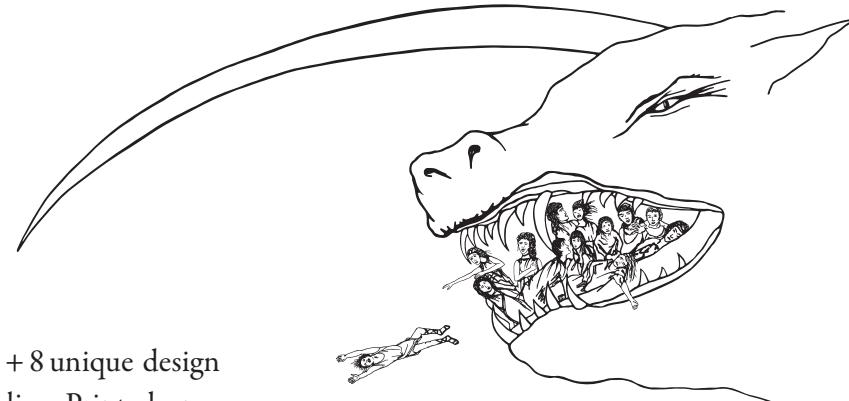
Fine Letterpress Edition limited to 32 standard + 8 unique design bindings, 92-pages [28 blank] in format of folios. Printed on a Vandercook Universal III Automatic A/B press. One hundred original drawings with two hundred press runs. Endsheets letterpress printed front and back, uniquely illustrated with ancient map, portraits as Centuride, Sphinx and Arachne; and colophon drawings of the artist, her daughter, their dog, and pet snail. Deckled fore edge. Two gilt edges on head and tail in 23-karat gold, with cover design and label in gold foil on leather, gilded by Peter Geraty, Praxis Bindery, MA. Hand sewn on linen tapes with cover in quarter leather blue Pergamena calf skin with white Canal paper, housed inside a gold cloth clamshell box with gold foil stamped leather label, bound by Celine Lombardi, NY. Lush cotton rag papers in ivory, tan, and white; paper fibers from offcuts of the clothing industry (T-shirts, denim) and flax straw sourced from farms made at St. Armand Paperie, Canada. Letterpress printed from photopolymer plates produced at Boxcar Press, NY. Height 14.75" x width 10.75" c. 2018, numbered and signed by the artist, M. Belloff, Intima Press, New York, NY.

**standard edition price** \$6,800

## Unique Design Bindings

Deluxe volumes: 4 different design bindings. The first features a unique white leather binding with 38 gemstones, bull horns made of mother-of-pearl, leather inlays, and metal serpentine clasp, inside a red leather clamshell box. The second is an elegant labyrinth design in 23k gold leaf on white vellum with black leather clamshell and leather inlays. The third is a cover of collaged letterpress printed sheets with red leather onlays inside a cloth clamshell box. The fourth design features a letterpress printed drawing of a trilogy portrait on parchment with purple buffalo leather spine and clamshell (please inquire, images on website).

All rights reserved. This work of art is protected by  
the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 and  
the book cannot be mutilated or segmented in any fashion.



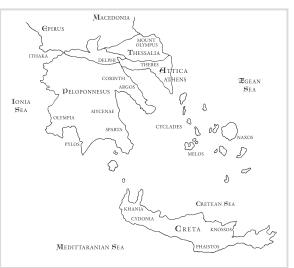
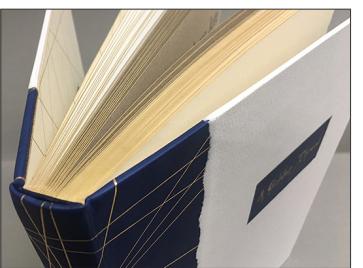
**The Text** The writings of **Nathaniel Hawthorne** (1804-1864), belong to the genre of Dark Romanticism. The text reproduced in *A Golden Thread* is his short story, *The Minotaur*, published in *Tanglewood Tales for Girls and Boys*, in 1853. In the Introductory Note, G.P. Lathrop states that this volume was written, "in the same way of Greek myths retold with a modern, free, half realistic and half fanciful tone..." and in the Preface to *A Wonder-Book*, Hawthorne writes, "No epoch of time can claim a copyright in these immortal fables." It remains for contemporary audiences, a spirited read, and comes to life through the drawings and designs employed in the edition. Hawthorne details Theseus' growth from a boy to a young man. He describes the hero's travels to Athens to find his father, King Aegeus; the wicked Medea's attempts to intercept the reunion; and his journey to Crete, confronting the evil King Minos, descending through the depths of the labyrinth to slay the Minotaur beast, and returning the seven young maidens and six young men to Athens unharmed.

Additional text includes quotes of **Carl G. Jung** (1875-1961), handwritten in an archetypal labyrinth pattern, symbolic of Jung's theory of the serpentine path one must take in their transformative journey towards identity and wholeness.

The final calligram is designed in small type, utilizing the Latin text of the **Loem Ipsum**.

(A companion book edition, "The Golden Hair of Medusa" is now available, Spring 2025.)

**About The Artist** Mindy Belloff is a fine artist born and raised in New York. Her first introduction to studio art when a teen was at The Brooklyn Museum Art School, painting from models and learning intaglio techniques. She attended New York University (B.S., M.A.) and the San Francisco Art Institute. Mindy's fine books and broadsides may be viewed in over sixty special collections including the Library of Congress, the Victoria & Albert Museum, and the British Library. She has exhibited at venues such as the Bronx Museum of the Arts and The Sculpture Center in New York City. Her mixed media installations were favorably reviewed by Holland Cotter in *The New York Times*, and her edition titled *W2LZX* received a Herzog Honorable Mention for Excellence in Book Design in 2010. Inspired by Alfred Stieglitz's Intimate Gallery of 1925, she opened Intima Gallery in upstate New York from 2013-2014, showcasing numerous artists' photographs, books, and prints. Mindy Belloff is the first woman to recreate the *Unanimous Declaration of Independence*, as printed in January 1777 by Mary Katharine Goddard. She received a Puffin Foundation Grant supporting *creative and innovative initiatives that advance progressive social change*, for her contemporary edition of the *Declaration*, rewritten to include "all People."

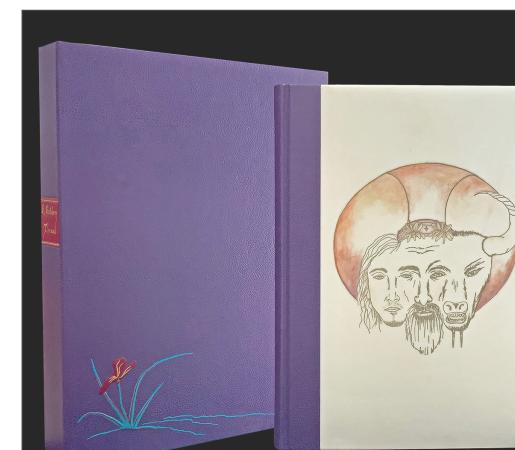


**what collectors are saying:**

- "a tour de force"
- "gorgeous...wonderful"
- "amazing"
- "really stunning"
- "exquisite!"
- "a fabulous volume!"

**Contact:** Intima Press 32 union square East, suite 310 . New York, NY 10003 . 917-412-4134  
 email: [intimapress@yahoo.com](mailto:intimapress@yahoo.com) . web: [intimapress.com](http://intimapress.com)

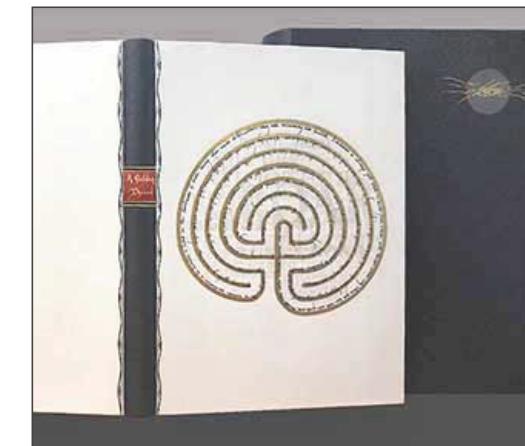
## A Golden Thread.: The Minotaur – Design Bindings



Design Binding No. D4



Design Binding No. D3



Design Binding No. D2



Design Binding No. D1

A Companion Book to the award winning book: The Golden Hair of Medusa, 2025