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## BOOK STUDIES IN POLAND AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR\*

The book as a research field of bibliology. The problem of determining its features and qualities. The types of books attracting the most interest of bibliologists (children's books, science books, popular books). Works on individual book types. Works from the borderline of bibliology and other academic disciplines.

KEY WORDS: book studies, book structure, book typology

All the post-1945 studies that have sought to offer a comprehensive account and assessment of Polish bibliology<sup>1</sup> have followed a certain pattern. Their authors have discussed the work done in various bibliological subdisciplines, whereby handwritten books and printed books were approached separately. Surveys of research findings in the history of papermaking, printing, bookselling, libraries and reading practices have been produced. Some authors have also devoted attention to theoretical issues, in doing which they have offered appraisals of the entire research field of bibliology. Of course, this is a legitimate approach as it helps establish which of the disciplines of bibliology experience the most robust development, which themes predominate, and which issues invite less interest from scholars. Chronological theme-focused surveys show which epochs in the history of the book are studied with heightened attention and which tend to be less thoroughly depicted

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<sup>1</sup> Translator's note: throughout this paper, 'bibliology' is used to denote the science of books and not the study of the Bible.

(Buchwald-Pelcowa, 1974; Bułhak, 1968; Lech, 1974; Słodkowska, 1978).<sup>2</sup> There is another lens through which one can examine bibliological research. It is widely accepted that, as its object, bibliology attends to ‘the book, understood both as a single item and as an idea or a set of books’ (Migoń, 2004). Today, there is also a consensus (one that would hardly have been taken for granted by some theorists who developed their concepts at the onset of bibliology as an autonomous discipline) that bibliology covers both the material dimension and (certain aspects of) the content of the book, which are believed to form a whole. Given this, the typology of the book, its structure, its various kinds and their history should take a prominent position in bibliological research. My aim in this paper is to establish whether and, if so, to what extent these themes can be found in the work of Polish bibliology after the Second World War. My research corpus has been compiled on the basis of *Polska Bibliografia Bibliologiczna* [*The Polish Bibliological Bibliography*] (previously *Bibliografia Bibliografii i Nauki o Książce* [*The Bibliography of Bibliography and Book Studies*]). The data collection was somewhat impeded by the fact that this bibliography, both in its printed version and as an electronic database, only covers writings produced by 2013. Data about the works published later were also sourced from *Przewodnik Bibliograficzny* [*A Bibliographic Guide*] (Urzędowy Wykaz Druków), *Bibliografia Zawartości Czasopism* [*The Bibliography of Periodical Content*] and the current *Bibliografia Historii Polskiej* [*Bibliography of Polish History*]. *Polska Bibliografia Bibliologiczna* [*The Polish Bibliological Bibliography*] mainly registers the publications on the themes under discussion in the section on ‘Disciplines and Types of Publications.’ Importantly, this paper examines studies that offer a historical perspective on printed books and their kinds. While there are numerous studies on the contemporary book, they as a rule explore the presence of its various kinds on the publishing market: in the repertoire of individual publishers and/or in the stock on offer in bookshops. The primary focus here is on publications on bibliology, though works investigating other fields but offering findings of interest to bibliologists are also cited as potentially helpful in or inspiring book-studies research. This survey of the literature on research on individual book types begins with the publications devoted to the components and typology of the book in an attempt to determine distinctive features of types of books. Subsequently, attention is given to studies on various kinds of

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<sup>2</sup> Volume 12 of *Studia o Książce* [*Book Studies*] contained papers read at the conference *Stan i perspektywy badań księgoznawczych w Polsce* [*Book Studies Research in Poland: State of the Art and Future Perspectives*] (Karpacz, 22–27 November 1979), which addressed theory (Krzysztof Migoń), history of the publishing movement (Elżbieta Słodkowska), editorship (Jan Trzynaśkowski), the history of library and librarianship (Zofia Gaca-Dąbrowska), bibliophilism (Stanisław Jerzy Gruczyński) and reading practices and their history (Kazimiera Maleczyńska, Teresa Radwan-Wińska).

the book, in particular the science book, the children's and young adult book and the popular book, which stand out in terms of quantity. Thereby various aspects of research in this area are foregrounded. Finally, other-than-bibliological publications are surveyed in which issues related to respective book types are addressed.

1. Studies on the typology of the book, its structure and respective components have not been frequent. To start with, the fundamental publications have been *Encyklopedia wiedzy o książce* [*The Encyclopaedia of the Knowledge of the Book*] (Wrocław 1971) and *Encyklopedia książki* [*The Encyclopaedia of the Book*] (Wrocław 2017). The subject index of the former does not include a separate section for 'The Morphology of the Book,' and readers are referred to the 'Editorial Issues,' where the subsection on 'Publications' contains related entries under 'Morphology' and 'Forms.' In the section on 'Bibliology,' the 'Kinds, Genres and Types of Writing' subsection comprises entries on various forms of the printed book. The latter encyclopaedia comprises an entry on 'The Book: Structure and Morphology.' Besides, its individual entries also depict characteristic features of various kinds of books.

Issues concerning component parts of the book have been addressed in textbooks for various levels of librarian education and training: for example Henryk Dubowik's *Książka i czasopismo współczesne* [*The Contemporary Book and Periodical*] (Warszawa 1976), Ksawery Świerkowski's *Morfologia książki* [*The Morphology of the Book*] (Warszawa 1954) and, more recently, Stanisław Adam Kondek's *Zagadnienia wydawnicze i księgarskie* [*Publishing and Bookselling: Selected Issues*] (Warszawa 2010). An extensive chapter on authorship by Janina Pelc was included in *Bibliotekarstwo naukowe* [*Research Librarianship*], edited by Adam Łysakowski (Warszawa 1956).

The structure and kinds of the book have also been examined in some studies authored by theorists of bibliology, whose discussions of their disciplinary object addressed the morphology of the book. These themes appeared in *Teoria bibliografii w zarysie* [*The Theory of Bibliography: An Outline*] (Wrocław 1951) by Stefen Vrtel-Wierczyński, one of the precursors of modern bibliology, where he offered divisions of books based on various criteria and discussed component parts of the book. Considerable attention to the typographic design and graphic composition was paid by Karol Głombiowski in his major work, *Książka w procesie komunikacji społecznej* [*The Book in the Social Communication Process*] (Wrocław 1980), which showed these elements of the book to be interconnected with its function. The structure of the book in terms of its involvement in social communication has also been investigated by Radosław Cybulski. In *Książka współczesna. Wydawcy — rynek — odbiorcy* [*The Contemporary Book: Publishers, the Market, Readers*] (Warszawa 1986), he drew on the place and role of the book in the process of social communication to analyse its component parts by

nine orders, which he understood as ‘an ensemble of selected elements of the book geared to fulfilling predefined functions in the process of its use.’ Slightly earlier, the relevance and structure of the book were tackled by Cybulski in his paper on ‘Struktura i właściwości książki’ [‘The Structure and Properties of the Book’] (*Studia o Książce*, vol. 14, 1984). If Cybulski focused on the contemporary book, the historical development of the properties of the book were analysed by Janusz Dunin in *Rozwój cech wydawniczych książki literackiej* [*The Development of Editorial Traits of the Literary Book*] (Łódź 1982; 2nd ed. Łódź 2018), the first Polish book to comprehensively discuss the development of multiple book components, such as the title page, the internal organisation apparatus, the cover and the dust jacket. Although Dunin focused on the literary books, many of his findings, for example, his insights into how the title page evolved in the 19th century, were generally applicable and could be extended onto any kind of the book. Changes in the respective elements of the book over certain timeframes have not attracted a lot of scholarly interest (the few examples include Maria Juda’s *Karta tytułowa staropolskiej książki drukowanej* [*The Title Page of the Printed Books in Early Modern Poland*], 2002 and Anna Gruca’s *Poświęcenie pisem drukowanych zwyczaj wprowadził... Drukowane dedykacje okresu zaborów* [*Dedicating Printed Writings Has Become a Custom...: Printed Dedications in the Partition Period*], Kraków 2021). The formal features of various book types are as a rule discussed when depicting their repertoires or the repertoires of respective publishers. Dunin’s body of work also includes an interesting text on the function of book covers and dust jackets, which was published in the collected volume titled *Sztuka książki. Historia – teoria – praktyka* [*The Art of the Book: History, Theory, Practice*] (Wrocław 2003). In his chapter, he defined the function of the cover and the dust jacket, possibly inspiring other researchers’ further studies. Katarzyna Szcześniak has referred to this contribution to show research opportunities afforded by investigating the cover from the viewpoints of editorship and communication science, and as a work of art and an object of graphic design. The most comprehensive historical study of the Polish book cover was offered by Jan Straus in two volumes of his *Teraz okładka!* [*Book Cover Now!*] (Warszawa 2021), where he depicted the stages in the development of the Polish book cover, its kinds and the work of distinguished book artists from the early 19th century to 1939. Besides the cover and the dust jacket, the book illustration is an element of the book structure studied today by bibliology and other scholarly disciplines. However, this is in and of itself a complex issue that deserves a separate study of its own.

Ideas about the necessity to link the content of the book to its external form were surveyed by Elżbieta Jamróz-Stolarska in her 2009 paper titled ‘Architektura książki jako problem badawczy’ [‘The Book Architecture as a Research Problem’]. Another perspective on the typographic design of the book was proposed by Ewa

Repucho, who discussed it as a determinant of the book's identity in 2014. Issues of the book typographic design were also tackled in the collected volume *W poszukiwaniu odpowiedniej formy* [*In Search of a Proper Form*] (Wrocław 2012), the subtitle of which indicated that its contributions aimed to show 'the role of publishers, typographers, artists and technology in book production.' The chapters discuss various elements of the book (covers, illustrations, etc.), their functions and features of various types of the book (artistic, children's and young adults) in both historical and present-day contexts.

Besides, the structure, elements and internal order of the book have also been addressed in textbooks for typographers and book designers, such as Andrzej Tomaszewski's *Architektura książki* [*Book Architecture*] (Warszawa 2011) and Filip Trzaska's *Podstawy techniki wydawniczej* [*Basics of the Publishing Technique*] (2nd ed., Warszawa 1987).

2. Bibliologists also seek to define characteristic features of respective book kinds which help accurately identify them and unambiguously link them to certain repertoires. This particularly concerns science, children's and young adult, and popular books.

Researchers of both the old and contemporary science book have grappled with the problem of pinpointing its properties. They highlight that criteria are rather vague in this respect.<sup>3</sup> Krzysztof Migoń explains that this challenge stems from difficulty in defining the very notions of 'science' and 'the book.' His article titled 'Historyczna typologia książki naukowej' ['The Science Book: A Historical Typology'], where he cites categorizations offered by various authors, can provide a starting point for researchers of other book kinds since, drawing on Alisa Biełowicka, Migoń outlines the general criteria of book typology in his argument (Migoń, 1986). Terminology problems precluding any fixed typology of the science book were pointed out by Leon Marszałek in *Edytorstwo publikacji naukowych* [*The Editing of Research Publications*] (Warszawa 1986), where he also discussed various kinds of research publications.

Difficulty in conclusively defining the science book prompts scholars who study it to begin their discussions by specifying what they mean by the term. Concomitantly, they offer more or less exhaustive typologies of the science book, as exemplified by Anna Żbikowska-Migoń's *Książka naukowa w kulturze polskiego Oświecenia* [*The Science Book in Polish Enlightenment Culture*] (Wrocław 1977).

The science book has a specific typographic design, an issue also addressed in publications by Żbikowska-Migoń (*Książka naukowa* [*The Science Book*] and a separate paper). Irena Rapacka has discussed the issue in the context of the

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<sup>3</sup> Authors discussing aspects of the science book first seek to define their research object, whereby they emphasise the ambiguity of the term; see e.g. Korczyńska-Derkacz, 2006.

earlier epoch, and Henryk Żeligowski has examined it in the contemporary book, associating it with the communicative effectiveness of the science book. For his part, Jan Kuźma has specifically focused on the illustration as one aspect of the structure of the science book.

The popular book, with the book for the people as its specific subtype, is another book kind that has its distinctive readership and external form. Similarly, efforts have been made to capture the defining features of the genre, with Gruca's work standing as the most substantial contribution to the discussion. In the literature, the two kinds are sometimes equated and the terms 'the book for the people' and 'the popular book' tend to be used interchangeably. As Dunin observes, literature for the people comprises two trends: 'the spawn of utility' and 'the spawn of scandal.' The former encompasses publications that aimed to educate the rural population, and the former includes those that attracted readers by sensational and scandalous themes. The line between the two trends tended to blur, as noted by Dunin (1965). The popular book, including the book for the people, boasted a characteristic content. Because popular literature produced its typical genres, the terms 'popular book' and 'popular literature' are often treated as mutual equivalents, as illustrated by Józef Szocki's works, for example, *Literatura popularna dla ludu na przykładzie Wydawnictwa Ludowego 1882–1920* [*Popular Literature for the People: The case of Wydawnictwo Ludowe, 1882–1920*] (Kraków 1994).

The children's and young adult book is primarily defined by its implied readership and also by its external form, which is affected by the former criterion. Specific features of the children's book were depicted by Michał Zając in *Promocja książki dziecięcej. Podręcznik akademicki* [*The Promotion of Children's Books: A University Textbook*] (Warszawa 2000) on the basis of Cybulski's system of the nine orders of the book that determine its material form. Elements of the children's book were also described by Irena Socha in 'Kształtowanie się cech wydawniczych polskiej książki dla młodego odbiorcy' ['The Development of Editorial Features of the Polish Book for a Young Readership'], a paper from 2002 in which she examines an array of editorial features, such as the author, the information inscribed in the book, the source of the text, the sender's intentions, the aims and the addressee, which make it possible to recognise a publication as a children's book. Socha has also discussed the children's book as a research object ('Przykładne, użyteczne, zabawne'. *O polskich książkach dla młodego odbiorcy na Śląsku w drugiej połowie XIX i na początku XX wieku* [*Exemplary, Useful, Amusing: On Polish Books for a Young Readership in Silesia in the Second Half of the 19th and the Early 20th Century*], Katowice 2001). Even if Socha's focus is on the books in Silesia, some of her findings are certainly universally applicable. An analogous issue was explored in the context of the contemporary books by Jadwiga Konieczna in her paper 'Współczesna książka dziecięca — nowe zjawisko

kulturowe i nowy obiekt badawczy' ['The Contemporary Children's Book: A New Cultural Development and a New Research Object'] from 2007, where she examined changes in the textual layer and the external form of the children's book. The same process as impacted by new media was described by Zajac in 2010.

3. Most of the studies focused on book kinds are devoted to the children's book and the science book, but only very few of them comprehensively discuss a given book type within a given historical timeframe, depicting its external and content-related features, categories and repertoires. Mentioned above, Żbikowska-Migoń's study holds a special place in the literature on the science book as it offers a holistic account of the presence of the science book in Poland in the Enlightenment. Żbikowska-Migoń investigated the conditions and volume of production (at various publishing centres and for various publishers), discussed the ways of publicising and disseminating the science book and studied its utilisation. In comparison, the science book of other historical epochs still remains underexamined. Nevertheless, there are studies on the issues related to the publishing and dissemination of the science book. The science book has also been examined as part of the publishing repertoire in various periods and places. For example, a series of papers produced by Magdalena Kwiatkowska between 2003 and 2007 described the science book on offer in Warsaw and provincial towns of the Kingdom of Poland<sup>4</sup> in the 19th century, and Anna Aleksiewicz's study investigated this issue in the Austrian partition. Besides, Kwiatkowska has also analysed the dissemination of the science book. Subscription as one of its channels in the first half of the 19th century has been presented by Anna Dymmel, while Andrzej Mężyński has addressed the funding of the science book as a variety of 19th-century patronage.

There are also publications on individual types of the science book, epitomised by Żbikowska-Migoń's study of the academic dissertation. The volume on *Staropolskie kompendia wiedzy* [*Early Modern Polish Compendia of Knowledge*] (Warszawa 2009) is a notable example because, while it approaches the issue from the standpoint of literary history (the book is part of the *Polish Early-Modern Paraliterary Texts* series), it depicts concrete examples of such publications and offers a wealth of precious information relevant to bibliological research. Opening the volume, Jan Okoń's chapter titled 'Kompedium — czy tylko wiedzy? Wstęp do typologii gatunku' ['Compendium of Knowledge and Beyond: An Introduction to the Typology of the Genre'] is especially interesting in this respect. It outlines the historical development of book forms such as dictionaries and encyclopaedias, which while resulting from the advancement of knowledge, are also supposed to make this knowledge accessible.

<sup>4</sup> Translator's note: Polish: *Królestwo Polskie*, known also as the Congress Kingdom.

Likewise, there are more studies on detailed issues in the children's and young adult book than comprehensive surveys of it in particular historical periods. Some exceptions include Dunin's monograph titled *Książeczki dla grzecznych i niegrzecznych dzieci* [*Books for Children Good and Naughty*] (Wrocław 1991), which depicts the form, content and current tendencies of the children's book, and Socha's already cited book *'Przykładne, użyteczne, zabawne'. O polskich książkach dla młodego odbiorcy na Śląsku w drugiej połowie XIX i na początku XX wieku* [*Exemplary, Useful, Amusing': On Polish Books for a Young Readership in Silesia in the Second Half of the 19th and the Early 20th Century*] (Katowice 2001). The children's and young adult book is also approached in the literature as an element of the publishing repertoire of respective publishers, historical periods and book categories (e.g. Bogumiła Staniów's works on the translations of Polish children's and young adult books in the 19th century and their editorial reception from 1945 to 1989; Anna Nikliborc's studies on French children's and young adult books in Poland in the Enlightenment and the 19th century, Iwona Piróg's publications on children's and young adult popular-science books on Polish lands between 1830 and 1863, Staniów's thematically equivalent studies concerning the times of the Polish People's Republic, and Anita Has-Tokarz's discussions of cookbooks for young readers).

Textbooks represent a special variety of the children's and young adult book, which is examined from a multitude of angles. Textbooks are discussed in terms of their repertoire, history and kinds (in studies by, for example, Mieczysława Adrianek, Radosław Cybulski, Janina Jaworska, Artur Jazdon, Aleksandra Mendykowa and Józef Wojtal). Studies on alphabet books stand out in terms of quantity, with Franciszek Pilarczyk's *Elementarze polskie od ich XVI-wiecznych początków do II wojny światowej. Próba monografii księgoznawczej* [*Polish Alphabet Books from Their Beginnings in the 16th Century to the Second World War: A Tentative Bibliological Monograph*] being the chief example of such publications (Zielona Góra 2003).

4. Besides the science book and the children's and young adult book, ample attention is paid to the popular book (including the book for the people) and the religious book.

Bibliological interest in the popular book, therein broadsides, sold at fairs, parish festivals and market stalls, is relatively fresh. In a paper discussing the toolkit of the popular book researcher, Dunin called for drawing up a bibliography of such printed matter — dime novels, news-songs (Polish: *pieśń nowiniarska*), street ballads, dream-books and others — which he considered the foundation of and a starting point for research on such publications. At the same time, he was aware that to produce such a bibliography would be a challenge, given that such printed material was difficult to come by. Considered of little worth, prints of this kind had not been collected by libraries, and because of their popularity combined with



low-quality editorship, they had largely been wasted away in reading, which made it basically impossible to retrace their complete repertoire, especially given that their publishers had not cared to register them diligently in the catalogues (Dunin, 1970). That such a bibliography was needed was also observed by Władysław Chojnacki in 1970. Chojnacki built on the studies of Dunin, who himself went on to draw up two bibliographic inventories based on his own collection: *Polska powieść zeszytowa* [*The Polish Dime Novel*] (co-authored with Krystyna Mierzwanika, Wrocław 1978) and *Polskie powieściowe serie zeszytowe* [*Polish Dime Novel Series*] (co-authored with Zdzisław Knorowski, Łódź 1984), which are of course subsidiary resources for further research. The central place in Dunin's work is certainly due to *Papierowy bandyta* [*A Paper Bandit*] (Łódź 1974), a version of his PhD dissertation, which surveyed the various kinds of street and marketplace literature and was a ground-breaking study for research on the popular book in Poland. Dunin's paper 'Książka i czytelnictwo popularne. Przyczynek do polskiego słownictwa księgoznawczego' ['The Popular Book and Popular Readership: A Contribution to the Polish Book-Studies Lexicon'], which appeared in *Roczniki Biblioteczne* [*Library Annals*] in 1971, has been another publication of relevance to popular book researchers as it proposes definitions of the fundamental terms related to the popular book and literature.

Another article by Dunin, 'Wydawnictwa popularne w opinii publicznej na przełomie XIX i XX w.' ['Public Opinion on Popular Publications at the Turn of the 19th Century'] (*Przegląd Biblioteczny*, 1965) deserves attention as an introduction to the thematic field of publications for the people, proposing their typology and citing assessments of both the content and the form of such books offered by individuals from various social groups and circles. Dunin's research passed over popular books of devotional and prayerful bend. The theme was explored by Tomasz Ratajczak in *Książki religijne i quasi-religijne z wadowickich oficyn drukarskich (1825–1940)* [*Religious and Quasi-Religious Books from the Presses of Wadowice, 1825–1940*] (Warszawa 2010). Ratajczak's focus was particularly on prayer books which, often published without the approval of church censors by publishers specialised in popular literature, were disseminated in the fair-and-festival circuit. Additionally, Ratajczak proposed a typology of the popular religious book.

The broad field of the popular book also comprises issues related to the cheap book for a broad reading public. Such questions were investigated by Maria Konopka, first and foremost in *Tanie wydania literatury pięknej w Galicji i Wolnym Mieście Krakowie w latach 1822–1863* [*Cheap Editions of Fiction in Galicia and the Free City of Cracow, 1822–1863*] (Kraków 1987). Konopka comprehensively depicted this kind of publication, presenting both its repertoire and its editorial and typographic design, factors largely affecting the price of books. Konopka also examined this theme in several papers.

The book for the people is a separate kind of the popular book. It appeared in the 19th century as a result of pursuits undertaken by educational societies, which were prolifically founded in the last quarter of the century. This book kind has been researched from various standpoints, centring around its types (e.g. Bronisława Woźniczka-Paruzel's *'Dzieje ojczyste dla ludu' doby romantyzmu* [*The Histories of Homeland for the People' in the Romanticism*], Wrocław 1990), content (e.g. studies by Danuta Adamczyk and Józef Hempel), publishers (Józef Szocki's numerous papers on the releases of Lviv's Wydawnictwo Ludowe at the turn of the 19th century) and publishing geography.

The notion of the religious book encompasses both theological treatises and histories of the church as well as prayer books, lives of saints and devotional literature. This variety is highlighted in Ratajczak's monograph *Książki religijne i quasi-religijne z wadowickich oficyn drukarskich (1825–1940)* [*Religious and Quasi-Religious Books from the Presses of Wadowice, 1825–1940*], where, besides canonical books, he also discusses books typically encountered in the popular circuit, which he labels as quasi-religious. In his view, this category covered songs, prayer books, catechisms, sermons, apocrypha, hagiographic legends and prophetic books, which he depicts in terms of literary and editorial features.

Among the various types of the religious book, most attention has been devoted to those whose external form stands out, such as prayer books (e.g. Ratajczak's monograph study on 19th-century prayer books of various denominations complete with a bibliography, and papers by Józef Bakalarz, Alojzy Miron Gola and Teresa Ochot), canticles (e.g. Jakub Zdzisław Lichański's study of Polish canticles in Silesia until the end of the 18th century), hymnbooks, missals (e.g. Stanisław Cieplowski's paper on Polish travelling missals in the 16th century) and also catechisms, which were thoroughly investigated by Dariusz Kuźmina in *Katechizmy w Rzeczypospolitej XVI i początku XVII wieku* [*Catechisms in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 16th and Early 17th Centuries*] (Warszawa 2002). Publications have also discussed the religious book repertoires of respective publishers, timeframes or areas (e.g. Daniel Olszewski's articles on the religious book in the Kingdom of Poland in the 19th century and Tadeusz Pietras' papers on the production of the Catholic liturgical book in Poland from the mid-15th to the mid-17th century), where the research has encompassed not only the Catholic but also the Protestant and the Orthodox book (e.g. Zoja Jaroszewicz-Pieresałwcew's *Starowiercy w Polsce i ich księgi* [*Old Believers in Poland and Their Books*], Olsztyn 1995). Currently, the trend to study the Jewish book is becoming ever more pronounced. Importantly, the Jewish book is taken to mean not only the religious book but any books written in Hebrew or Yiddish, whatever their content, and books by Jewish authors translated into Polish. The most important contributions in this field include studies by Krzysztof Pilarczyk (e.g. *Leksykon drukarzy*

*ksiąg hebrajskich w Polsce z bibliografią polono-judaików w językach żydowskich (XVI–XVIII wiek)* [*A Lexicon of the Printers of Hebrew Books in Poland, with a Bibliography of Polono-Judaica in Jewish Languages (16th–17th Centuries)*], Kraków 2004 oraz *Talmud i jego drukarze w Pierwszej Rzeczypospolitej. Z dziejów przekazu religijnego w judaizmie* [*The Talmud and Its Printers under the First Republic of Poland: On the History of Religious Transmission in Judaism*], Kraków 1998) and papers by Monika Jaremków.

Among other book kinds covered by book-studies research, touristic guidebooks have been approached with some more pronounced scholarly attention. Janusz Merski and Jan Paweł Piotrowski (Warszawa 2010) have presented the history of guidebooks, from their oldest specimens in the 17th century to their contemporary evolution. In doing so, the authors have analysed their content, the mode of handling it, the structure and the way of presenting information, including visual means, such as illustrations and maps. For his part, Dariusz Opaliński (Krosno 2012) has focused on touristic guidebooks from the partition period, whereby he has discussed the external form and the content of the guidebooks published at the time and also explored the motives behind their production. Besides, he has established what opportunities for studying various facets of the history of tourism are afforded by such resources. A handful of studies (by authors such as Jerzy Duda, Maria Kwaśnik and Michał Rogoż) have addressed guidebooks to Cracow and its surroundings, while travel writings as a genre akin to guidebooks were tackled in a dedicated paper by Migoń in 1999.

Notably, there is ample literature on book almanacs. Numerous studies have been devoted to the history of respective almanacs, as exemplified by Józef Unger's 'Kalendarz Warszawski' ['The Warsaw Almanac'], 'Kalendarz Krakowski' ['The Cracow Almanac'] by Józef Czech and 'Lwowski Powszechny Kalendarz Domowy i Gospodarski' ['The Popular Lviv Household and Farmhouse Almanac'], which have been discussed by Irena Bar, Grażyna Maj and Agnieszka Fluda-Krokos. Alternatively, publications on almanacs have examined their kinds or focused on those published in a defined period (e.g. Bogdan Rok's *Kalendarze polskie czasów saskich* [*Polish Almanacs under the Saxon Kings*], Wrocław 1985), in a given area (e.g. in Gdansk in the 16th and 17th centuries, investigated by Kazimierz Kubik), by a given publisher or for a particular readership group (e.g. Irena Turowska-Bar's papers on, for example, almanacs for women in the 19th century). The content of almanacs has been analysed from various angles, primarily in terms of the kinds of information they contain or their functions. A noteworthy contribution is represented by a collected volume titled *Kalendarze staropolskie* [*Almanacs in Early Modern Poland*] (Warszawa 2014), which appeared as part of the series on Early Modern Polish Paraliterary Texts and included papers which analysed the content of multifarious almanacs. The volume's opening chapter authored by Ma-

ciej Janik and titled ‘Kalendariografia polska XVI–XVIII wieku. Próba typologii’ [‘Polish Calendariography from the 16th to the 18th Century: An Attempt at Typology’] offered a systematised typology of almanacs. Importantly, Janik had earlier published a book on astrological almanacs of the Saxon epoch (Warszawa 2003), in which he explored their content and external form, discussed elements of their typographic design and internal structure and listed several functions they fulfilled. *Kalendarze staropolskie* [Early Modern Polish Almanacs] also included a contribution by Małgorzata Gorczyńska titled ‘Kalendarze polskie okresu Oświecenia jako źródło do badań bibliologicznych’ [‘Polish Almanacs of the Enlightenment as a Source for Bibliological Research’]. In this chapter, Gorczyńska, known for her prior research on the role of almanacs in the Enlightenment (*Popularyzacja wiedzy w polskich kalendarzach okresu Oświecenia (1737–1821)* [Knowledge Dissemination in Polish Almanacs of the Enlightenment (1737–1821)], Lublin 1999), identified the components of almanacs that lent themselves to book-studies research, arguing that the formal and content analysis of almanacs should establish their role in the transmission of knowledge and in the moulding of readers’ mentality. These issues were also tackled by Agata Bryłka-Jesionek in her study of Silesian almanacs (*Nowożytna kalendariografia Śląska do połowy XVIII wieku* [Modern Calendariography in Silesia until the mid-18th Century], Katowice 2018), which additionally proposed their typology.

5. Respective kinds of books are discussed from various points of view. As already mentioned, the repertoires of the science book and the children’s and young adult book have been studied. Their content is one criterion in selecting books to examine. This approach is illustrated by a series of papers on books on farming and related disciplines published by Maria Wigluszowa between 1973 and 1991. Another easily recognisable set of studies concerns the literary book (epitomised by Elżbieta Gondek’s *Polska książka literacka na Śląsku pod panowaniem pruskim 1795–1863* [The Polish Literary Book in Silesia under Prussian Rule, 1795–1863]), Katowice 1995, and Jadwiga Kowalewska’s *Repertuar wydawniczy literatury pięknej na ziemiach polskich w czasie I wojny światowej* [The Publishing Repertoire of Fiction on the Polish Territory during the First World War], Wrocław 1992). There are also studies devoted, for example, to the historical book (e.g. papers by Jacek Kuszłejko and Kazimiera Maleczyńska) and to the jurisprudence, medical, nautical, marine and technical books.

Language is another criterion by which books are analysed. The greatest attention has been devoted to the French book, where the term denotes both publications in French and Polish translations of texts by French writers (e.g. Monika Rausz’s studies on the French book in the publishing repertoire in Galicia). Research has also been carried out on the Russian, English, Oriental, Belorussian and Jewish book. Studies on the Polish book outside Poland form an interesting subgroup in

this context. An important contribution to the study of this issue has been made by Andrzej Kłossowki, whose works have explored the relevant book series, texts by particular authors, respective books and pursuits of publishers regarding the Polish book, mainly under partitions (Jaroszevska, 1998). These themes also feature in numerous publications by Oskar Stanisław Czarnik, whose interest has mainly focused on the book in Polish communities during and after the Second World War (e.g. *W drodze do utraconej Itaki. Prasa, książka i czytelnictwo na szlaku Samodzielnej Brygady Strzelców Karpackich (1940–1942) oraz Armii Polskiej na Wschodzie i 2 Korpusu (1941–1946)* [*On the Way to Lost Ithaca: The Press, the Book and Readership along the Trail of the Polish Independent Carpathian Rifle Brigade (1940–1942), the Polish Armed Forces in the East and the Second Corps (1941–1946)*], Warszawa 2012). The presence of the Polish book in the under-researched community of Polish emigrants in Germany in the direct aftermath of the Second World War was investigated by Agnieszka Łakomy in *Polska książka na obczyźnie. Niemcy Zachodnie 1945–1950* [*The Polish Book in Exile: West Germany, 1945–1950*] (Warszawa 2011). There have also been publications on the Polish book in the areas that were disconnected from the Polish state in various periods in history (Maria Babnis' *Książka polska w Gdańsku w okresie zaboru pruskiego 1793–1919* [*The Polish Book in Gdansk Under the Prussian Partition, 1793–1919*], Wrocław 1989, and Mendykowa's *Dzieje książki polskiej na Śląsku* [*The Polish Book in Silesia: A History*], Wrocław 1991, and *Książka polska we Wrocławiu w XVIII wieku* [*The Polish book in Wrocław in the 18th Century*], Wrocław 1975).

Various kinds of books are also discussed as an element of publishing series. Studies of this type fall into several categories, including those devoted to respective series, those researching a given publisher, those investigating a given timeframe or area of publication and those focused on the content or the intended readership (e.g. Ryszard Cybulski's *Serie książek kieszonkowych w Polsce w latach 1966–1970* [*Pocket Book Series in Poland, 1966–1970*], Warszawa 1972; and studies on various publishing series authored by Anna Grzybowska, Damian Kuś, Jazdon, Staniów and others).

Studies that thematically focus on the publishing history of works by a given writer or of individual books form a separate set. The writers and texts in question are as a rule the classics of Polish literature, such as Jan Kochanowski (Paulina Buchwald-Pelcowa's *Dawne wydania dzieł Jana Kochanowskiego* [*Old Editions of Jan Kochanowski's Works*], Warszawa 1993), Adam Mickiewicz and Juliusz Słowacki and their most popular works. There is also a handful of studies centred around nonfiction, science books and their authors, including, for example, Adam Jocher, Józef Maksymilian Ossoliński and Piotr Chmielowski.

6. In his discussion of book categories, Vrtel-Wierczyński identified the book proper and the more broadly understood book, with printed ephemera as

one variety of the latter. Their multiple kinds and their functions were described in a collected volume titled *Druki ulotne i okolicznościowe* [*Printed Ephemera and Occasional Prints*] (Wrocław 2006), with Migoń's introductory chapter reflecting on the terminology and listing the generic features that make ephemera and occasional prints identifiable as such. Some studies have explored certain kinds of ephemera and occasional prints in various epochs (e.g. Jerzy Wojciech Zawisza's *Panegiryczny druk okolicznościowy epoki saskiej* [*Printed Occasional Panegyrics in the Saxon Period*], Wrocław 1984), and others have attended to their functions (e.g. Aneta Firlej-Buzon's *Druki ulotne i okolicznościowe jako źródła do badań dziejów kultury Dolnego Śląska lat 1945–1958* [*Printed Ephemera and Occasional Prints as Resources for the Study of the Cultural History of Lower Silesia*], Wrocław 2013).

Related to printed ephemera are documents of social life. In this field, attention is mainly due to the work of Firlej-Buzon, who has researched theoretical issues, typology, respective kinds and also collections of such publications. Booksellers' and publishers' catalogues make up an important kind of publications classified as documents of social life. They are predominantly discussed as resources for the study of publishing repertoires and the stock on offer at bookshops. However, there are also studies on their features and kinds, such as papers by Gruca, Konopka and Grzegorz Nieć.

7. The study of various kinds of the book is carried out not only by bibliologists but also by scholars from other disciplines, including historians of literature (the children's book, the popular book), of science (the science book) and of education (the children's book, textbooks) and religion researchers (the religious book). The research of scholars in these disciplinary fields yields interesting findings that can be used by bibliologists. One notable example is provided by literary historians' studies on the peritextual elements and, in particular, by the school of research initiated by the work of Renarda Ociecek (e.g. her *Studia o dawnej książce* [*Studies on the Old Book*], Katowice 2002, the collected volumes *Przedmowa w książce dawnej i współczesnej* [*The Preface in the Old and Contemporary Book*], 2002, and *Dedykacje w książce dawnej i współczesnej* [*Dedications in the Old and Contemporary Book*], 2006, which she edited, and *Wypowiedzi zalecające w książce dawnej i współczesnej* [*Recommendatory Texts in the Old and Contemporary Book*], 2015).

Likewise, the bibliological study of the popular book is aided by historians of literature who have developed an interest in this once-despised branch of writing. Their efforts have brought forth an array of publications on various subgenres of popular literature. Such works tend to include sections that discuss the production and dissemination of these writings. Notable examples include *Proza jarmarczna XIX wieku. Próba systematyki gatunkowej* [*The Street Fiction of the 19th Century: A Tentative Systematics of the Genre*] by Tadeusz Żabski (Wrocław 1993) (especially the chapter on 'Reguły obiegu literatury popularnej' ['The Principles

of the Circulation of Popular Literature’]), *Koncepcje i rozwój literatury dla ludu w latach 1773–1863* [*Concepts and the Development of Literature for the People from 1773 to 1863*] by Eugenia Sławińska (Bydgoszcz 1996) and ‘Kwiaty zła’ na miejskim bruku. O powieści zeszytowej XIX i XX wieku [‘*The Flowers of Evil*’ in a City Street: On the Dime novel in the 19th and 20th Centuries] by Anna Gemra (Wrocław 1998). The latter notably includes a chapter titled ‘Powieść zeszytowa jako zjawisko wydawnicze’ [‘The Dime Novel as a Publishing Phenomenon’], which describes, among other aspects, the editorial form and publishing production of the eponymous books. Plentiful papers of interest to bibliologists have appeared in *Literatura i Kultura Popularna* [*Popular Literature and Culture*], a journal published by the University of Wrocław. Subgenres of popular literature are described in *Słownik literatury popularnej* [*A Dictionary of Popular Literature*] edited by Żabski, which was published in 1997. The Dictionary also contains entries on the publishers of popular literature.

Themes from the borderline of bibliography are to be found in the studies of historians of education who do research on textbooks and explore the educational aspect of literature for the people. They address the book for the people as part of their discussions of educational activities of various associations and societies (e.g. Krzysztof Kabziński’s *Funkcja społeczno-wychowawcza i oświatowa Towarzystwa Czytelni Ludowych (1880–1939)* [*The Socio-Educational and Instructional Function of the Popular Reading Rooms Society (1880–1939)*], Wrocław 1985, Ryszard Terlecki’s *Oświata dorosłych i popularyzacja nauki w Galicji w okresie autonomii* [*Adult Education and the Popularisation of Science in Galicia in the Autonomy Period*], Wrocław 1990, and Leszek Zasztowt’s *Popularyzacja nauki w Królestwie Polskim 1864–1905* [*The Popularisation of Science in the Kingdom of Poland, 1864–1905*], Wrocław 1989). For their part, historians examine historical literature that appears in publishing repertoires and in popular publications.<sup>5</sup> Ethnographic publications contain articles on the book for the people and popular literature, which are relevant to bibliological research. Papers on these themes, including those discussing methodological issues, appear, for example, in the bi-monthly *Literatura Ludowa* [*The People’s Literature*].

## CONCLUSION

The corpus depicted in this paper indicates that not all kinds of books have come into the orbit of scholarly interest to the same degree. Studies on the science book and the children’s and young adult book stand out in terms of quantity. The

<sup>5</sup> Papers on this issues are included, for example, in the collected volume *Edukacja historyczna społeczeństwa polskiego w XIX w.* [*Historical Education of the Polish Public in the 19th Century*], edited by Jerzy Maternicki (Warszawa 1981).

other book types that have attracted researchers' noticeable attention include the popular book, therein the book for the people, the religious book, textbooks, guidebooks and almanacs. They are defined by their intended readership and, consequently, the themes they address and the external design suited to them. Within all these book types, some research tendencies and foci can be identified as more frequently embraced by researchers. To establish the distinctive features and propose a typology of respective book kinds is the central preoccupation, with terminological issues being regarded as important. This is what provides a starting point for the study of respective types of books, outlining their historical development and presenting them as an element of the publishing repertoire. Other frequently tackled issues include the publishing history of works by individual writers, also as part of the publishing or bookselling repertoire, and the history of particular titles. As the authors of the studies listed here observe, such research is impeded by the lack of or incomplete bibliographic inventories of the respective kinds of the book. This is particularly true about, for example, almanacs, the popular book and the Judaica. Observably, current research is no longer interested in once-popular book kinds. This concerns the pocket book. The Polish Bibliological Bibliography database for 1995–2010 only features one article on the theme, and it is not a research paper but a presentation of the stock offered on the market. At the same time, this database registers a considerable volume of studies on the comic, a theme that was not particularly prominent in previous research. There are also more and more studies on the electronic book, which either define its features or point out how it differs from the traditional printed book in the codex form, with publications by Małgorzata Górska, Ewa Repucho and Marian Walczak representing some important work in this field. In the study of the electronic book, the chief focus is on which issues related to it and to what extent fall under the rubric of bibliological research.

*Translated by Patrycja Poniatowska*

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ANNA GRUCA

## BOOK STUDIES IN POLAND AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

### Summary

The paper presents an overview of research on books and their types conducted after the Second World War by Polish bibliologists. The scholars were mostly interested in academic books, popular books, as well as books for children and young adults. They explored their characteristic features, presented them as elements of the publishing repertoire and of serial publications, and discussed their development in various periods. Less interesting to them were the structure and typology of books. In recent years, studies devoted to electronic books as objects of bibliological research have begun to appear. Research on books and their types is also conducted by scholars from other disciplines: historians, historians of literature and historians of education. Their findings are also of interest to bibliologists.