Search through one of the most storied and sought-after private case collections in the world. *L’Enfer* (hell) from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France is the focus of the fifth installment of Gale’s popular *Archives of Sexuality and Gender* program. The collection, created in the 1830s, houses erotic and pornographic content dating from 1531 to 2012. Unlike other private collections, none of the works in *L’Enfer* were locked away solely for political or religious reasons. Rather, they were considered contrary to public morality and therefore forbidden, prosecuted, and proscribed. Fortunately, this is to our benefit today. Now researchers can have unprecedented access to over 500,000 pages of monographs to study what was once considered the darker side of gender and sexuality.
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Sample Content:

- Les aventures de Chérubin, l’enfant du bordel, by Pigault-Lebrun (1753–1835)
- The life and amours of the beautiful, gay and dashing Kate Percival, the Belle of the Delaware, by Kate Percival, 1903
- The pleasures of cruelty, being a sequel to the reading of Justine et Juliette, by Donatien Alphonse François de Sade (1740–1814), 1898
- Mémoires d’une femme de chambre écrites par elle-même en 1786, by J. J. Gay, 1883
- Histoire d’un homme débauché et entretenu par le concubinage, by Lebrun, 1859
- Dictionnaire érotique moderne par un professeur de langue verte, by Alfred Delvau (1825–1867), 1864
- Confessions of Miss Coote, a most voluptuous and refined collection of ten letters respecting her experiences as a flagellant, printed for the Society of Vice, 1892
- Marriage–love and woman amongst the Arabs, otherwise entitled the Book of Exposition (Kitab al-Izah Fi’ilm al-Nikah b-it-Tamam w-al-Kamal), 1896
- The amorous adventures of a Japanese gentleman, related for the entertainment of his honorable friends, printed for the Daimio of Satsuma, 1897
- Sue Suckit, maid and wife, to which is added the Philosophical Sister’s Tale, New Orleans, 1913
- Caresses infernales [Scènes érotiques vécues], by J. Van Styk, 1935

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