Outlaws, Heroes, and Fathers: Scottish Chapbook Masculinities

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Every year between 1750 and 1850 an estimated 200 000 chapbooks were printed in Scotland. These texts provided much of the reading material for the average person. Often published anonymously, borrowing from canonical authors and folk sources, the chapbook catalogue offers various forms of masculinity available to late eighteenth and early nineteenth century readers. Making use of the large chapbook collection at the University of Guelph's archives, this paper will explore conflicting representations of masculinities and their connection to fatherhood, criminality, and heroism.



