

Paul Malamud:

Collection of Bernard Malamud Letters at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Malamud, Paul, 1947-
Title:	Paul Malamud Collection of Bernard Malamud Letters
Dates:	1952-2005, undated
Extent:	2 boxes (.84 linear feet)
Abstract:	The Paul Malamud Collection of Bernard Malamud Letters contains approximately 350 letters, postcards, greeting cards, and notes between Bernard Malamud and his son Paul, as well as other family members that document their relationship for a period of over 30 years.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-05355
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift and Purchase, 2014-2019 (14-05-001-P, 19-04-006-G)
Processed by:	Stephen Cooper, 2015; Christine Bethke, 2021
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Scope and Contents

The Paul Malamud Collection of Bernard Malamud Letters contains approximately 150 letters, postcards, greeting cards, and notes from Bernard Malamud to his eldest child and only son, Paul. The letters document their relationship for a period of over 30 years. Beginning in the early 1950's when Paul was about four years old, Malamud offers guidance as a parent and, later, as a fellow writer, covering topics such as good behavior, learning sports, practicing instruments, academic studies, literature, writing poetry and fiction, politics, and work. Early letters were often written in short story form and illustrated by Malamud with line drawings of himself, the family cat, trains, cars, and more. As Paul grew, the content of the letters became more sophisticated, so that by the age of seventeen his father asks his opinion of the Warren Commission, Stanley Kunitz's poetry, and the reasons for Barry Goldwater's landslide loss to LBJ. Throughout the letters Malamud consistently expresses parental affection and concern for Paul in addition to describing his own writing, daily activities, travels, and thoughts on current events, arts, and literature.

The collection also contains over 200 letters, postcards, greeting cards, and notes to Paul from Ann Malamud and his "granny," Ida Barbieri, and 190 letters and postcards written by Paul to his father, Bernard Malamud, mother, sister, and grandparents between 1960 and 1983. There are also a few pages of notes by Malamud on Paul's poetry, and an essay by Paul, "Bernard Malamud the Writer."

Related Material

Additional Bernard Malamud materials at the Ransom Center are located in the Bernard Malamud Papers, the Russell & Volkening Inc. Collection of Bernard Malamud, and the Bernard Malamud Collection.

Series I. Correspondence 1952-2005, undated

Bernard Malamud

1952-1969, undated	Container 1.1
1970-1972, undated	Container 1.2
1973-1975	Container 1.3
1976-1985, undated	Container 1.4

Ann Malamud

1957-1979, undated	Container 1.5
1980-2005, undated	Container 1.6

“Granny,” Ida E. Barbieri, 1964-1982, undated	Container 1.7
---	----------------------

Paul Malamud

1960-1963, undated	Container 2.1
1963-1965	Container 2.2
1965-1969	Container 2.3
1971-1979, undated	Container 2.4
1980-1985	Container 2.5

Series II. Works, undated

Bernard Malamud notes on Paul's poetry, undated

Container 1.8

Paul Malamud essay "Bernard Malamud the Writer," undated

**Container
1.9**