

# Nadine Gordimer:

## An Inventory of Her Short Stories and Novel at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator</b>	Gordimer, Nadine, 1923-2014
<b>Title</b>	Nadine Gordimer Short Stories and Novel Manuscripts 1958-1965
<b>Dates:</b>	1958-1965
<b>Extent</b>	.5 Box (.21 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection contains typescripts for thirteen short stories and one novel.
<b>Language</b>	English.
<b>Access</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition</b>	Gift of Joseph Jones, 1962
<b>Processed by</b>	Katie Salzmann, 1995; Sarah Demb, 1996
<b>Repository:</b>	Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin

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## Biographical Sketch

Nadine Gordimer, novelist and short story writer, was born in Springs, South Africa, in 1923. She spent her childhood in Transvaal, and began writing at an early age, publishing her first short story, "Come Again Tomorrow," when she was 15. At 21, Gordimer briefly attended Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg where she was exposed to the social and political atmosphere of South Africa, which would become the focus of her works. Gordimer married twice--first in 1949 to G. Gavron, with whom she had one daughter, and then to Reinhold Cassirer in 1954. They had one son.

Gordimer remained in Johannesburg and her works reflect the racially turbulent themes of South Africa's history. She published fifteen novels. Her first was the semi-autobiographical *The Lying Days* (1953), which was followed by *A World of Strangers* (1958), *Occasion for Loving* (1963), *The Late Bourgeois World* (1966), *A Guest of Honour* (1971), *The Conservationist* (1974), *Burger's Daughter* (1979), *July's People* (1981), *A Sport of Nature* (1987), *My Son's Story* (1990), *None to Accompany Me* (1994), *The House Gun* (1998), *The Pickup* (2001), *Get a Life* (2005), and *No Time Like the Present* (2012).

Gordimer's short stories have been published in various magazines such as the *New Yorker*, *Harpers*, and the *Yale Review*. They have also been published in several collections, including *Face to Face* (1949), *Friday's Footprint* (1960), *Jump: And Other Stories* (1991), *Beethoven Was One-Sixteenth Black* (2007), and *Life Times: Stories* (2011).

Nadine Gordimer received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1991. She died on July 14, 2014.

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## Scope and Contents

The Nadine Gordimer collection, 1958-1965, consists of fourteen corrected typescripts, including thirteen short stories and one novel. There is no material relating to Gordimer's personal life or correspondence. The works are arranged alphabetically.

The collection contains material relating to Gordimer's early work as a South African novelist and short story writer. It includes a draft of Gordimer's second novel, *A World of Strangers* (1958), and the thirteen short stories that have been collected and published in *Friday's Footprint* (1960) and *Not for Publication* (1965).

As well as providing Gordimer's impressions of South Africa, the corrected typescripts offer insight into Gordimer's writing process. *A World of Strangers* is prefaced by an author's plan that outlines the novel's plot.

## **Index Terms**

### **Subjects**

Short stories, South African.

Novelists, South African.

South African fiction.

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**Works, 1958-1965**

"Friday's Footprint" (1960)

**box 1 folder 1**

"The Gentle Art" (1960)

"Harry's Presence" (1960)

"An Image of Success" (1960)

"Little Willie" (1960)

"The Night the Favourite Came Home" (1960)

"One Last Kiss" (1960)

"Our Bovary" (1960)

**box 1 folder 2**

"The Path of the Moon's Dark Fortnight" (1960)

"Something for the Time Being" (1965)

"A Style of Her Own" (1960)

"A Thing of the Past" (1960)

"Through Time and Distance" (1965)

*A World of Strangers* (1958)

**box 1 folder 3-4**