

# Truman Capote:

## An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Capote, Truman, 1924-1984
<b>Title:</b>	Truman Capote Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1936-1987, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	3 boxes (1.26 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	The collection includes manuscripts written by the American author Truman Capote, numerous clippings containing reviews of his work, and adaptations of his work by other authors. Also present are materials for <i>Truman Capote: The Story of His Bizarre and Exotic Boyhood by an Aunt Who Helped Raise Him</i> (1983) by Marie Rudisill.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-0682
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley and Michael Ramsey, 2012 <b>Note:</b> This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
<b>Repository:</b>	The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center

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## Separated Material

Sound Recordings were transferred to the Ransom Center's Sound Recording collection and are described individually in a list at the end of this finding aid and in a [searchable database](#)

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**Works:**

- Beat the devil, dialogue script, typescript / mimeo, 84 pages, February 1954. **Container**  
1.1
- Breakfast at Tiffany's, release dialogue script, typescript / mimeo with handwritten  
corrections, 99 pages, 23 June 1961. **Container**  
1.2
- Music for chameleons, typescript / photocopy, 342 pages, undated. Not described in  
card catalog. (R12045) **Container**  
1.3-4
- Other voices, other rooms:
- Preface, handwritten manuscript, 27 pages, circa 1969. Not described in card  
catalog. (R11945) **Container**  
1.5
- Preface, galley proofs, 3 sheets, 1960. Not described in card catalog. Withdrawn  
from PS 3505 A59 07 1968 HRC. **Container**  
1.6
- Adaptation for the stage by Anna Marie Barlow, duplicated script, 132 pages,  
undated. Not described in card catalog. (R13668) **Container**  
1.7

**Recipient:**

George Weidenfeld & Nicolson Ltd. TLS from John Curtis to Capote, 18 July 1968. **Container**  
Not described in card catalog. 1.8

**Miscellaneous:**

Capote, Truman:

Juvenilia. Not described in card catalog. (R12045):

Book report on *Two little confederates* by Thomas Nelson Page, signed handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, 20 March 1936. Sixth grade assignment. **Container 1.9**

A letter to a friend, signed typescript, 1 page, circa 1936-1939. English homework assignment; also signed "Looy dot dope."

Our parrot is so proud of her vocabulary, signed handwritten manuscript / photocopy, 3 pages, undated.

Service, signed typescript, 2 pages, circa 1936-1939.

Review clippings. Not described in card catalog. (G11092):

General articles, 96 pages, 1948-1968. **Container 1.10**

Breakfast at Tiffany's, 54 pages, 1958-1959. **Container 2.1**

A Christmas memory, 9 pages, 3 November-11 December 1960. **Container 2.2**

The grass harp, 126 pages, 1951-1954. **Container 2.3**

House of flowers, 2 pages, 1950-1968. **Container 2.4**

In cold blood, 294 pages, 1965-1966. **Container 2.5-8**

Local color, 71 pages, 1950-1951. **Container 2.9**

The muses are heard, 42 pages, 1956-1957. **Container 2.10**

Other voices, other rooms, 158 pages, 1948-1949. **Container 2.11**

The Thanksgiving visitor, 14 pages, 1968-1969. **Container 2.12**

A tree of night, 64 pages, 1948-1951. **Container 2.13**

Trilogy, 11 pages, 1969-1970. **Container 2.14**

Last will and testament, typescript / photocopy, 20 pages, 7 September 1984. Not described in card catalog. (R12045) **Container 3.1**

- Lee, Harper. To kill a mockingbird, signed typescript / fair copy of first page, 1 page, undated. Not described in card catalog. (R12045) **Container**  
3.2
- Miller, Edmund. Truman Capote laughs last, page proofs, 7 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog. (R12045) **Container**  
3.3
- Richardson, Claibe. Yellow drum, a musical play, typescript / mimeo, 126 pages, 1960. Book and lyrics by Kenward Elmslie, based on The grass harp by Capote; also typescript / mimeo, 97 pages, undated. **Container**  
3.4-5
- Rudisill, Marie. Not described in card catalog. (R12045):
- Truman Capote, typescript with handwritten corrections, 319 pages, circa 1983. **Container**  
3.6-7
- Articles and reviews re: Truman Capote, 29 pages, 1983-1985. **Container**  
3.8
- TLS from Ashley, Roberta, 17 February 1983. **Container** 3.9
- 2 TLS from Meara, Jane; includes advance quote, 25 January and 27 June 1983.
- Todd, Fred. Invitation to opening party for "Truman Capote: victim of fame" at the New York Public Library, 24 November 1987. Not described in card catalog. (R12045) **Container**  
3.10

### **Sound Recordings List**

- D 0040 : phonograph records : Recording of the song "House of Flowers"
- D 0041 : phonograph records : House of Flowers
- D 0048 : phonograph records : Thanksgiving Recording

## Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

### Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

### Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date