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## **Robert Bellem papers, 1931-1968**

Finding aid prepared by M. Nordman; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

UCLA Library Special Collections

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**Title:** Robert Bellem papers

**Collection number:** 1008

**Contributing Institution:** UCLA Library Special Collections

**Language of Material:** English

**Physical Description:** 12.5 linear ft.(23 boxes)

**Date:** 1931-1968

**Abstract:** Bellem (1902-1968) was born in Philadelphia. He worked as a journalist for 15 years in Philadelphia, Miami, Albuquerque and California. Bellem sold his first detective story to *Argosy* in 1925. He began writing for *Spicy Detective Stories* in 1934. He also wrote under the pseudonyms Anthony Gordon, Franklin Charles, John Grange, and John A. Saxon. Bellem later wrote television screenplays. The collection consists of short stories, novels, movie scenarios, radio scripts, and television plays written by Bellem.

**Physical location:** Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

**Creator:** Bellem, Robert Leslie, 1902-1968

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**Restrictions on Access**

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

**Provenance/Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Mrs. Bellem, 1968.

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Robert Bellem Papers (Collection 1008). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

**Biography**

Bellem was born in Philadelphia in 1902; worked as a journalist for 15 years in Philadelphia, Miami, Albuquerque, and Pasadena, California; sold first detective story to *Argosy* in 1925; while in Pasadena, was a radio announcer for KPSN, a movie extra for Universal, and also worked on the advertising staff of the *Pasadena Star-News*; met publisher Frank Armer, 1933, and began writing for his *Spicy Detective Stories* the following year; by 1936 Bellem was writing and selling over a million words annually; also wrote under the pseudonyms Anthony Gordon, Franklin Charles, John Grange, and John A. Saxon; later wrote television screenplays; died in 1968.

**Scope and Content**

Collection consists of short stories, novels, movie scenarios, radio scripts, and television plays written by Bellem. The short stories (originally published in pulp magazines) were bound in volumes. Television series writing includes scripts for *77 Sunset Strip*, *The F.B.I.*, *Death Valley Days*, *Perry Mason*, *Iron Horse*, and *Dick Tracy*. Includes radio scripts for *Creeps by Night*. Also contains newspapers, magazines, and a catalog of military goods.

**Organization and Arrangement**

Arranged in the following series:

1. Hollywood detective third series (Boxes 1-2).
2. Short stories (Boxes 3-4).
3. Dan Turner: Hollywood detective (Boxes 5-6).
4. Detective stories (Boxes 7-10).
5. TV series and teleplays (Boxes 11-13, 15-21).
6. Books (Box 14)
7. Radio plays (Box 22)
8. Adventure stories (Box 23).

**UCLA Catalog Record ID**

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [462349](#)

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**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Bellem, Robert Leslie, 1902-1968--Archives.

Authors, American--20th century--Archives.

Detective and mystery stories.

Radio plays.

Radio writers--United States--Archives.

Television plays.

Television writers--United States--Archives.

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Box 1

**Hollywood Detective, Third Series****Scope and Content Note**

Contains clipped stories by Bellem, specially bound in green cloth.

Box 1,

**September 1946.**

Volumes 15-16

Box 1,

**September 1944.**

Volumes 17-19

Box 1,

**April 1944.**

Volumes 20-21

Box 1,

**1944[?].**

Volumes 22-24

Box 1, Volume 25

**1944[?].**

Box 1, Volume 26

**December 1945.**

Box 1, Volume 27

**February 1946.**

Box 1,

**April 1946.**

Volumes 28-29

Box 1, Volume 29

**1946[?].**

Box 1,

**July 1946.**

Volumes 30-31

Box 1,

**1946[?].**

Volumes 32-34

Box 1,

**1947[?].**

Volumes 35-37

Box 1,

**1949.**

Volumes 38-39

Box 1,

**1949[?].**

Volumes 40-43

Box 1,

**1949[?].**

Volumes 44-45

Box 2,

**1950[?].**

Volumes 46-48

Box 2

***Of Distant Valor and other adventure stories, by R.L.B., undated*****Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories* and *Fantastic Adventure Stories*.

Box 2

***The Camera Guy and other adventure stories, by R.L.B. undated*****Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories*.

Box 2

***Encores: Adventure Reprints, by R.L.B. undated 1940[?].*****Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories* and *Spicy Western Stories*.

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- Box 2                    **Fortune's Rogue and other adventure stories, by R.L.B. 1940[?].**  
                              **Additional Note**  
                              Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories*.
- Box 2                    **Accent on Action: Adventure and Western Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories* and *Spicy Western Stories*.
- Short stories**
- Box 3                    **Censorable: Short Stories, by R.L.B.**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Midnight Gayeties*, 1937. *French Scandals*, *Gay French Life*, 1938.
- Box 3                    **Yohimbin: Short Stories, by R.L.B.**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *French Night Life*, 1936. *Screen Scandals*, 1936. *Popular Detective*, and *Thrilling Adventure Stories*.
- Box 3                    **Studies in Copper: Police and Detective Stories, by R.L.B.**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Popular Detective* and *Thrilling Adventure Stories* 1939.
- Box 3                    **Rebel of the Turf: a Novel and other Sports Stories, by R.L.B. undated, 1940[?].**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from various pulp magazines.
- Box 3                    **High Tide in Homicide: Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories* and *Private Detective Stories*.
- Box 4                    **The Path to Glory and other Stories, by R.L.B. 1931**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Pep Stories* and *Spicy Bedtime Stories*.
- Box 4                    **The Claws of the Dragon and other Adventure Stories, by R.L.B. 1938.**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Spicy Adventure Stories*.
- Box 4                    **Hot and Bothered: Short Stories, by R.L.B. 1935.**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from various pulp magazines.
- Box 4                    **Many Killers: Detective Novels and Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Detective Mystery Novel Magazine*, *Private Detective Stories*, and *Speed Detective*.
- Box 4                    **Dr. Zeng: Novels, by Walt Bruce (R.L.B.) 1944[?].**  
                              **Scope and Content Note**  
                              Extracted from *Popular Detective*.
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Box 4

***Here Come the Cops: Police Detective Stories, by R.L.B. ca. 1946[?].***

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Popular Detective*, *Private Detective* and *Super Detective*.

Box 4

***Curtain Calls: Detective Reprints, by R.L.B. 1945[?].***

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Private Detective Stories*, *Super Detective Stories*, and *Speed Detective*.

Box 5

***Dan Turner: Hollywood Detective (Serial Detective Stories)***

Box 5, Volume no. 1

**1942.**

Box 5, Volume no. 2

**1942.**

Box 5, Volume no. 3

**1942.**

Box 5, Volume no. 4

**October 1942.**

Box 5, Volume no. 5

**December 1942.**

Box 5, Volume no. 6

**January 1943.**

Box 5, Volume no. 1

**February 1943.**

Box 5, Volume no. 2

**March 1943.**

Box 5, Volume no. 3

**May 1943.**

Box 5, Volume no. 4

**July 1943.**

Box 5

**September 1943.**

Box 5

**October 1943.**

Box 5

**November 1943.**

Box 5

**December 1943.**

Box 5

**January 1944.**

Box 6

***Hollywood Detective* (Bound magazine series with stories, by R.L.B)**

Box 6

**February 1944.**

Box 6

**March 1944.**

Box 6

**May 1944.**

Box 6

**June 1944.**

Box 6

**July 1944.**

Box 6

**October 1944.**

Box 6

**November 1944.**

Box 6

**Short stories, by R.L.B. 1932[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from various pulp magazines.

Box 6

***The Dan Turner Saga*, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Speed Detective Magazine*.

Box 6

***Dan Turner's Casebook and other Detective Stories*, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

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Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*, and *Private Detective Stories*.

Box 6

**Reforming Dan Turner: from Spice to Speed, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories* and *Speed Detective*.

**Detective stories**

Box 7

**Second Impressions: Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1943[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories* and other pulp magazines.

Box 7

**Super Detective Novels, by John Grange (R.L.B.) 1944[?].**

Box 7

**More Dan Turner, as Well as Other Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1943[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*.

Box 7

**Dan Turner's Methods: Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1943[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*, *Private Detective Stories*, and *Romantic Detective Stories*.

Box 7

**Exclusively Dan Turner, by R.L.B. 1942[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories* and *Private Detective Stories*.

Box 8

**Nick Ransom, Stunt Man and other Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Serial of stories extracted from various pulp magazines.

Box 8

**Shudders for Sale: Mystery Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Speed Mystery* and *Spicy Mystery Stories*.

Box 8

**Ransom Horner and Company, Movie Detectives, by R.L.B. 1943[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from *Thrilling Detective*, *Hollywood Detective* and other pulp magazines.

Box 8

**Dan Turner Again: Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

A serial of stories extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*.

Box 8

**Fact and Fancy, by R.L.B. 1944[?].**

**Scope and Content Note**

Extracted from various pulp magazines.

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- Box 8                    ***Below the Belt: Short Stories, by R.L.B. 1931.***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from various pulp magazines.
- Box 9                    ***Compliments of a Fiend by Frederic Brown; Too Fair to Die!, by Cleve F. Adams. March 1951.***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  In pulp magazine: Two Complete Detective Books.
- Box 9                    ***Midnight Mysteries, by R.L.B. 1949[?].***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from *Spicy Mystery Stories*.
- Box 9                    ***Fees for Dan Turner: Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1949[?].***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*.
- Box 9                    ***Call Dan Turner! and other Detective Stories, by R.L.B. 1934[?].***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from *Spicy Detective Stories*.
- Box 9  
 Box 9  
 Box 10                  ***In Technicolor: Picture Stories by R.L.B. Comics. 1941.***  
                                  ***Curdle Your Blood: Mystery Chillers, by R.L.B. 1943[?].***  
                                  ***Not for Children: Short Stories, by R.L.B. 1932.***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from various pulp magazines.
- Box 10                  ***Slicks and Slickers: Short Stories, by R.L.B. 1934[?].***  
                                  **Scope and Content Note**  
                                  Extracted from various pulp magazines.
- Box 10                  **Folder of Clippings of Verse by R.L.B. 1919-1929.**  
**TV series and teleplays**
- Box 11                  ***77 Sunset Strip (Television Series).***  
 Box 11                  **Alimony League November 26, 1963**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 2 copies.
- Box 11                  **Paper Chase October 24, 1963**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 3 copies.
- Box 11                  **Deposit with Caution October 7, 1963**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 5 copies.
- Box 11                  **Bonus Baby September 16, 1963**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 3 copies.
- Box 11                  **Toll Bell Slowly August 26, 1963**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 1 copy.
- Box 12                  ***The F.B.I. (Television Series).***  
 Box 12                  **Will the Real Traitor Please Stand Up? August 2, 1965**  
                                  **Physical Description:** 1 copy.
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Box 12	<b>The Exiles September 7, 1965</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>An Elephant is Like a Rope October 8, 1965</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>The Man Who Went Mad by Mistake January 14, 1966</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>The Death Wind July 8, 1966</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>The Hostage December 9, 1966</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>Death Valley Days (Television Series).</b>
Box 12	<b>The Fighting Sky Pilot November 24, 1964</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>A City is Born May 27, 1965</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>Dry Water Sailors September 8, 1965</b> Physical Description: 2 copies.
Box 12	<b>Research materials and synopses of <i>Death Valley Days</i> stories.</b>
Box 13	<b><i>Perry Mason</i> (Television series).</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Malicious Mariner July 24, 1961.</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Brazen Bequest October 12, 1961.</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Counterfeit Crank March 7, 1962.</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Promoter's Pillbox March 29, 1962.</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Stand-In Sister September 13, 1962.</b>
Box 13	<b>The Case of the Nautical Knot June 4, 1964</b> Physical Description: 5 copies.
Box 13	<b><i>Iron Horse</i> (Television Series).</b>
Box 13	<b>Four Guns to Scalplock August 4, 1967</b> Physical Description: 4 copies (2 final draft and 2 final revised).
Box 13	<b>Synopses for 2 shows: A Czar for Scalp-lock, and Five Skulls for Scalp-lock. August 21, 1967.</b>
Box 15	<b><i>Dick Tracy</i> (Television Series)</b>
Box 15,	<b>1951</b>
Volume vol. 1, 2,	
3.	
Box 16	<b>(Television Series and teleplays)</b>
Box 16	<b>Teleplays. Bellem. <i>Dick Tracy</i> Series. vol.4 1951.</b>
Box 16	<b>Teleplays. Bellem. <i>Wester Marshall</i>. 1955.</b>
Box 16	<b>Teleplays. Bellem. <i>Front Page Detective</i> 1951.</b>
Box 17	<b>Teleplays by R.L.B.</b>
Box 17	<b><i>Superman</i> 1958.</b>
Box 17	<b><i>Boston Blackie</i> 1952.</b>
Box 17	<b><i>City Detective</i> undated</b>
Box 17	<b><i>Biff Baker</i> 1952.</b>
Box 17	<b><i>Superman</i> undated</b>
Box 17	<b><i>Captain Midnight</i> undated</b>

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- Box 18 **Teleplays by R.L.B.**
- Box 18 ***Superboy* 1960.**
- Box 18 ***Dangerous Robin* 1961.**
- Box 18 ***Johnny Midnight* 1959.**
- Box 18 ***Charly Chan* 1957.**
- Box 18 ***Hannibal Cobb* 1959.**
- Box 19 **Teleplays by R.L.B.**
- Box 19 ***Man Without a Gun* 1959.**
- Box 19 ***Broken Arrow* 1957.**
- Box 19 ***Texan* 1960.**
- Box 19 ***Mackenzie's Raiders* 1958.**
- Box 19 ***Restless Gun* 1958.**
- Box 20 **Teleplays by R.L.B.**
- Box 20 **Miscellaneous half hours 1959.**
- Box 20 **Live and film pilots and documentary 1951.**
- Box 20 **Screen Play: *Thing That Screamed* 1957.**
- Box 21 **Teleplays by R.L.B.**
- Box 21 **Anthology Series 1953-1954.**
- Box 21 ***Lone Ranger* 1956.**
- Box 21 ***Perry Mason* Series 1961-1962.**
- Box 14 **Books**
- Box 14 ***The Sex Ladder*, by Anthony Gordon (pseudonym) 1964.**
- Box 14 ***The Vice Czar Murders*, by Franklin Charles 1941.**
- Physical Description:** 3 copies.
- Additional Note**
- Charles is a pseudonym of Cleve F. Adams
- Box 14 ***The Saint's Choice of Hollywood Crime* (with *The Phantom Bullet*, by R.L.B.) 1946.**
- Box 14 ***Want Ads?*, by R.L.B.**
- Box 14 ***Blue Murder*, by R.L.B. 1938.**
- Box 14 ***The Window With the Sleeping Nude*, by R.L.B. 1950.**
- Physical Description:** 2 copies.
- Box 14 ***No Wings on a Cop* 1950.**
- Additional Note**
- By Cleve F. Adams.
- Box 14 ***Good-bye Dan Turner*, by R.L.B. 1950.**
- Box 14 ***Half-Past Mortem*, by John A. Saxon. 1947.**
- Physical Description:** 2 copies.
- Box 14 ***Doctor of Lesbos*, by Anthony Gordon. 1963.**
- Box 14 ***Point Blank!*, by Richard Stark. 1962.**
- Additional Note**
- Stark is pseudonym of Donald Westlake. Not by Bellem.
- Radio plays**
- Box 22 ***Creeps by Night* (Radio Plays).**
- Biography/History**
- Boris Karloff hosted the West coast version of *Creeps by Night*.
- Box 22 **no.7) *The Unwelcome Visitor* April 4, 1944.**
- Box 22 **no.8) *Those Who Walk in Darkness* April 11, 1944.**
- Box 22 **no.9) *The Permanent Guests* April 18, 1944**
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Box 22                                    **no.10) Appointment With Death April 25, 1944.**  
   **Scope and Content**  
   Folder also includes two scripts for an unnumbered episode titled The Witch's Curse  
   (May 1944).

Box 22                                    **no.11) The Final Reckoning May 2, 1944.**

Box 22                                    **no.12) The Hunt May 9, 1944.**

Box 22                                    **Catalogue of military goods 1922.**

Box 22                                    **Historical newspapers and magazines.**

**Physical Description:** (approximately 10)

**Adventure stories**

Box 23                                    ***Espionage: Adventure Stories*, by R.L.B. 1945[?].**

Box 23                                    **Prop copies: *Yellow Sentinel* (Television newspaper).**

Box 23                                    ***The Cat and the Fiddle*, fragments.**

Box 23                                    ***High Explosive*, by R.L.B. undated**

**Physical Description:** (Teleplay).

Box 23                                    ***Tarzan: Track of the Dinosaur*. November 16, 1966.**

Box 23                                    ***Tarzan: Trumpets and Eagles*. December 16, 1966.**

Box 23                                    ***On Stage, Sophie!* 30 minute teleplay by R.L.B.**

Box 23                                    ***Headquarters Anchorage*. no author undated**

Box 23                                    **Presentation and Pilot Television series: *The Many Faces of James B. Hume*, by R.L.B.  
undated**

Box 23                                    ***Ride the Blind Stallion*, by R.L.B. undated**

**Physical Description:** (screenplay)

Box 23                                    ***Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* series: *No Way Out*. October 14, 1964.**