
Finding Aid for the William A. Drake Papers, ca. 1915-1946; bulk 1930-1946

Processed by Jennifer Myers; machine-readable finding aid created by J. Myers and J. Graham

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Descriptive Summary

Title: William A. Drake Papers

Date (inclusive): ca. 1915-1946,

Date (bulk): (bulk 1930-1946)

Collection number: 289

Creator: Drake, William A., b. 1899

Extent: 7 boxes (3.25 linear ft.)

Abstract: William Drake was an assistant editor for *Vanity Fair* magazine in New York and a screenwriter in Hollywood. The collection consists of a mixture of writings that appear to be playscripts, screenplays, preliminary and suggested outlines for stage and screen projects, assorted stories, synopses, and essays written, adapted, translated by or possibly submitted to Drake.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Performing Arts Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

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

Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], William A. Drake Papers(Collection 289). Performing Arts Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

Biography

William Drake was born in Dayton, OH, in 1899. He was an assistant editor for *Vanity Fair* magazine in New York. He later moved to the West Coast where he worked as a screenwriter in Hollywood, CA. He worked on film projects such as *Grand Hotel* (1932), *One More Spring* (1935), *Stanley and Livingstone* (1939), *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1939), and *The Three Musketeers* (1939). Drake also wrote, adapted, or translated articles, stories, and plays. William Drake died of a heart attack on October 28, 1965 in Hollywood, CA.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of material related to the career of writer William Drake. The collection includes what appears to be playscripts, screenplays, preliminary and suggested outlines for stage and screen projects, assorted stories, synopses, and essays written, adapted, translated by or possibly submitted to Drake. For many of the writings it is not clear if they were intended for motion pictures, stage, or publication; and/or if they were ultimately produced or published. In some cases, it is not clear if the materials were written by or submitted to Drake. There are writings for projects such as *Brown Derby*, *One More Spring*, *Sherlock Holmes*, and a project titled *Ready to Wear*, adapted from the story by Claudia Cranston, which are all assumed to be for motion picture projects. The file titles were assigned by the processor.

Organization and Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by what appears to be the titles of the items/works.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Drake, William A.,--b. 1899--Archives.

Screen writers--Archival resources.

Box 1, Folder 10

According to the Evidence - preliminary outlines (no date)

Note

With loose pages for "Sequence A". See also All the Evidence.

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- Box 6, Folder 12 **Adieu, New York - story translated by W.D. (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 33 **Alfred Dúblin Towards a New Naturalism - essay (no date)**
 Box 7, Folder 7 **Alibi Baby - by Claudia Cranston - reader summary (1932 Nov 30)**
 Box 1, Folder 8 **All the Evidence - [story outline or synopsis] (no date)**
 Note
 With loose script pages.
- Box 7, Folder 18 **Anybody's Crime - story synopsis and notes (no date)**
 Note
 See also All the Evidence.
- Box 4, Folder 2 **Apartments 1,5,7 - playscript (no date)**
 Box 4, Folder 3 **Apartments 1,5,7 - playscript (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 13 **Aphrodite - [synopsis of story] (3 pages) (no date)**
 Box 7, Folder 4 **Artists and Ad Writers - by Claudia Cranston synopsis (1931 Sept 25)**
 Note
 First in a series of short stories in Good Housekeeping, Oct. 1931. See also Ready to Wear.
- Box 6, Folder 25 **Bernhard Kellermann - essay (no date)**
 Box 5, Folder 10 **Big Jim - by William A. Drake - outline screen adaptation and suggested continuity revisions (no date)**
 Box 5, Folder 11 **Big Jim - outline screen adaptation by William A. Drake (236 pages) (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 1 **Big Jim - outline screen adaptation by William A. Drake (267 pages) (no date)**
 Note
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- Box 7, Folder 2 **Big Sale (The) - [outline or synopsis?] (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 10 **[Big Tim Sullivan?] - incomplete story (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 15 **Blue-Bird (The) - a fairy tale by Count Aleksoy N. Tolstoy translated from the Russian by William A. Drake - story (no date)**
 Box 3, Folder 2 **Boomerang - rough first draft play script - William A. Drake (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 16 **Brave Sparrow (The) by Eugene Chirikov - story (no date)**
 Box 1, Folder 5 **Breach of Discipline - first draft continuity script (1939 Oct. 9 - 1940 Jan. 8)**
 Note
 With letter to W.D. from Julian Johnson dated 15 Jan. 1940.
- Box 1, Folder 4 **Breach of Discipline - story and screenplay by William Drake (1939 Oct. 9 - 1940 Jan. 8)**
 Box 1, Folder 6 **Breach of Discipline by William A. Drake - first draft continuity script (1940 Jan. 13)**
 Box 4, Folder 4 **Brothel (The) - story by Karl Hans Strobl translated from the German by William A. Drake (no date)**
 Box 4, Folder 12 **[Brown Derby] - character list, script pages and notes (no date)**
 Note
 With magazine story "What Makes Sammy Run?" by Bud Wilson Shulberg, Liberty Magazine Aug. 10, 1940.
- Box 7, Folder 16 **Brown Derby - character profiles and notes (no date)**
 Note
 Also known as The Happy Marriage.
- Box 4, Folder 10 **Brown Derby - preliminary outline of a proposed play by Eddie Cantor and William A. Drake (no date)**
 Note
 See also The Happy Marriage.
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- Box 4, Folder 9 **Brown Derby - suggested plots for play (no date)**
 Note
 See also The Happy Marriage.
- Box 1, Folder 9 **Capital Punishment - preliminary outline of an original story by Chase Morgan (no date)**
 Note
 See also All the Evidence.
- Box 6, Folder 19 **Carl Sternheim - by A. Mircea [?] - essay (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 9 **Case of Too Much Conscience by Norman Barrett - story (15 pages) (no date)**
 Box 2, Folder 2 **Clown (The) - screen play by William A. Drake and Stanley Paley (no date)**
 Box 5, Folder 4 **Coat, A Hat, A Glove (A) - a play adapted from the German of Wilhelm Speyer by William A. Drake (1934 Jan 31)**
- Box 4, Folder 15 **Comrade Stalin - cut out stories from magazines (ca. 1940's)**
 Box 7, Folder 17 **Comrade Stalin - notes and writings (no date)**
 Note
 With memo to Julian Johnston from Darryl Zanuck dated Jan. 12, 1940.
- Box 4, Folder 14 **Comrade Stalin - preliminary outline by William A. Drake (1940 March 23)**
 Note
 With memo from William Randol.
- Box 4, Folder 13 **Comrade Stalin - synopsis outline for screen story, notes and research (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 2 **Cut out stories from magazines - one translated by W.D. (ca. 1916)**
 Box 2, Folder 9 **Dance Hall - rough first draft script (1939 Feb. 15)**
 Note
 Probably duplicate copy of screenplay.
- Box 2, Folder 8 **Dance Hall - screenplay (no date)**
 Note
 Probably duplicate copy of rough first draft
- Box 3, Folder 8 **Death Takes a Holiday - synopsis for the play by Alberto Casella (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 3 **Delirium - a Paul Gordon Production - script (no date)**
 Box 2, Folder 3 **Deportation Train - by William A. Drake - story outline (no date)**
 Note
 With 12 page memorandum on possible story revisions.
- Box 6, Folder 11 **Don Carlos: A Dramatic Poem by Friedrich von Schiller - synopes (2 versions) (1938 Aug 15, no date)**
 Note
 With list titled: Translations of Schiller's "Don Carlos."
- Box 2, Folder 1 **Education De Prince - An Anecdote in Fourteen Episodes by Maurice Donnay - translated from the French by William A. Drake - play (no date)**
- Box 6, Folder 27 **Else Lasker-Schüler - essay (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 28 **Ernst Lissauer - essay (no date)**
 Box 1, Folder 11 **Escape - preliminary outline of an original story by William A. Drake (1931 Dec. 14)**
 Box 6, Folder 6 **Excentrique - by Bruce Bell - [story] (no date, 1930)**
 Note
 With article "Last Words," by Heinrich Heine, from Living Age, Nov. 1930

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- Box 2, Folder 4 **Fear - story by Stefan Zweig; tentative screen treatment by William A. Drake - project proposal (no date)**
- Box 7, Folder 11 **Fifth Avenue Fatality - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1933 Oct 4)**
Note
See also Ready to Wear.
- Box 6, Folder 4 **Fight Story - rough sketch - original based on "Gentleman in Black" (1938 Aug 2)**
Box 5, Folder 6 **Gentleman in Black - story by Francis M. Cockerell, 3rd. (no date)**
Box 6, Folder 22 **Gottfried Benn. pp. 820-7 - essay (no date)**
Box 1, Folder 1 **Grand Hotel and Dinner at Eight (no date)**
Note
Dinner at Eight one page scene synopsis and Grand Hotel playbill, Belasco Theatre
- Box 6, Folder 31 **Guillaume Apollinaire (1880-1918) - essay (no date)**
Box 4, Folder 11 **Happy Marriage (The) - rough outline of a proposed play by William A. Drake (1943 Dec 23)**
Note
With rewrite for Act III p. 21-27 and a letter to Eddie Cantor from W.D. dated Dec. 23, 1943.
See also Brown Derby.
- Box 6, Folder 23 **Herbert Eulenberg - essay (no date)**
Box 6, Folder 32 **Herbert Eulenberg - essay (no date)**
Box 5, Folder 5 **Hotel for Women - revised treatment by Kathryn Scola and William A. Drake (1938 Nov 23)**
- Box 7, Folder 9 **I've Been Around - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1937 Aug 25)**
Box 6, Folder 30 **Kasimir Edschmid - essay (no date)**
Box 6, Folder 7 **Knight of the Flame by Lucien Lorriland - story (21 pages) (no date)**
Box 7, Folder 12 **Lady's Own Goods - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1931 Feb 25)**
Note
See also Ready to Wear.
- Box 5, Folder 8 **Last Spring (The) - a play in three acts by Eugene Berton and Ralph Berton - script (no date)**
- Box 6, Folder 34 **Leaves From My Log - by Ardengo Soffici - writings (no date)**
Box 7, Folder 5 **Love Versus Fame - outline for serial by Claudia Cranston (no date)**
Box 3, Folder 5 **Lysistrata - annotated playscript by Maurice Donnay (no date)**
Box 3, Folder 6 **Lysistrata - annotated playscript by Maurice Donnay (no date)**
Box 3, Folder 4 **Lysistrata - annotated playscript by Maurice Donnay and program (no date)**
Box 3, Folder 3 **Lysistrata - playscript by Maurice Donnay (no date)**
Box 4, Folder 1 **Makoff - story by Maxim Gorky translated from the Russian by William A. Drake and Maxim Statsky (no date)**
- Box 3, Folder 7 **Marie Galante - screen play by William A. Drake from the novel by Jacques Deval (ca. 1932)**
Note
With a memo to W. Sheehan from W.D. regarding Marie Galante material, Dec. 17, 1932.
- Box 3, Folder 9 **Mister God - A Tragedy of Success by Maxim Gorky - story translated from the Russian by William A. Drake (no date)**
- Box 7, Folder 8 **Murder Maritime - by Claudia Cranston reader summary (1935 Aug 30)**
Box 6, Folder 18 **Napoleon - a satirical tale by Carl Sternheim - rough translation (no date)**
Box 6, Folder 8 **Napoleonette - synopsis (1936 Sept 2)**
Box 6, Folder 35 **Novels and the Ideas of Madame Marcelle Tinayre (The) by Benjamin M. Woodbridge - in the Bulletin of the University of Texas (1915 Jan 25)**
Box 5, Folder 3 **One More Spring - script (ca. 1934, 1935)**
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- Box 7, Folder 13 **Only a Contingent - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1931 Feb 25)**
 Note
 See also Ready to Wear.
- Box 6, Folder 26 **Oskar Kokoschka - essay (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 17 **Over the Ravine - story (15 pages) (no date)**
 Box 3, Folder 11 **Passing of the Third Floor Back (The) - preliminary screen treatment and annotated outline treatment and by William A. Drake (play by Jerome K. Jerome) (1931 Dec and 1932 Aug)**
- Box 3, Folder 10 **Passing of the Third Floor Back (The) - screen play by William A. Drake from the play by Jerome K. Jerome (no date)**
- Box 4, Folder 6 **Professor Dimonio - playscript for a comedy by Leopold Marchand (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 14 **Rainer Maria Rilke 1875-1926 - essay (no date)**
 Box 7, Folder 1 **Ready to Wear - a play in three acts and six scenes by Claudia Cranston (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 37 **Ready to Wear - an original screen story by William A. Drake (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 36 **Ready to Wear - an original screen story by William A. Drake - title page only (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 38 **Ready to Wear - by Claudia Cranston - synopsis (2 versions) (1935 Nov 6)**
 Box 6, Folder 40 **Ready to Wear - Paramount Pictures reader synopsis (1942 March 19)**
 Box 6, Folder 41 **Ready to Wear - Paramount Pictures reader synopsis (1932 Oct 5)**
 Box 7, Folder 15 **Ready to Wear by Claudia Cranston in Good Housekeeping Magazine (1931 Jan)**
 Note
 Illustrated by Thomas Webb.
- Box 6, Folder 39 **Ready-to-Wear (The) - by Claudia Cranston synopsis (1930 Dec 22)**
 Box 6, Folder 29 **René Schickele - essay (no date)**
 Box 4, Folder 8 **Sacha Guity - clippings (1932, 1940)**
 Box 5, Folder 1 **Satyrus on the Boards - a consideration of the dramas of Frank Wedekind by William A. Drake - essay (no date)**
- Box 2, Folder 5 **Sherlock Holmes - first draft script (1939 April 14)**
 Box 7, Folder 6 **Sky Gypsy - by Claudia Cranston - synopsis (1936 Feb 17)**
 Box 6, Folder 24 **Stefan George - essay (no date)**
 Box 6, Folder 5 **Taming of the Shrew (The) - synopsis (17 pages) (no date)**
 Box 1, Folder 3 **That We May Live - author's working copy with script corrections - annotated (1946)**
 Box 1, Folder 2 **That We May Live - dramatic presentation by William Drake - annotated script and ephemera (1946 Dec. 17,18)**
 Note
 To be presented December 17th and 18th, 1946 at the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles
- Box 4, Folder 7 **Their Faces Their Fortunes - reader report (1938 May 16)**
 Note
 With memos to and from Ruth Fasken and Henry Klinger.
- Box 4, Folder 5 **Three Musketeers (The) - conference notes (1938)**
 Note
 Conference with Mr. Zanuck Sep. 16, 1938 and Sep. 26, 1938.
- Box 3, Folder 1 **Trina - an original screen story by Ethel L. Drake, William A. Drake and Karl Hajos (no date)**
 Box 5, Folder 7 **Trip to Sorrento (A) - a comedy in three acts by Hans Adler and Paul Frank - rough preliminary version playscript (no date)**
 Box 5, Folder 9 **Twelve Thousand - synopsis of a play by Bruno Frank adapted by William A. Drake (no date)**
 Box 1, Folder 7 **Unnepi Jatek [Festival Play?] - playscript (1931)**
 Note
 With loose title page for Trial by Arms.
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- Box 7, Folder 3 **Untitled [Ready to Wear?] - [story outline or treatment?] (no date)**
Box 5, Folder 2 **Valley (The) - rough preliminary version of play by Jerzy Zulawski (no date)**
 Note
 [English translation of Sabbatai Z'vi]
- Box 6, Folder 20 **Vanderbilt - [story] [by] Carl Sternheim (no date)**
Box 7, Folder 14 **Way of All Chiffons (The) - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1931 Feb 25)**
 Note
 See also Ready to Wear.
- Box 2, Folder 7 **We Call For Judgement - by Milton Robertson for The Palestine Emergency Fund**
 Madison Square Garden March 5th 1946 - annotated stage script (no date)
Box 2, Folder 6 **We Call For Judgement - by Milton Robertson for The Palestine Emergency Fund**
 Madison Square Garden March 5th 1946 - stage script (1946 Jan. 1)
Box 7, Folder 10 **Women and Misses - by Claudia Cranston reader synopsis (1931 Feb 25)**
Box 6, Folder 21 **Yousouff - story (33 pages) (no date)**