
Ruth Reid autobiographical novel

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GLBT Historical Society

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Ruth Reid autobiographical novel

Dates: 1981-2006

Collection Number: 2001-14

Creator/Collector:

Extent: 1 manuscript box

Repository: GLBT Historical Society

San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: This is a copy of an unpublished 400-page typewritten autobiographical novel, "Dark Birth," written by Ruth Reid. According to her friend, writer Jacquelyn Marie, Reid used that term because she changed names and used poetic license, but the stories were essentially true.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation

Ruth Reid autobiographical novel. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Gift of Karen Sjöholm on February 27, 2001.

Scope and Content of Collection

This is a copy of an unpublished 400-page typewritten autobiographical novel, "Dark Birth," written by Ruth Reid. According to her friend, writer Jacquelyn Marie, Reid used that term because she changed names and used poetic license, but the stories were essentially true. Reid (1903-1981) moved to the San Francisco Bay Area after World War II and started a 30-year relationship with Kent Hyde, who was assigned female but lived publicly as a man. "Dark Birth" covers the ups and downs of a long-term, non-monogamous relationship, and depicts the Bay Area lesbian scene at the time. Reid owned a weaving business with a partner. Portions of Reid's novel appeared in print, and Marie decided to publish excerpts of it, interwoven with information about her life and times, in "Wife of a Lesbian: A Memoir by Ruth Reed," in 2006. This version is available online with photographs, at http://www.lulu.com/items/volume_45/549000/549225/8/print/549225.pdf and attached here on the OAC. GSSO linked terms: http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/GSSO_000381; http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/GSSO_000130; <http://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/MESH/D008091>

Indexing Terms

Lesbians

Literature

Transgender people

[Wife of a Lesbian: A Memoir by Ruth Reed](#)
