



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Cindy Bonner Papers 1983-1999

Collection SWWC-053

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Bonner, Cindy, 1953-
Title:	Guide to the Cindy Bonner Papers
Dates:	1983-1999
Abstract:	The Cindy Bonner papers document the writing and editing process of her novels and short stories, including research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence, dating from 1983-1999.
Identification:	SWWC-053
Extent:	12 boxes, 6 Linear Feet
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Notes

Cindy Bonner was born June 14, 1953, in Corpus Christi, Texas. She attended University of Southern Mississippi (1971-73), and San Antonio College (1979). She won Honorable Mention, Roberts Awards, 1989, and third place for a short story, *Byliners Contest*, 1990. Her first novel, *Lily* (1992), was a finalist for the Western Writers of America's Pipe Bearer's Award. Her novels have been listed as "Best Books" by the American Library Association and have been translated into Spanish and German. Her most recent novel, *Right from Wrong*, won the Pen Texas Award in 1997.

In addition to raising two children, Ms. Bonner has worked in various professions, including as a yoga teacher, computer operator, real estate manager of a blues/rock band, and writer. She stated, "In 1982, with the encouragement of my husband, I bought a spiral notebook and began to teach myself to write... the hard way, through trial and error and a tidal wave of rejection letters. It is my goal to write fiction that someone, somewhere, will still be reading in one hundred years from now," (*Contemporary Authors*, 1999). Ms. Bonner currently lives and writes full-time in Yorktown, Texas.

Scope and Contents

The Cindy Bonner papers document the writing and editing process of her novels and short stories. The collection includes research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence, dating from 1983-1999. The collection is arranged in three series: Works, Correspondence, and Artifacts.

Series I: Works (1986-1999) documents the writing and editing process of Bonner's four published novels, *Lily*, *Looking After Lily*, *The Passion of Dellie O'Barr*, and *Right from Wrong*. This series also includes the unpublished novel "*Flossie/War Dreams*" and seven short stories. Formats include research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence.

Series 2: Correspondence (1983-1993) relates to Bonner's writing career and includes letters of acceptance and rejection, and dialogue with literary agents. And Series 3: Artifacts (undated) includes one toy pencil that reads, "I'm a Big Time Writer." The toy was given to Bonner by her son and remained on her desk for five years.

Administrative Information

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use: .
<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Bonner since 1994.

Preferred Citation

Cindy Bonner Papers, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Materials from the Wittliff Collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study. The user assumes responsibility for determining copyright status, obtaining permission to publish, and abiding by U.S. copyright laws. .
<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/visit/policies/publication.html>

Controlled Access Headings

- Historical fiction
- Literature
- Women authors, American

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Novels, 1991-1999

Lily, 1992

Box	Folder	
1	1	Handwritten draft
1	2	Outline
1	3	Research
1	4-5	First Draft "McDade"
1	6-7	Original "McDade"
1	8	"McDade edited," with editor's marks
2	1	"McDade edited," with editor's marks
2	2-3	Copy edited Lily
2	4-5	Edited page proofs
2	6	Annotated page proofs
3	1	Annotated page proofs
3	2-3	Final Page Proofs
3	4	Correspondence , 1991-1994
3	5	Publicity

Looking After Lily, 1994

3	6	Research
3	7-8	"First First Draft"
4	1-2	First Draft
4	3	Draft with December 1992 journal entry, December 1992
4	4-5	"Clean Draft"
4	6	"First Edit"
5	1	"First Edit"
5	2-3	Annotated typescript
5	4-5	"Copy Edit"
5	6	Publicity

The Passion of Dellie O'Barr, 1996

6	1-2	Annotated typescript #1
6	3-4	Annotated typescript #2

6 5-6 Annotated typescript #3

7 1-2 Page Proofs

Right from Wrong, 1999

7 3-4 Original typescript as submitted to editor

7 5 Rejected Version

8 1 Rejected Version

8 2-3 Annotated typescript #1

8 4-5 Annotated typescript #2

9 1-2 Annotated page proofs

9 3 Publicity

12 2 Publicity and promotional materials

Flossie/War Dreams

9 4-5 Flossie typescript

9 6 War Dream typescript

10 1 War Dream typescript

Series II: Short Stories, 1986-1993

10 2 "Hatching Eggs" drafts and correspondence, 1988-1993

10 3 "Library Books" , 1987-1992

10 4 "Pendejo" drafts and correspondence, 1986-1987

10 5 "Perfect Pitch", 1987-1989

11 1 "Starving Artist" , 1988-1992

11 2 "Weekends and Summers", 1987

11 3 "Worms" , 1989

Series III: Correspondence, 1983-1993

11 4 Correspondence, 1983-1993

Series IV: Artifacts

12 1 Toy pencil which reads, "I'm a Big Time Writer," given to Bonner by her son, includes note describing item