



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Shelby Hearon Papers 1983-1992

Collection SWWC-025

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Hearon, Shelby, 1931-
Title:	Guide to the Shelby Hearon Papers
Dates:	1983-1992
Abstract:	The Shelby Hearon Papers contain notes, drafts of novels, and clippings.
Identification:	SWWC-025
Extent:	.5 Linear Feet, 1 boxes
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Notes

Shelby Hearon was born January 18, 1931 in Kentucky. After earning a BA in 1953 from the University of Texas at Austin, she settled down to marriage and family. She began her first novel *Armadillo in the Grass* in 1962 and submitted it to Knopf in 1967. Knopf accepted the manuscript "over the transom" and Hearon's career as a writer was launched. Hearon has written 16 novels through 2005. She received an Ingram Merrill grant in 1987, a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship in 1983, and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for Fiction in 1982. Hearon won the Texas Institute of Letters Fiction award in 1973 for *The Second Dune* and in 1978 for *A Prince of a Fellow*. She has been a five-time recipient of the NEA/PEN syndication Short Story Prize. In addition to writing novels, Hearon lectures, teaches writing, and contributes articles to national publications. Books by Hearon:

Armadillo in the Grass (1968) *The Second Dune* (1973) *Hannah's House* (1975) *Now and Another Time* (1976) *A Prince of a Fellow* (1978) *Barbara Jordan, a self portrait* (1979) *Painted Dresses* (1981) *Afternoon of a Faun* (1983) *Group Therapy* (1984) *A Small Town* (1985) *500 Scorpions* (1986) *Owning Jolene* (1989) *Hug Dancing* (1991) *Life Estates* (1994) *Footprints* (1996) *Ella in Bloom* (2001)

Scope and Contents

The papers contain notes, drafts and clippings. The material demonstrates Hearon's working methods--background research, sketched out ideas, revisions. The clippings contain book reviews, interviews and some biographical information.

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Deposited on loan by Hearon from 1989 through 1992.

Preferred Citation

Shelby Hearon Papers, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University.

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use: .

<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Conditions Governing Use

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<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/visit/policies/publication.html>

Related Materials

The Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas holds the bulk of Hearon's papers.

Controlled Access Headings

- Women authors, American -- Texas -- 20th century

Detailed Description of the Collection

Box	Folder	
1	1	Afternoon of a Faun notes, draft, 1983
1	2	Group Therapy notes, 1984
1	3	Five Hundred Scorpions notes, 1987
1	4-5	Five Hundred Scorpions copy edited draft, 1987
1	6	Owning Jolene notes, drafts, clippings, 1988-1989
1	7	Owning Jolene galley proof
1	8	Hug Dancing notes, drafts, proofs, 1991
1	9	Friends For Live draft pages, 1992
1	10	Clippings, 1985-1988