

Donn Kushner Fonds

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Donn Kushner fonds. – [1940's?] - 2002. – 5.4 metres of textual materials.

Biographical sketch: Donn Kushner was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on March 29, 1927. His given name is his mother's maiden name; the Donn's and the Kushners had emigrated from Lithuania around the turn of the 20th century and settled in New York. The Donns stayed in New York, and the Kushners began a lumber business near the Gulf of Mexico. A strong creative and musical bent is present in many members of the family. Donn's brother William is a musician, and his nephew Tony is an award-winning playwright (*Angels in America*). Donn played the viola and violin and has been a member of various chamber music groups as well as a square dance fiddler.

At the age of 17, Donn Kushner left Louisiana for Harvard where he studied chemistry and earned his BSc in 1948. He earned graduate degrees in biochemistry at McGill University and was subsequently employed by the Department of Lands and Forests at the Forest Insect Laboratory in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, from 1954 to 1961. He joined the faculty of biology at the University of Ottawa in 1965, and moved to the University of Toronto in 1988, as Visiting Professor in the Department of Microbiology and the Institute for Environmental Studies. On September 15, 1949, Donn Kushner married a professor of French literature at McGill; Donn and Eva Kushner had three sons, Daniel (born 1950), Roland (born 1955) and Paul (born 1966). Eva Kushner became the President of Victoria College at the University of Toronto. Donn Kushner died in 2001 on their 52nd wedding anniversary of ALS and lymphoma.

Donn Kushner was a prolific writer from an early age, initially of stories and poems, later writing around his busy schedule as a research scientist. He admitted that his writing for children probably impeded his success as a scientist, but that it was a choice he had gladly made.

Awards:

CLA Book of the Year Award for Children, for *The Violin Maker's Gift*, 1981.

IODE Canada Chapter Award for *A Book Dragon*, 1988.

Governor General's Award, shortlist, for *A Book Dragon*, 1988.

Ezra Jack Keats/de Grummond Collection Research Fellowship (with Eva Kushner), 1997.

Custodial history: The author donated his manuscript material relating to *The house of the good spirits*, *The Book Dragon*, *The Violin Maker's Gift*, and *Uncle Jacob's Ghost Story* in 1990, *The Dinosaur Duster* in 1992 and *The Night voyagers* in 1996. The Kushner family boxed and donated the remaining material after his death.

Scope and content: The Donn Kushner fonds is composed almost exclusively of material relating to his writing, although there is a small amount of material relating to other interests. The fonds contains his early notebooks and stories, undated for the most part, drafts of his major books, correspondence with publishers and editors, drafts of unpublished projects, publicity

material including speaking engagements and school visits, and correspondence with a number of people associated in some way with writing and publishing. While most of his published writing was geared to the juvenile reader, he also wrote poetry, stories for adults, book reviews and essays.

Arrangement: The fonds is arranged in five series: Notebooks; Stories; published books, unpublished projects; and other material. The early material is usually undated; arrangement within series is chronological when possible with undated groups of stories arranged alphabetically. Published projects have been arranged by date of publication. Most manuscripts appear to be reworked over many years, and the archivist has attempted to group drafts that appear to relate together. When possible, files have been maintained intact. The early material was received in some disarray and has been arranged by the archivist.

Series and Sub-series

1.0 Notebooks

Dates of creation: [1940's?] –

Physical description: 40 cm. of textual records.

Scope and content: This series contains mostly unpublished writing by Donn Kushner, including notebooks that date from his adolescence. One notebook (1.1) contains his Louisiana address and he did not live at home past the age of 17. A number of the other notebooks are of similar type and contain similar handwriting. Some stories in the notebooks reappear in the form of typed drafts in Series 2.

Box 1

- 1.1 Undated notebook, with 'Donn Kushner. 617 Bank St. Lake Charles' written on the front cover. Contains a story titled "Tim Branville's Wife".
- 1.2 Undated notebooks, containing drafts of a story, "A Coffin for Mr. Allen".
- 1.3 Undated notebook, containing "The Search for Hal Fenton".
- 1.4 Undated notebook, containing "Brother John".
- 1.5 Undated notebook, containing partial drafts titled "The Orator", "Strike I", "The Nigger in the Flophouse", and "Land of Promises".
- 1.6 Undated notebook, containing partial drafts of "Christmas Eve", "Joel" with a carbon copy of a typescript version of "Joel" and a poem, laid in.
- 1.7 Undated notebook, containing "The Ex-Wolf on the dancing floor, or, the Wolf at the Sadie Hawkins Dance" (poem) and drafts of two stories, including "The Return" and "The Dear Old Ladies".
- 1.8 Undated notebook, contains story drafts including "Self Respect" and "All Men are Equal."
- 1.9 Undated notebook, containing "White Gods", "Bad Nigger", "Satan and the Black Man", "Shini", "Panic", "The Street" and other untitled stories.
- 1.10 Undated notebook, containing a partial draft of a story, and "Beginning of Summer", "A Matter of Luck", "The Man who Built a Fall-out Shelter".
- 1.11 Notebook, titled "My Diary" with the first entry dated Saturday January 1, 1944. After several diary entries the notebook contains the draft of a story titled "Mary".
- 1.12 Undated notebook containing stories, one titled "Man in the Rain".

- 1.13 Undated notebook, titled on the front cover with his Louisiana address, and '11 grade L.C.H.S.' [Lake Charles High School]. Contains a story entitled "Ikey Cohen".
- 1.14 Undated notebook containing untitled fragments, and "God Dammed Northern Nigger", "The Coward" and "The Sentinel".

Box 2

- 1.15 Undated notebook (Louisiana), containing "The Book of Job Tyler".
- 1.16 Undated notebook (Louisiana), containing an untitled story an "Algernon, the Devil, and the Bottle of Burgundy: a Fantasy".
- 1.17 Notebook with Ottawa address dated 1981, containing notes for "Driving Lessons", "Pussy cat story", "Piebald rats", "X-mas tree watcher", "Healer Of the Forest", "Uncle Jacob" and others.
- 1.18 Notebook dated 1985 with Ottawa address, containing notes for "Dragon", "Life on Mars" and others.
- 1.19 Undated notebook with Ottawa address, containing notes for "Life on Mars".
- 1.20 Undated notebook with Ottawa address, 189 p., with index at the end, listing notes for: "Balloon Story", "Christmas Tree Watcher", "Dragon", "Cat Shop", and others.
- 1.21 Undated notebook with Ottawa address, 159 p., with index listing notes for "Life on Mars", "Cat Shop", "Uncle Jacob", "Christmas Tree Watcher", "Book Dragon" and others.
- 1.22 Undated notebook with Ottawa and Toronto addresses, with index for many stories including "Life on Mars" and "Xmas Tree Watcher".
- 1.23 1991 notebook, Toronto address, with drafts of unpublished stories.
- 1.24 Undated notebook, Toronto address, with draft of an unpublished story, "Noah's Elf".

Box 3

- 1.25 Notebook, dated December 13, 1991 to April 13, 1998, 193 p., with index for many stories, including "Thief", "VMG", "Mars", "Manuel" and "XTWR" [A thief among statues, The violin maker's gift, Life on Mars, The night watchers, and The Christmas tree watcher].
- 1.26 Notebook, with one entry dated December 20 1996, containing a draft for an unpublished story, "Babes in the Woods".

- 1.27 Notebook, Toronto address, with drafts of several stories, dated 1990 to 1998.
- 1.28 Notebook, Toronto address, finished early 1991, with partial drafts and notes relating to several stories, including “House of the Good Spirits”, “Mars”, and “VMG”.
- 1.29 Notebook, Toronto address, containing notes for “Memory” (unpublished). One entry is dated May 21, 1995.
- 1.30 Notebook, dated January 20, 1997 to September 9, 2000.
- 1.31 Undated notebook, with Toronto address, including notes for “Aunt Nan’s Hidey-Hole” [Oubliette – see Series 4] and “The Christmas Tree Watcher”.
- 1.32 Pages from a notebook, Toronto address, titled “odd thoughts”.
- 1.33 Notebook, undated, containing the draft of a story “Paying the Piper”.

2.0 Stories

Dates of creation: [1940’s - ?]

Physical description: 53 cm of textual material.

Scope and content: This series contains drafts, in hand-written and typed form, of stories written by Donn Kushner from his adolescence. Many have their beginnings in the notebooks from Series 1.

Arrangement: The archivist has drawn together variants of stories into one file, and included any related material such as correspondence. Most of these stories are unpublished, but several were included in his only story collection *The Witnesses and other stories*, published in 1980 and a number were offered to publishers for publication. Box 4 contains dated stories, in chronological order, while Boxes 5 and 6 contain undated stories and fragments in an alphabetical sequence.

Box 4

Dated stories:

- 2.1 “Driving Lessons”. Notes, drafts and correspondence, 1981.
- 2.2 “Cost of Living”. Manuscript, typescript, variant drafts and correspondence, 1981 – 1983.
- 2.3 “Napoleon the Superstar”. Drafts and correspondence, 1990-1991.
- 2.4 “Alma’s Alien”. Four drafts and correspondence, 1991.
- 2.5 “Disappearing Act”. Three corrected drafts, c.1991.
- 2.6 “The Iceberg Quartet”. [1991-1997]. Undated drafts, correspondence and notes.

- 2.7 "The Iceberg Quartet". Dated drafts, 1991-1997.
- 2.8 "Showtime". Drafts and correspondence, 1992-1999.
- 2.9 "Sampson's Jungle Beasts". Drafts, 1992.
- 2.10 "Funeral Arrangements". Partial draft of a story, June 2, 1995.
- 2.11 "Noah's Dilemma". Notes and drafts for a story, 1997-1998.
- 2.12 "The Beard of the Old Man with a Beard". Story, co-written with Angelo Machado of Brazil, 1994-1999. Drafts and correspondence.
- 2.13 "The Fire Watchers". Drafts, 1999.
- 2.14 Untitled short story. Notebook and partial draft, 2000.
- 2.15 Correspondence relating to short stories, 1964-1993.

Box 5

One published story, and undated stories, A-M

- 2.16 Published story, "The Peeping Tom", 1956-1957. File includes drafts, correspondence and publication.
- 2.17 "The Adventures of Gomez the Smuggler" and other undated stories, notes and fragments in a duo-tang folder, with the Ottawa address inside the front cover.
- 2.18 "An Apprenticeship". Typescript, submitted for publication, and carbon copy.
- 2.19 "All Men are Equal". 4 copies of a short story with at least two variations, undated.
- 2.20 "A Car Pool Romance". First draft [?], hand-written on lined paper, 23 p., undated.
- 2.21 "Beginning of Summer". 3 copies, undated, including typescript, carbon copy and photocopy. Author's name has been changed on original (and photocopy) to the pseudonym "H. Vogel".
- 2.22 "A Chair in the Sun". Typescript and 2 carbon copies.
- 2.23 "Christmas Stories". 3-page typescript.
- 2.24 "Down by the Old Swimming Hole". 3 typescript versions, one with Lake Charles address.
- 2.25 "The Endangered Species Warehouse, or, The Moose and the Cleaning Person". 4 copies, with variations, produced on a word processor, with Toronto address.
- 2.26 "The Epstein Case". Hand-written draft.

- 2.27 “A Fellow Tenant”. Typescript draft, with author’s name and Sault Ste. Marie address written in pencil on the final page.
- 2.28 “The Lifeboat”. Typescript story and carbon copy.
- 2.29 “A Little Cat”. 2 typescript variations.
- 2.30 “The Little Green Men”. Typescript manuscript.
- 2.31 “Liza’s Day”. 3 versions of a story in hand-written, typed and copied formats.
- 2.32 “The Magic Cupboard”. Fragments and drafts of a story (4 versions).
- 2.33 “Mary”. 2 typescript variations and carbon copy with Lake Charles address on the final page.
- 2.34 “Mr. Spence’s Friend”. Typescript manuscript, with corrections.
- 2.35 “The Mystery of the Tailor”. 3 drafts of a story.

Box 6

Undated stories N-W

- 2.36 “The Negro Problem in Northern Ontario”. Typescript, with stamped Ottawa address of Donn Kushner and stamp of John Schaeffner, literary agent, New York.
- 2.37 “The Nigger in the Flop-House”. 4 variant typescript copies.
- 2.38 “The Prodigal”. Typescript with hand-written notes.
- 2.39 “Rat Story” or “Twenty-two Piebald Rats”. Hand-written notes, typescript manuscript with DK’s Ottawa address and stamp of New York literary agent, with corrected carbon copy.
- 2.40 “Sampson’s Jungle Beasts”. 7 versions, written on a word processor, with corrections.
- 2.41 “The Sentinel”. 3 versions of a story, 2 typescripts and a carbon copy
- 2.42 “A String Quartet”. 2 variant drafts (1 typescript and 1 carbon copy), with DK’s Montreal address on the back of typescript.
- 2.43 “Suspicion”. Typescript of a story, with corrected carbon copy and an undated rejection slip from *Story and The Story Press*.
- 2.44 “Swenson, the Coward”. Typescript and carbon copies (2 variations) of a story.
- 2.45 “The Thinker”. 2 variations of a story, one typescript, one carbon copy. The typescript version contains DK’s Harvard address on the final page.

- 2.46 “Three Visions of the Soldier”. Poem, preceded by ‘An Explanation’. 2 typescript versions.
- 2.47 “Understudy”. Original typescript and carbon copy.
- 2.48 Drafts and fragments of unpublished stories, including:
- The Baby shower
 - The Baloon (sic) man.
 - Christma Eve under the streetlights
 - Electronic Elves
 - French neutralism
 - Gaiete Parisienne
 - A Girl for you
 - The Hermit’s wife
 - The Honest knight
 - Hymn to the Virgin
 - In the Lost Baggage Office
 - The Jar of everlasting
 - Jason’s babysitters
 - Joel
 - Love is so sweet in the springtime.
 - Mad Hadley in the graveyard
 - A Matter of luck
 - Nathan and the bear
 - Nathan’s fossil
 - Paul and the blackbird tree
 - Peter’s playmate.
 - Purim play
 - The Return
 - Tales from our valley.
 - Travelling salesman
 - True Patriotism

The valley of the magician.
The Water diviner
A Winter legend.

Box 7

The Witnesses and Other Stories. Borealis Press, 1981.

- 2.49 Notebook containing drafts of stories, including “Baldur’s death”, “Miami” and “The Scientist’s wife”. Undated, but bearing the Kushner’s Ottawa address.
- 2.50 “Baldur’s death”. 3 typescript drafts.
- 2.51 “The Librarians”. Undated draft, carbon copy of typescript.
- 2.52 “A Matter of luck.” 2 variant drafts, carbon copies of typescript, undated.
- 2.53 “Miami”. 3 variant drafts, undated. 1 typescript and 2 photocopies.
- 2.54 “Paying the Piper”. 2 drafts, carbon copies on onion skin paper, with corrections.
- 2.55 “A ruined maid”. Notebook containing hand-written draft.
- 2.56 “A ruined maid”. Draft, carbon copy of typescript.
- 2.57 “The Scientist’s wife”. 2 typed drafts.
- 2.58 “Two Europeans”. Carbon copy of a typed draft.
- 2.59 “The Witnesses”. 3 drafts: hand-written, typed, and carbon copy of typescript.
- 2.60 *The Witnesses and other stories*. Correspondence, 1966-1982, and undated letters.
- 2.61 *The Witnesses and other stories*. Contract, 1979.
- 2.62 *The Witnesses and other stories*. Reviews.

3.0 Published books for children

Dates of creation: c.1976 - 2000

Physical description: 2.15 m. of textual records.

Scope and content: This series contains material relating to the eight major books written for children and published between 1980 and 1998. Material includes drafts, correspondence and reviews. Correspondence that was found with a particular draft was left there, but there is a large file of correspondence in the final series that refers to more than one topic and has been gathered chronologically. It should be noted that Donn Kushner worked on his material over long periods of time, and all his work was extensively revised; thus a letter to his publisher may refer to two or more works in progress. Researchers would be advised to check the general publisher’s correspondence file in Series 5 as well as the material within this series.

Arrangement: Arrangement within the series is chronological by date of publication. Eight sub-series have been created to differentiate the individual titles. Arrangement within files is chronological when possible however, there is a great deal of undated material. The archivist has grouped some manuscripts together as early or later drafts, when this is clearly the case. With the exception of *Life on Mars*, the author donated manuscript material for these books after they were published. Some material received after his death has been integrated by the archivist.

3A: *The Violin-Maker's Gift*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1980.

Box 8

- 3A.1 Original manuscript, pages 20-90, hand-written in spiral bound notebook, undated.
- 3A.2 Undated, corrected typed draft.
- 3A.3 Undated carbon-copy of typed draft, with revisions.
- 3A.4 First submitted copy, carbon copy of typescript.
- 3A.5 Draft returned from Macmillan, October 1979.
- 3A.6 Partial draft with revisions, undated.
- 3A.7 Corrected draft, returned from Macmillan, April 1980.
- 3A.8 Revised typescript, with printer's notes.
- 3A.9 Publicity, 1981 – 1990.
- 3A.10 Reviews, 1981.
- 3A.11 CACL Award, 1981
- 3A.12 CCC Children's Book Project, 1983.
- 3A.13 Correspondence with English and American publishers, 1980-1991, and reviews.
- 3A.14 Polish translation – transcript and correspondence, 1985.
- 3A.15 Polish Radio Broadcasts, 1988 and 1998

Box 9

- 3A.16 Dutch translation. Correspondence, 1983-1987.
- 3A.17 German translation. Correspondence, 1984-1985.
- 3A.18 French translation in *Je Bouquine*, 1986.
- 3A.19 French translation, 1987.
- 3A.20 Correspondence with publishers, 1968-1976l

- 3A.21 Correspondence with Macmillan, 1976-1997 (including correspondence with Charlotte Weiss).
- 3A.22 Correspondence with and about Kevin Finn, re musical version of VMG.
- 3A.23 General correspondence, 1980-1992.
- 3A.24 Correspondence re a class visit, and book presented to DK, 1985.

3B: *Uncle Jacob's ghost story*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1984.

Box 10

- 3B.1 First hand-written draft, no date.
- 3B.2 Early draft to page 134 (before first submitted draft).
- 3B.3 First typed draft.
- 3B.4 First submitted draft (photocopy).

Box 11

- 3B.5 Final typed draft, sent to publisher, no date.
- 3B.6 Original first draft with notes by Linda Fisher, editor.
- 3B.7 Revision of first submitted version, and notes on revisions.
- 3B.8 Second submitted draft (rough copy).
- 3B.9 Galley proofs, 1984.
- 3B.10 Photocopy of Canadian edition, 1983.
- 3B.11 U.S. edition – proofs and correspondence, 1983-1995.

Box 12

- 3B.12 Early publication history: correspondence and submissions, 1981-1982.
- 3B.13 Correspondence with publishers, 1981-1985.
- 3B.14 Notes and background material, undated.
- 3B.15 Notes for a talk: sources for “Uncle Jacob’s Ghost Story”. April 10, 1985.
- 3B.16 Book reviews, 1984-1987.
- 3B.17 Personal correspondence, 1984-1987.
- 3B.18 Reader survey, no date.
- 3B.19 German translation, 1987.

3C: *A Book dragon*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1987.

Box 13

- 3C.1 Undated partial draft.
- 3C.2 First hand-written draft.
- 3C.3 First typed draft.
- 3C.4 First submitted typescript.
- 3C.5 Revised submitted typescript.

Box 14

- 3C.6 First computer draft.
- 3C.7 Computer draft 2, corrected.
- 3C.8 Undated draft.
- 3C.9 Partial draft, with editor's notes.
- 3C.10 Galley proofs, 1987.
- 3C.11 Notes and background material, undated.
- 3C.12 Correspondence with publishers, 1985-1996.
- 3C.13 Publicity and awards, 1987-1988.
- 3C.14 General correspondence, 1984-1996.
- 3C.15 Book reviews.
- 3C.16 Scrapbook, containing reviews and publicity.

3D: *The House of the good spirits*. Toronto: Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1990.

Box 15

- 3D.1 Spiral bound notebook containing hand-written draft, labeled "Spirits I".
- 3D.2 Hardcover notebook, dated January 1990: *House of the good spirits*, continuation of CH.6. Labeled on front cover, "Spirits II".
- 3D.3 Hardcover notebook, labeled on the front cover, "Spirits III".
- 3D.4 Hardcover notebook, dated April 10, 1990, labeled on the front cover, "Spirits IV".
- 3D.5 Hardcover notebook, dated April 22, 1990, labeled on the front cover, "Spirits V".
- 3D.6 First typed draft, undated.
- 3D.7 First submitted typescript.

3D.8 Undated partial draft, with revisions.

3D.9 Undated partial draft.

Box 16

3D.10 Undated partial draft, chapters 1 to 4, with revisions.

3D.11 Undated drafts of chapters 10 and 11, revised.

3D.12 Second typescript draft, p. 1-99.

3D.13 Second typescript draft, p. 100-266.

3D.14 Second submitted typescript.

Box 17

3D.15 Draft sent to Lester & Orpen Dennys, January 17, 1990, with revisions.

3D.16 Uncorrected draft sent to LOD, April 26, 1990.

3D.17 Editor's comments, May 9, 1990, and DK's reply, July 9, 1990.

3D.18 Notes and revisions, July 9, 1990.

3D.19 Galley proofs, August 28, 1990.

3D.20 Correspondence, 1990-1995.

3D.21 Reviews, 1991.

3D.22 Correspondence with French translator and draft of translation, 1991-1993.

3E: *Dinosaur Duster*. Toronto: Lester Publishing, 1992.

Box 18

3E.1 Manuscript drafts, typed and photocopies; 2 dated 1988, 7 undated copies.

3E.2 Material relating to illustration, undated.

3E.3 Correspondence, 1987-1996.

3E.4 Reviews, 1992-1993.

3F: *A Thief among statues*. Toronto: Annick Press, 1993.

Box 19

3F.1 Notebook containing the original manuscript, 1990-1993. Also contains "The Iceberg Quartet" and "Alma's Alien" (both unpublished) and notes for "Manuel's Companions", published as *The Night voyageur*.

3F.2 Letter to editor Kathy Lowinger, with story outline and notes, 1991.

3F.3 Early drafts, before August 1991 and undated.

- 3F.4 Corrected draft, dated August 1991.
- 3F.5 September 4, 1991 draft, with note attached from David Bennett [literary agent], and his revisions.
- 3F.6 Draft of September 10, 1991, 'sent to Lester Pub'.
- 3F.7 Corrected draft, dated February 24, 1992.
- 3F.8 Corrected draft, dated March 2, 1992.
- 3F.9 Letter to editor Judy Diehl, Annick Press, with revised version, March 4, 1992.
- 3F.10 March 11, 1992 draft and pages revised March 19, 1992.
- 3F.11 March 23 and 24, 1992 drafts, with accompanying letter to editor Judy Diehl.
- 3F.12 March 24 draft, correct edition April 24-29, with new draft dated April 29 and two letters to Rick Wilks.
- 3F.13 June 8, 1992 draft, with revisions.
- 3F.14 Draft and correspondence, September 1992.
- 3F.15 Correct partial drafts, and correspondence, June 1993.
- 3F.16 Illustrations – photocopies of roughs, copies of final illustrations, and dust jacket proof.
- 3F.17 Proof and corrected galleys.
- 3F.18 Correspondence with Annick Press, 1992-1993.
- 3F.19 Reviews.

3G: *The Night Voyagers*. Toronto: Lester Publishers, 1995.

Working titles include “Manuel’s story” and Manuel’s companions”, often shortened to ‘Manuel’.

Box 20

- 3G.1 Hardcover notebook containing draft and notes, dated October 18, 1991 to January 27, 1993. Titled on the front cover, ‘Manuel I’.
- 3G.2 Hardcover notebook titled ‘Manuel II’, dated January 30, 1993.
- 3G.3 Hardcover notebook, undated, titled ‘Manuel III’.
- 3G.4 Hardcover notebook, undated, titled ‘Manuel IV’.
- 3G.5 Undated hardcover notebook, titled ‘Manuel V’.
- 3G.6 Hardcover notebook, titled ‘Manuel VI’, dated September 9, 1993.
- 3G.7 Hardcover notebook, titled ‘Manuel VII’, undated.

- 3G.8 Undated hardcover notebook, titled 'Manuel VIII'.
- 3G.9 Undated hardcover notebook, titled 'Manuel IX'.
- 3G.10 Hardcover notebook, larger format, titled 'Manuel X', dated April 3, 1994.
- 3G.11 Floppy disk containing drafts, 1993-1994, with explanatory note.
- 3G.12 Plot synopsis and early drafts, April-May, 1992.
- 3G.13 Background material (photocopies).

Box 21

- 3G.14 Revisions, 1992 and 1993.
- 3G.15 3 chapters in draft: Crossing the border (1993); The social centre (1993); Hidden images.
- 3G.16 1993 revisions.
- 3G.17 1993 revisions.
- 3G.18 1993 revisions, April to October.
- 3G.19 1993 revisions, August to December
- 3G.20 Revisions, 1993, and fax to Kathy Lowinger, September 8, 1993.

Box 22

- 3G.21 Revisions, January-February, 1994.
- 3G.22 Draft of March 1, 1994. Original file folder states "A pretty clean copy of the novel, of which the last part was subsequently cut out."
- 3G.23 Partial drafts, 1994, including May 11.
- 3G.24 Draft of July 10, 1994.
- 3G.25 Replaced pages, August 7, 1994.
- 3G.26 Revisions, August 7, 1994.
- 3G.27 Draft, November 2, 1994.

Box 23

- 3G.28 Drafts, 1993 to 1994.
- 3G.29 Partial drafts, December 21, 1993 and January 16, 1994.
- 3G.30 Draft, December 17, 1993 to February 7, 1994.
- 3G.31 Draft, May 11, 1994.
- 3G.32 Draft, June 26, 1994.

Box 24

- 3G.33 Earlier revisions for November 3, 1994 draft.
- 3G.34 Draft, November 3, 1994.
- 3G.35 Pages redone of copy edited after G[ina] Gorell's comments [1995?]
- 3G.36 Revisions of copy edited by Gina Gorell [1995?]
- 3G.37 Copy labeled 'made into proofs'.
- 3G.38 Correspondence, 1990-1996.
- 3G.39 Reviews.

3H: *Life on Mars*. Toronto: Childe Thursday, 1998.

Box 25

- 3H.1 First draft, 1985 [?]. Handwritten and typewritten sheets.
- 3H.2 Undated draft, photocopied from typescript.
- 3H.3 Undated draft on a word processor, with corrections and additions by hand.
- 3H.4 Undated draft created on a word processor, with corrections and additions.
- 3H.5 Draft, 1988, printed on a word processor and corrected, with penciled comments from an unidentified scientific colleague.
- 3H.6 Uncorrected 1988 draft.
- 3H.7 Draft dated March 17, 1988, with minor corrections.
- 3H.8 Draft of December 6, 1992, sent to Judy Diehl (Annick Press), and corrected.
- 3H.9 Revisions, December 1992.

Box 26

- 3H.10 Drafts and revisions, 1992-1993 and correspondence with Annick Press.
- 3H.11 Notes and draft, February 1993.
- 3H.12 Draft of 10 February 1993 with correspondence and editor's comments (Judy Diehl, Annick Press).
- 3H.13 Correspondence with Judy Diehl and draft, 9 November 1993.
- 3H.14 Draft of 23 November 1993.
- 3H.15 Photocopy of proof pages, 1998?
- 3H.16 Correspondence, 1983-1998.
- 3H.17 Floppy disk, WP5.1, titled "Life on Mars".

3H.18 Published book.

4.0 Unpublished books for children

Dates of creation: 1968 – 2001

Physical description: 1.3 m of textual records.

Scope and content: This series contains manuscripts and related correspondence for the ten projects written by Prof. Kushner that were never published. Like the published material, these projects were reworked and revised over long periods of time and submitted to various publishers. They are works of fiction with the exception of “The Microbe is so Very Small”, a science book intended for a juvenile audience.

Arrangement: The manuscripts have been grouped together by title and arranged in chronological order, based on the first known date. Sub-series have been created by title. Correspondence found with the manuscripts has been left with them, but many of these projects are referred to in the general correspondence files in the final series.

4A: *Food for the Grey Duck*, c.1968.

Box 27

- 4A.1 Undated fragments.
- 4A.2 2 undated early drafts, with corrections.
- 4A.3 Draft submitted for publication, 1968.

4B: *Healers of the Forest*, 1979-1981.

Box 28

- 4B.1 Early drafts and fragments in typed and handwritten form.
- 4B.2 Partial draft, typed and handwritten.
- 4B.3 Early drafts and notes.
- 4B.4 Revisions and fragments, undated.
- 4B.5 Revisions and fragments, undated.
- 4B.6 Corrected draft with notes, undated.

Box 29

- 4B.7 Draft, with synopsis dated August 21, 1981.
- 4B.8 Undated partial draft.
- 4B.9 Draft, undated, with comments by Jack Hodgins.
- 4B.10 Partial draft with outline of ending.

- 4B.11 Draft with corrections, photocopied. Undated.
- 4B.12 Notes for revisions, undated.
- 4B.13 Draft, with notes by an unidentified editor.
- 4B.14 Correspondence and background material, 1979-1980.

4C: *The Christmas Tree Watcher*, 1980-1997.

Box 30

- 4C.1 First version, handwritten draft.
- 4C.2 Early draft, photocopy of typescript.
- 4C.3 Draft of first version, with corrections.
- 4C.4 Undated, cut and paste draft of first version.
- 4C.5 Undated draft, original typescript with corrections.
- 4C.6 Undated variant draft, photocopied.
- 4C.7 Draft sent to Macmillan, September 1984.
- 4C.8 Undated draft with notes and hand-written additions.

Box 31

- 4C.9 Revised version, submitted to Macmillan, in duo-tang folder.
- 4C.10 Contents of a 3-ringed binder:
 - list of proposed revisions
 - correspondence with Pat Kennedy and Doug Gibson of Macmillan (1985)
 - handwritten notes
 - photocopy of corrected draft
 - computer print-out draft, with corrections.
- 4C.11 Draft, with 1986 letter to Macmillan.
- 4C.12 Notebook, dated January 18, 1995
- 4C.13 Partial draft, 1995, with corrections and additions.
- 4C.14 Draft with 1997 revisions.
- 4C.15 Correspondence 1981 to 1991.
- 4C.16 Background material and draft fragments.

4D: *The Cat Shop*, c.1983 - ?

Box 32

- 4D.1 Notebook with manuscript draft, undated.
- 4D.2 Early notes and fragments, undated.
- 4D.3 Early typewritten draft, with letter to Macmillan dated 1983.
- 4D.4 Early typed draft, with corrections and additions, undated.
- 4D.5 Fragments and notes, handwritten and typed, undated.
- 4D.6 Corrected draft printed from a word processor, undated.
- 4D.7 Corrected draft from word processor, undated.
- 4D.8 Corrected draft, partial.
- 4D.9 Undated fragments.
- 4D.10 Complete draft

4E: *Aunt Nan's Oubliette*, 1990's.

Box 33

- 4E.1 Notebook containing partial handwritten draft, undated.
- 4E.2 Early typewritten draft, with corrections.
- 4E.3 Variant drafts, one a submission to Macmillan's, dated April 11, 1989.
- 4E.4 1992 versions, with correspondence.
- 4E.5 Draft, September 30, 1994.
- 4E.6 New versions, 1997-1998.
- 4E.7 New version 5.1, September 4, 1998.
- 4E.8 Versions 5.6 and 5.7, 1998.
- 4E.9 Version 7.2, 1998, and revisions.

Box 34

- 4E.10 Draft of March 6, 1998, with outline.
- 4E.11 Draft with revisions, 1998.
- 4E.12 Draft of September 30, 1998.
- 4E.13 Draft, June 12, 2000.
- 4E.14 Draft, revised June 2000
- 4E.15 Correspondence with publishers, 1989-1999.
- 4E.16 Undated notebook with notes for a revision.

4F: *The Lantern Telegraph*, or *The Moose Code*, 1990's

Box 35

- 4F.1 Undated notebook containing handwritten draft.
- 4F.2 Early typewritten draft, undated.
- 4F.3 Two dated drafts, 1994.
- 4F.4 Letter, outline and partial draft, 1996.
- 4F.5 Three undated drafts.
- 4F.6 Draft submitted for publication.
- 4F.7 Letter from Red Deer College Press, 1992.

4G: *Grandmother's Fishpond*. 1992 to 1997.

Box 36

- 4G.1 Undated manuscript notes.
- 4G.2 Drafts, dated 1993 to 1995.
- 4G.3 Notebook, dated July 28, 1995, containing printed and handwritten draft.
- 4G.4 Drafts, 1996-1997.
- 4G.5 Undated drafts.
- 4G.6 Draft of March 20, 1997 (final?)
- 4G.7 Correspondence with Annick Press.

4H: *The Microbe is So Very Small*, 1994 to 1996.

Box 37

- 4H.1 Notebook with partial manuscript.
- 4H.2 Drafts of introduction, undated.
- 4H.3 Outline, correspondence, chapters I and II, and background material, 1995.
- 4H.4 Drafts of chapter II, 1994.
- 4H.5 1996 revision of draft, with correspondence.
- 4H.6 Revised, fictional introduction, with correspondence, 1996.

4I: *The Babes in the Woods*, 1996 to 1997.

Box 37

- 4I.1 Partial draft and outline, 1996-7
- 4I.2 Two drafts, 1996.

4J: *The House in the Forest*, 1999 to 2000.

Box 38

- 4J.1 Partial typewritten draft, August 4, 1999.
- 4J.2 Draft (word processor), October 29, 1999.
- 4J.3 Draft lacking first sheet, variant of 4J.2, undated.
- 4J.4 Fragments of drafts, typewriter and word processor, c.1999.
- 4J.5 Draft, September 1, 2000, with corrections and notes.

5.0 Other Material

Dates of creation: 1944 - 2001

Physical description: 45 cm of textual material

Scope and content: This series contains all other material that does not fall into the category of creative writing (with the exception of a small file of poetry). Extensive correspondence with publishers and agents, correspondence with other writers, material relating to publicity and non-fiction writing are included. Also in this series are files on the subjects of racism and human rights, areas where Prof. Kushner used his public profile to contribute talks and articles.

Arrangement: The series has been arranged in broad subject categories separated by box: Publishers, literary agents and translators; Publicity; Non-fiction writing; and Miscellaneous material.

Box 39

Publishers, literary agents and translators

- 5.1 Correspondence with publishers, 1978 - 1989.
- 5.2 Return of Macmillan submissions, 1989.
- 5.3 Correspondence with publishers, 1990 – 1991.
- 5.4 Correspondence with publishers, 1992 - 1999.
- 5.5 Proposals for retelling “The Water Babies”, 1992-1997.
- 5.6 Correspondence with Charlotte Weiss (literary agent), 1980-1984.
- 5.7 Correspondence with Claude Barreau (Russian translator), 1988.
- 5.8 Correspondence with Livingston Cooke, Inc. (literary agents), 1994-1995.
- 5.9 Correspondence with Transatlantic Literary Agency (David and Lynn Bennett), 1996-1999.

Box 40

Publicity

- 5.10 Miscellaneous correspondence, 1963-1998.
- 5.11 Dalhousie University, correspondence 1983-1984.
- 5.12 CANSCAIP, 1985, 1998.
- 5.13 Canadian Children's Literature. Correspondence and reviews written by Donn Kushner, 1987-1995.
- 5.14 Trip to the North West Territories, 1988.
- 5.15 Articles about Donn Kushner, 1989-1999.
- 5.16 Speaking engagements, school and library visits and bookfairs, 1985-1990.
- 5.17 Speaking engagements, school and library visits and bookfairs, 1991-2000.
- 5.18 Visit to Annette Public School 1993 – letters and drawings from children.
- 5.19 Paper Bag Productions. Correspondence and information, 1994.
- 5.20 Ontario Arts Council. Writers-in-the-Schools Program, 1993-1994.

Box 41

Writing: Non-fiction

- 5.21 Poetry [c.1940's - ?]
- 5.22 Fictional correspondence between Donn Kushner and F. Bierwagon, 1978 (a farcical view of science).
- 5.23 "Writing Jewish Stories". Drafts and correspondence, c.1981-1982.
- 5.24 "Writing Jewish Stories". Published version with correspondence, 1983.
- 5.25 "Can old tales be told again – and other questions". Article written as a result of a research award from the de Grummond Children's Literature Research Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi, 1997 (Ezra Jack Keats Fellowship Award). File includes research notes.
- 5.26 "A microbiologist between two cultures", c.1997. Unpublished article.
- 5.27 Draft of a review of *A Natural History: A Novel* by Keith Oatley, 1998.

Box 42

Miscellaneous material

- 5.28 Two letters written by Lilly Donn Kushner, dated 1944, regarding her son Donn Kushner, and an undated newspaper clipping regarding Florence Kushner.
- 5.29 Judith Martin. Correspondence and clippings, 1967-1983.
- 5.30 Miscellaneous photocopies and clippings, 1980-1986.
- 5.31 Florence Silverstone. Correspondence and reviews, 1983-1991.
- 5.32 Personal correspondence: Linda Press, Jane [Jacobs?], June Callwood and others, 1984-2000.
- 5.33 The Thursday Group (literary gathering), 1988.
- 5.34 Racism. Letters and clippings, 1992-1997.
- 5.35 Teresita Sagui. Correspondence, 1993-1997.
- 5.36 FILLM (Federation Internationale des Langues et Litteratures Modernes). Addresses at 1996 and 1999 International conferences.
- 5.37 Address: Canadian children's writers and human rights, at Canada and Central Europe at the threshold of the 21st century conference, Hungary, 1999.
- 5.38 Symposium, Children's Literature Research Unit, UNISA. South Africa, 2000.

Books Donated to The Osborne Collection by Donn Kushner:

- Berry, James. *A Thief in the village, and other stories*. London: Puffin Books, 1989.
- Daly, Niki. *The Little girl who lived down the road*. London: Collins, 1978.
- Davidson, H.G. *Peter Lawson, Wolf-cub, or The Mystery of Redcroft Farm*. London: Children's Companion Office, n.d. [c.1927].
- Davies, Desmond. *Theatre for young people*. Don Mills: Musson, 1981.
- Fox, John, Jr. *The Trail of the lonesome pine*. New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1908.
- Fox, John, Jr. *The Trail of the lonesome pine*. New York: Scribner's, 1913.
- Fox, John, Jr. *A Mountain Europe; A Cumberland vendetta; The Last Stetson*. New York: Scribner's, 1913.
- Greene, Mrs. *The Star in the Dust-heap*. London: Frederick Warne, n.d.

- Kushner, Donn. *Dar Lutkina*. Translated by Piotr Kuhniewicz. Warsaw: Nasza Księgarnia, 1987.
- Kushner, Donn. *A Thief among statues*. Toronto: Annick Press, 1993.
- LeBel, Louise. *Histoires a reinventer*. Toronto: Les editions Gage, 1980. Inscribed by the author.
- McArthur, Peter. *In Pastures Green*. Toronto: J.M. Dent, 1948.
- McClintock, R.N. *A Narrative of the discovery of the fate of Sir John Franklin and his companions*. Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1860.
- Smirnoff, Wladimir A. *A Strange tale of pals, bugs and bacteria*. San Diego: Sandoz Inc., 1982.
- Wilson, John Francis. *The Migration of Skivins*. Toronto: R.B.Bond, 1962.