Collection Summary
Title: Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov Papers
Span Dates: 1918-1974
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1925-1965)
ID No.: MSS34082
Creator: Nabokov, Vladimir Vladimirovich, 1899-1977
Extent: 7,000 items ; 22 containers plus 1 oversize ; 8.4 linear feet ; 13 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in English and Russian, with French and German
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Poet, novelist, literary critic, lecturer, and translator. Correspondence and notes with holograph and typescript drafts, galley proofs, page proofs, and printed versions of biographies, book reviews, essays, interviews, memoirs, novellas, novels, plays, poems, short stories, and translations of works by others.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Aldanov, Mark Aleksandrovich, 1886-1957--Correspondence.
Akhrenval'd, I. I. (Iulii Isaevich), 1872-1928--Correspondence.
Banks, Nathan, 1868--Correspondence.
Baty, Gaston--Correspondence.
Berberova, Nina Nikolaevna--Correspondence.
Berdiaev, Nikolaĭ, 1874-1948--Correspondence.
Bunin, Ivan Alekseevich, 1870-1953--Correspondence.
Jannelli, Altgracía de--Correspondence.
Khodasevich, V. F. (Vladislav Felitsianovich), 1886-1939--Correspondence.
Lukash, Ivan, 1892-1940--Correspondence.
Maklakov, V. A. (Vasiliĭ Alekseevich), 1870-1957--Correspondence.
Michener, Charles Duncan, 1918--Correspondence.
Nabokov, Vladimir Vladimirovich, 1899-1977. Tragediiâ gospodina Morna
Pertzoff, Peter Alexander--Correspondence.
Priel, Jarl--Correspondence.
Rapchinskiï, Boris, 1887--Correspondence.
Rudnev, V. V.--Correspondence.
Schakovskoy, Zinaïda, princesse, 1906-2001--Correspondence.
Struve, Gleb--Correspondence.
Zenzinov, V. (Vladimir), 1880-1953--Correspondence.

Subjects
Literature.
Motion picture plays.
Poetry.

Titles
Novoe russkoe slovo.
Petropolis.
Poslednie novosti.
Russki zapiski.
Sovremennye zapiski.

Occupations
Authors.
Critics.
Lecturers.
Translators.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov, poet, novelist, literary critic, lecturer, and translator, were donated to the Library of Congress by Nabokov from 1958 through 1965. Additions were acquired by purchase in 1971 and 1991 and by gifts from Peter Pertzoff in 1964 and Jay Wilson in 1991.

Processing History
The papers of Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov were arranged and described in 1969. They were reorganized in 2000 when additional material was integrated into the collection, with further processing and description completed in 2003. The collection was prepared for microfilming in 2007, and the finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status
Copyright in the unpublished writings of Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov in these papers has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions
The papers of Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm
A microfilm edition of these papers is available on thirteen reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
## Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1899, Apr. 22</td>
<td>Born, St. Petersburg, Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919-1922</td>
<td>Resided in England following the Russian Revolution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1922         | B.A. in French and Russian literature, Trinity College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England  
               | Vladimir Dmitrievich Nabokov (father) assassinated                    |
| 1922-1937    | Maintained residence primarily in Berlin, Germany                     |
| 1925         | Married Véra Evseyevna Slonim                                         |
| 1926         | Published *Mashen'ka (Mary)*. Berlin: Slovo                           |
| 1928         | Published *Korol', dama, valet (King, Queen, Knave)*. Berlin: Slovo    |
| 1930         | Published *Zashchita Luzhina (The Defense)*. Berlin: Slovo             |
| 1932         | Published *Otchaianie (Despair)*. Berlin: Petropolis                  |
| 1933         | Published *Podvig (Glory)*. Paris: Sovremennyia zapiski                |
| 1934         | Dimitri Vladimirovich Nabokov (son) born                               |
| 1937-1940    | Maintained residence primarily in Paris, France                       |
| 1937         | Published *Dar (The Gift)* serially in *Sovremennyie zapiski*, Paris, France |
| 1938         | Published *Sobytie (The Event)* serially in *Russkie zapiski*, Paris, France  
               | Published *Izobretenie Val'sa (The Waltz Invention)* serially in *Russkie zapiski*, Paris, France  
               | Published *Priglashenie na kaz'n (Invitation to a Beheading)*. Paris: Dom Knigi |
| 1940         | Emigrated to United States with wife, who was of Jewish ancestry, and son to escape Nazi persecution |
| 1941         | Published *The Real Life of Sebastian Knight*. Norfolk, Conn.: New Directions |
| 1944         | Published *Nikolai Gogol*. Norfolk, Conn.: New Directions             |
| 1945         | Granted United States citizenship                                     |
| 1947         | Published *Bend Sinister*. New York: H. Holt                           |
| 1948-1958    | Professor of Russian and European literature, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. |
1952  Published *Dar (The Gift)*. New York: Chekhova


1957  Published *Pnin*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday

1958-1977  Maintained residence primarily in Montreux, Switzerland

1960  Published *The Song of Igor's Campaign*. New York: Vintage Books

1962  Published *Pale Fire*. New York: Putnam

1964  Published *Eugene Onegin*. New York: Pantheon Books


1977, July 2  Died, Montreux, Switzerland

**Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov (1899-1977) span the years from 1918 to 1974, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period between 1925 and 1965. Focusing on Nabokov's work as a poet, novelist, literary critic, lecturer, and translator, the collection consists of the following series: **Correspondence**, **Writings**, **Miscellany**, an **Addition**, and **Oversize** containing holograph and typescript drafts, galley proofs, page proofs, and printed versions of biographies in addition to book reviews, essays, interviews, memoirs, novellas, novels, plays, poems, short stories, translations of works by others, and related material. The bulk of the collection is written in Russian and English. In most instances, titles of Nabokov's works are based on English translations of Russian citations appearing in Michael Juliar's *Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography*. There are also small amounts of material in French and German. Additional Nabokov papers are in the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature at the New York Public Library.

The **Correspondence** series is arranged as letters received and sent. Although small in quantity, it contains letters from prominent figures in Russian literature and culture including IU. I. Aikhenval'd, Mark Aleksandrovich Aldanov, Nina Nikolaevna Berberova, Nikolai Berdiaev, Ivan Alekseevich Bunin, Ivan Lukash, V. A. Maklakov, V. F. Khodasevich, Boris Rapchinskii, V. V. Rudnev, and V. Zenzinov. Various Russian-language emigré publishers and publications are also represented in the series, such as Petropolis, *Novoe russkoe slovo*, *Poslednie novosti*, *Russki zapiski*, and *Sovremennye zapiski*. Subjects include publication deadlines, copyright issues, and author's fees, as well as Nabokov's interest in butterflies. The letters of Gaston Baty and Jarl Priel discuss the performance possibilities of Nabokov's play *Catastrophe*, the French translation of *Sobytie*. Other correspondents include Peter Pertzoff, translator of works by Nabokov; Altagracia de Jannelli, Nabokov's literary agent in the United States; and lepidopterists Nathan Banks and Charles Duncan Michener.

The **Writings** series constitutes the largest portion of the collection. The bulk of the series consists of material relating to works of nonfiction, translations of works by others, and novels and reflects both the Russian and English language periods of the author. It was as a writer in English following his move to the United States in 1940 that Nabokov began to achieve serious recognition as a novelist. His writings were banned in the Soviet Union until the 1970s. Nabokov's first of several book-length autobiographies, *Conclusive Evidence: A Memoir*, is documented in files by that name. He regarded the process of translation as a serious literary endeavor, frequently quoting Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin's phrase: “Translators are the post horses of enlightenment.” While in America, Nabokov began to translate many of his earlier writings into English and, at times, made extensive revisions to the original text. Such is the case with *Drugie berega*, the Russian-language edition of *Eugene Onegin*, include material in which Nabokov reflected upon the translation process. The file also includes
copious explanatory notes, extensive commentaries positioning the narrative within the context of European society during Pushkin's time, comments on the work's significance in Russian literature, remarks upon previous translations by others, and two lengthy appendices and an index. Additional material relating to Eugene Onegin is present in the Bollingen Foundation Records in the Manuscript Division. The series also contains files on Nabokov's translation of the anonymous Russian epic, The Song of Igor's Campaign.

Nabokov's considerable output of novels is documented in the Writings series. Titles representing his Russian period include Dar (The Gift), Marshen'ka (Mary), Otchaianie (Despair), Podvig (Glory), Priglashenie na kazn' (Invitation to a Beheading), and Zashchita Luzhina (The Defense). Those representing his American period include Bend Sinister, Lolita, Pale Fire, and The Real Life of Sebastian Knight. The Writings series also contains material relating to a number of plays written in Russian by Nabokov during his early years. These include Izobretenie Val'sa (The Waltz Invention), Polius (The Pole), Sobytie (The Event), and an unpublished work, “Tragediia Gospodina Morna” (“The Tragedy of Mr. Morn”). A sizeable amount of material documents the author's film adaptation of his novel Lolita entitled Lolita: A Screenplay.


Miscellaneous items in the Writings series include short works such as book reviews, classroom teaching material, and essays. Many of the poems and short stories in the collection are signed “V. Sirin,” a pseudonym frequently used by Nabokov in Berlin and Paris during the 1920s and 1930s.

Scattered throughout the collection are notes and drafts written on 4” x 6” cards. Files documenting the writings Pale Fire, Lolita: A Screenplay, and “The Vane Sisters” consist entirely of these cards.

The Miscellany series includes a transcript of a radio interview with Nabokov. An addition to the collection contains letters from Nabokov to Princess Zinaïda Schakovskoy and Gleb Struve. Oversize material consists of Nabokov’s diploma from the University of Cambridge and passports and related material removed from the Miscellany series.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in five series:

- Correspondence, 1923-1952
- Writings, 1918-1964
- Miscellany, 1919-1942
- Addition, 1923-1974
- Oversize, 1919-1922
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1923-1952</td>
<td>Letters received and sent. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent, organization, or subject and chronologically therein.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-21</td>
<td>Writings, 1918-1964</td>
<td>Drafts, proofs, and printed versions of biographies, book reviews, essays, memoirs, novellas, novels, plays, poems, short stories, and translations of works by others as well as correspondence and notes. Arranged alphabetically by type of writing, title, and type of material.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 21</td>
<td>Miscellany, 1919-1942</td>
<td>A diploma, drawing, interview, and passports and related material. Arranged alphabetically by name of organization or type of material and chronologically therein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 22</td>
<td>Addition, 1923-1974</td>
<td>Letters received and sent. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Oversize, 1919-1922</td>
<td>A diploma, passports, and related material. Arranged and described according to the series and container from which the material was removed.</td>
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<td>Container</td>
<td>Contents</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1923-1952</td>
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<td>REEL 1</td>
<td>Letters received and sent.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent, organization, or subject and chronologically therein.</td>
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**BOX 1**

**REEL 1**

Letters received

A. M. Heath & Co., 1935-1936
Aikhenval’d, I. U., 1926, undated
Aldanov, Mark Aleksandrovich, 1934-1938
Banks, Nathan, 1942
Baty, Gaston, 1938
Berberova, Nina Nikolaevna, 1931-1939
Berdiaev, Nikolai, 1939
Bertensson, Sergei, 1938
Bunin, Ivan Alekseevich, 1938-1939
Chambers, D. L., 1939
Crémieux, Benjamin, 1939
Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 1942
Donich, Rostislav, 1939
du Dy, Mélot, 1937
East and West Association, 1942
Fondaminskii, II’ia, and Ant. Fridmann [?], 1933
Gessen, G., 1938
Gessen, I. V., 1938
Goudy, Alexander Porter, 1939
Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1942-1951
Hirschberg, Bernhard, 1925
Holger Schildt’s Förlagsaktiebolag, 1936
Iablokova [?], Tat’iana, 1938-1939
Institute of International Education, New York, N.Y., 1942
Jannelli, Altagracia de, 1935-1942
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 1943, 1952
Kaun, Alexander, 1936
Khodasevich, V. F., 1937-1938
Kovarskii, I., 1935-1936
Laval, Karin de, 1937
Library of Congress, 1937
Lukash, Ivan, 1925-1926
Malozemova, E., 1938
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<td>Mann, Klaus, 1941</td>
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<td>Marinell, Elizabeth, 1940-1942</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michener, Charles Duncan, 1942</td>
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<td>New Yorker, circa 1940s</td>
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<td>Osorgen, Mikhail, 1933</td>
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<td>Petropolis, publishers, 1934-1938</td>
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<td>Pravdin, V., 1937</td>
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<td>Priel, Jarl, 1938</td>
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<td>Prismanova, Anna, undated</td>
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<td>Rachmaninoff, Sergei, 1938</td>
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<td>Rapchinskii, Boris, 1936</td>
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<td>Rosov, Samuil, 1936</td>
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<td>Rostovtzeff, Michael Ivanovich, 1939</td>
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<td>Rudnev, V. V. See same container and reel, Letters received, Sovremennye zapiski</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Russkie zapiski, 1938-1939</td>
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<td>Shakovskoi, Ioann, circa 1925, 1933</td>
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<td>Slonim, Marc, 1935</td>
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<td>Smeding, H. J., 1939</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sorokin, P. A., 1939</td>
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<td>Sovremennye zapiski, 1937</td>
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<td>Tolstoy, Alexandra, 1938</td>
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<td>Ullstein GmbH, 1935</td>
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<td>University of Leeds, Leeds, England, 1939</td>
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<td>Unkovskii, V., 1938</td>
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<td>Wereldbibliotheek-Vereening, 1939</td>
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<td>Zelenskii, Filip, 1923</td>
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<td>Zenzinov, V., 1935-1938</td>
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<td>Unidentified, 1939-1942, undated</td>
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**Letters sent**

|           | Fondaminskii, Il'ia See same container and reel, Letters sent, Sovremennye zapiski |
|           | Klement, Otto, 1935 |
|           | Kortner, Fritz, 1937 |
|           | Life, 1943 |
|           | Maklakov, V. A., 1938 |
|           | Nikolajević, N., 1933 |
|           | Novoe russkoe slovo, 1941 |
|           | Pavlovski, M., 1937 |
|           | Pertzoff, Peter, 1933-1944, undated |
|           | Poslednie novosti, 1937 |
|           | Rudnev, V. V. See same container and reel, Letters sent, Sovremennye zapiski |
|           | Rydelius, Ellen Victoria, 1937 |
|           | Sovremennye zapiski, 1937 |
|           | Tatarinov, Raisa |
|           | Vremea, publishers, 1939 |
|           | Zenzinov, V. See same container and reel, Letters sent, Sovremennye zapiski |
**Writings, 1918-1964**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REEL 1-13</td>
<td>Drafts, proofs, and printed versions of biographies, book reviews, essays, memoirs, novellas, novels, plays, poems, short stories, and translations of works by others as well as correspondence and notes. Arranged alphabetically by type of writing, title, and type of material.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOX 1**

**Fiction**

**REEL 1**

**Novels**

* Bend Sinister*  
Book review by A. Nazaroff, broadcast on “Voice of America” radio, transcript in Russian, 1947  
Draft in English, undated  
(2 folders)

**BOX 2**

**REEL 2**

* Dar (The Gift)*  
Drafts in Russian, undated  
Chapters 1 and 4  
(3 folders)  
Fragments  
Unpublished chapter drafts  
(2 folders)  
Printed version in *Sovremennye zapiski* in Russian, 1937-1938  
(2 folders)  
*Kamera obskura (Camera Obscura, 1936, and Laughter in the Dark, 1938)*, draft fragment in Russian, 1931  
*Korolʹ, dama, valet (King, Queen, Knave)*, draft fragment in Russian, undated  
*Lolita*, notes in English on 4”x 6” cards, 1950-1955  
*See also Containers 10-12, Reels 8-9.*

*Lolita: A Screenplay*  
(6 folders)

**BOX 3**

**REEL 3**

* Mashen'ka (Mary)*, draft in Russian, circa 1925  
(2 folders)  
*Otchaianie (Despair)*, draft in Russian, 1932  
*Pale Fire*, draft in English on 4”x 6” cards, 1957-1961, undated  
(17 folders)

**BOX 4**

**REEL 4**

**BOX 5**

**REEL 5**

* Pnin*, notes in English, undated  
*Podvig (Glory)*, draft in Russian, 1930  
(2 folders)  
*Priglashenie na kaznʹ (Invitation to a Beheading)*  
English edition, 1959  
Draft  
(5 folders)
BOX 7  
REEL 6

(1 folder)

Galley proofs
(3 folders)
Setting copy
(5 folders)
French edition, preface, page proofs, undated
Russian edition, draft, undated
(2 folders)

*The Real Life of Sebastian Knight*
English edition, draft, circa 1941
French edition, corrections to translation, undated

*Zashchita Luzhina (The Defense)*
English edition, draft, undated
(2 folders)

BOX 8  
REEL 7

Russian edition, draft fragments, undated

Short stories and novellas
“The Assistant Producer,” 1943
Draft in English
Notes in English on 4” x 6” cards
“Britva” (“The Razor”), drafts in Russian, undated
(2 folders)
“The Double Monster,” draft in English, 1950
“Double Talk,” draft in English, undated
“Govoriat po russki” (“They Speak Russian”), drafts in Russian, undated
(2 folders)
“Korolek” (“The Leonardo”), printed version in *Poslednie novosti* in Russian, 1933
“Lik”
Draft in Russian, 1938
Printed version in *Russkie zapiski* in Russian, 1938
“Mademoiselle O,” drafts in English, undated
(2 folders)

*Nabokov’s Dozen* See Container 10, Reel 8, same heading

“Nabor” (“Recruitment”)  
Draft in Russian, undated  
Printed version in *Poslednie novosti* in Russian, 1935

“Natasha,” draft in Russian, 1927
“Obida” (“A Bad Day”), draft in Russian, 1931
“Ograda” [“Muzyka”] (“Music”), draft in Russian, undated
“Ozero, oblako, bashnia” (“Cloud, Castle, Lake”)
Draft in Russian, 1937
Printed version in *Sovremennye zapiski* in Russian, 1937
Translations
English
By Nabokov, “Song” from “Cloud, Castle, Lake,” new version, draft in Nabokov’s hand, undated

By Peter Pertzoff, drafts, undated
Revised by Nabokov
With notes in Véra Nabokov’s hand

French (“Mirage”), draft, undated

“Passazhir” (“The Passenger”), draft in Russian, 1927
“Pil’gram” (“The Aurelian”)
Drafts in Russian (working title “Palomnik”), 1930
(2 folders)
Printed version in Russian with Nabokov’s notes in English for English translation, undated

“Pis’ino v Rossiyu” (“A Letter That Never Reached Russia”), draft in Russian, undated
[Po utram, esli solntse priglashalo menia...], draft fragment in Russian, undated

“Podlets” (“An Affair of Honor”), draft in Russian, 1927

“Poseshchenie muzeia” (“The Visit to the Museum”), printed version in Sovremennye zapiski in Russian, 1939

“Rozhdestvenskii rasskas” (“A Christmas Story”), draft in Russian, undated

“Sluchay iz zhizni” (“A Slice of Life”), draft in Russian, undated

“That in Aleppo Once...,” draft in English, undated

“Tiazhelyi dym” (“Torpid Smoke”), printed version in Poslednie novosti in Russian, 1935

“The Vane Sisters,” draft in English on 4” x 6” cards, undated
(4 folders)

“Vesna v Fial’tse” (“Spring in Fialta”)
Draft in Russian, 1936

English translation by Peter Pertzoff, draft revised by Nabokov in English, undated

“Zaniatoy chelovek” (“A Busy Man”), drafts in Russian, undated
(2 folders)

Nonfiction

Biography

Nikolai Gogol, corrections to translation, French edition, undated

Memoir

Conclusive Evidence: A Memoir

English edition
Foreword (not used), drafts, undated
(2 folders)
Chapter 1
Draft, undated
Galley proof corrections on 4” x 6” cards, undated
Notes, undated
Chapter 2, draft, 1949
Chapters 3, 8, 10-12, drafts, undated
(7 folders)
Chapter 15
Drafts, undated
(4 folders)
Galley proof corrections, undated

Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov Papers 12
Chapter 16 (not used), disguised as anonymous review of *Conclusive Evidence*, draft, undated
  General notes, undated
    (3 folders)
  Unidentified draft fragments, undated
Russian edition, *Drugie berega*, based upon translation of *Conclusive Evidence* into Russian by Nabokov
  Foreword, draft, undated
  Chapters 1-3, 7, drafts, undated
    (4 folders)
BOX 10
  Chapters 10, 12, 14, drafts, undated
    (3 folders)

Miscellaneous short writings
Book reviews by Nabokov
  Bellon, Hilaire, unidentified, draft in English, undated
  Bryant, Arthur, *Pageant of England (1840-1940)*, draft in English, undated
  Lifar, Serge, *Serge Diaghilev*, draft in English, circa 1940
  Masefield, John, *Basilissa*, draft in English, undated
  Maximoff, G. P., *The Guillotine at Work*, drafts in English, undated
    (2 folders)
  Rothenstein, John, *Life and Death of Conder*, draft in English, undated
  Rustaveli, Shota, *The Knight in the Tiger's Skin*, draft in English, undated
  Williams, Frayne, *Mr. Shakespeare of the Globe*, draft in English, undated

Classroom teaching material
  Creative writing course
    Lecture notes on short stories, draft in English, undated
    Lecture notes on style, draft in English, undated
  Exam questions, draft in English, undated

Essays
  “Opredeleniia” (“Definitions”), draft in Russian, 1940
  “Vozzvanie o pomoshchi” (“Call for Help”), draft in Russian, undated
  “Le vrai et le vraisemblable” (“Truth and Apparent Truth”), draft in French, 1937

Interview with Nabokov See Container 21, Reel 13, same heading

Letter to the editor (“Pis’mo v redaktsiiu”), printed version in *Novoe russkoe slovo* in Russian, undated

Musical performance program note, ‘‘The Return of Pushkin,’ Elegy in Three Parts, for High Voice and Orchestra by Nicholai Nabokov,’’ with Vladimir Nabokov's translation of Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin’s ‘‘Vnov' ia posetil...’’ galley proofs in English, 1964

*Nabokov's Dozen*, bibliographic note in English, undated

Notebook, “Stikhi i skhemy” (“Poems and Schemes”), poems, notes, and schematizations regarding chess, in Russian, 1918
Poetry reading, “Recital in New York (with Poems) in the Early Fifties,” introductory remarks, drafts in Russian, circa 1950s. See also Container 12, Reel 9, “K kn. S. M. Kachurinu” (“To Prince S. M. Kachurin”) (2 folders)

Plays and film script

Izobretenie Val’sa (The Waltz Invention), draft in Russian, undated

Lolita: A Screenplay. See also Container 2, Reel 2, Lolita

Draft in English on 4” x 6” cards, undated

(12 folders)

Draft fragments in English on 4” x 6” cards, undated

Prologue

(5 folders)

Act 1

(6 folders)

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Act 2

(5 folders)

Second draft

(5 folders)

Unidentified draft

(5 folders)

Polius (The Pole), German translation (Der Pol), draft, 1923

Sobytie (The Event), French translation (Catastrophe), draft, undated

“Tragediia Gospodina Morna” (“The Tragedy of Mr. Morn”) Drafts in Russian, undated

(3 folders)

Narrative description in Russian, undated

Plot synopsis in Russian, undated

POEMS

“The Ballad of Longwood Glen,” draft in English, 1953-1957

“Berlinskaia vesna” (“Berlin Spring”), poem in two parts: for part one see Container 13, Reel 9, “Perina”; for part two see Container 13, Reel 9, “Pochtovyi iashchik”

“Bezumets” (“The Madman”), draft in Russian, circa 1933

“La Bonne Lorraine,” draft in Russian, circa 1924

“Chto za noch s pamiat ’iu sluchilos ??” (“What Happened Overnight to Memory?”), draft in Russian, circa 1938

“Dandelions,” draft in English, undated

“Dream,” draft in English, circa 1946

“Farewell Party,” draft in English, 1941

“Formula” (“The Formula”), draft in Russian, circa 1931

“Gadan ’e” (“Fortune Telling”), draft in Russian, 1924

“Iskusstvo i groza” (“Art and Disaster”), draft in Russian, undated

“Iz Kalmbrudovoi poemy ‘Nochnoe Puteshestvie,’” draft of supposed Russian translation by Nabokov of “The Night Journey” by Vivian Calmbrood (a fictional character created by Nabokov), circa 1931

“K dushe” See Container 13, Reel 9, “V raiu”

“K rodine” (“To My Native Land”), draft in Russian, circa 1942

“K Rossii” (“To Russia”), photocopies of drafts in Russian, circa 1928

(2 folders)

“Kakie bolʹshia shliapy” (“What big hats”), photocopy of draft in Russian, circa 1929

“Kakim by polotnom” (“No Matter How”), drafts in Russian, circa 1944

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“Lastochka” (“The Swallow”), from the novel Dar, drafts in Russian, 1936, undated

(2 folders)

“A Literary Dinner” (working title “Diner Littéraire”), draft in English, 1942

“The Monkey”

Biographical note on V. F. Khodasevich, photocopies of drafts in English, circa 1941

(2 folders)

Draft of translation into English by Nabokov of “Obezʹiana” by V. F. Khodasevich, circa 1941

“Mr. N. on Russian Poetry,” drafts in English, 1944

(2 folders)

“My s toboiu tak verili v sviazʹ bytiia” (“We so firmly believed in the linkage of life”), draft in Russian, circa 1928

“Na zakate” (“At Sunset”), drafts in Russian, circa 1935, circa 1941

(3 folders)

“Nepravilʹ nye iamby” (“Irregular Iambics”), draft in Russian, in part photocopies, 1952, undated

(2 folders)

“Nerodivshemusia chitateliu” (“To an Unborn Reader”), draft in Russian, circa 1930

“Oblaka” (“Clouds”), draft in Russian, undated

“Obrashchenie” (“The Appeal”; working title “K otchizne”), drafts in Russian, 1939

(2 folders)

“Ode to a Model,” draft in English, 1955

“Okno” (“The Window”), draft in Russian, circa 1930

“Osa” (“The Wasp”) (working title “Muka”), draft in Russian, 1928

“Ostrova” (“The Islands”), draft in Russian, circa 1928

“Ot schastiia vliublennomu ne spitsia” (“For Happiness the Lover Cannot Sleep”), drafts in Russian, 1928

(2 folders)

“Perina” (“Feather Bed”), also known as part one of “Berlinskaia vesna” (“Berlin Spring”), draft in Russian, undated

“Pervaia liubovʹ” (“First Love”), draft in Russian, circa 1930

“P ʹianyi korablʹ” (“The Drunken Ship”), draft of translation into Russian by Nabokov of “Le bateau ivre” by Arthur Rimbaud, circa 1928

(2 folders)

“Pochtovyi iashchik” (“The Mailbox”), also known as part two of “Berlinskaia vesna” (“Berlin Spring”), draft in Russian, 1925

“The Poem,” draft in English, circa 1944

“Poety” (“The Poets”), draft in Russian, undated
“Predstavlenie” ("The Presentation"), drafts in Russian, 1930, undated
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“Probuzhdenie” ("The Awakening"), draft in Russian, circa 1931
“Prokhozhii s elkoi" ("A Passer-by with a Christmas Tree"), draft in Russian, 1925
“Provans” ("Provence"), poem in two parts, part one (first line “Slonioius ’ pereulkami bez tseli"), draft in Russian, 1923
“Pustiak – nazvan ‘e machty, plan – i sledom” ("A trifle, the name of a mast, a plan"), draft in Russian, 1926
“Rain," draft in English, 1955
“Rasstrel” ("The Execution"), draft in Russian, circa 1927
“The Room,” draft in English, circa 1950
“Rusalka – Zakluchitel ‘naia tsena k pushkinskoi ‘Rusalke’” ("The Water Nymph – A Concluding Scene to Pushkin’s ’Rusalka’"), draft in Russian, circa 1942
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“Sam treugol ’nyi dvukrylyi, beznogii” ("He was triangular, two-winged, and legless"), draft in Russian, 1932
“Shakhmatnyi kon’” ("The Chess Knight"), drafts in Russian, 1927, 1930
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“Siren” ("Lilac"), draft in Russian, 1928
“Smert” ("Death"), draft in Russian, 1924
“Sneg” ("Snow"), drafts in Russian, circa 1930
(2 folders)
“Snimok” ("The Snapshot"), draft in Russian, 1927
“Snoviden ‘e" ("A Vision in a Dream"), drafts in Russian, 1927
(2 folders)
“Son” ("The Dream"), photocopy of draft in Russian, 1939
“Speaking of Bugs,” draft in English, undated
“Stansy” ("Stanzas"), draft in Russian, 1924
“Stansy o kone” ("Stanzas on a Horse") (working title “Stansy o loshadi"), draft in Russian, circa 1929
“Tol ’ko pomniu kholodnost’ vashu” ("I Only Remember Your Coldness"), draft in Russian, undated
“V raiu” ("In Paradise"), draft in Russian, 1928
“Vesna” ("Spring"), draft in Russian, 1925
“Voluptates Tactionum,” draft in English, circa 1951
“Vozdushnyi ostrov” ("Aerial Island"), draft in Russian, circa 1929
“A War Poem," draft in English, 1942
Translations
Eugene Onegin, translation of novel in verse by Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin
Correspondence with publisher
Correspondence, 1959-1963, undated
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Enclosures separated from original documents
Corrections, undated
Draft material, 1959-1963, undated See also Container 18, Reel 12, Vol. III, commentaries
(2 folders)
Miscellaneous, undated
Queries
  Appendices, undated
  Commentary, 1959-1961, undated
    (1 folder)
  (2 folders)

BOX 14
REEL 10
  Discrepancies, undated
  Front matter, 1962
  Russian transliterations, undated
  Text translations, undated

Draft A
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  Foreword, 1958
  Method of transliteration and calendar, 1958
  Translation, 1960
    (10 folders)
  Translator's introduction, 1958
    (3 folders)

BOX 15
  Vol. II, commentaries, 1958
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BOX 16
REEL 11
  Vol. III
    Commentaries, 1958
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BOX 17
  Appendices, 1958, undated
    (5 folders)

Draft B, undated
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  Table of contents, list of illustrations, and translator's mottoes
  Translator's introduction
    (4 folders)

BOX 18
  Vol. II, commentaries
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REEL 12
  Vol. III, commentaries See also Container 13, Reel 9, Enclosures, Draft material
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BOX 19
  (4 folders)
  Draft D, vol. I, translation on 4" x 6" cards, undated
  Draft E, vol. I, translation, undated
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  Galley proofs, corrected
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Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov Papers 18
Addition, 1923-1974

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**REEL 13**

Letters received and sent.  
Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.

**BOX 22**

Correspondence

(3 folders)

Struve, Gleb, 1925-1939, 1946-1974, undated  
(5 folders)

Wilson, Jay, 1972

**BOX OV 1**

Oversize, 1919-1922

A diploma, passports, and related material.  
Arranged and described according to the series and container from which the material was removed.

**BOX OV 1**

Miscellany

Passports and related material, 1919-1921 (Container 21, Reel 13)

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England, diploma, 1922 (Container 21, Reel 13)