

Clifton Fadiman Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81020156>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012071>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2013

Collection Summary

Title: Clifton Fadiman Papers

Span Dates: 1952-1964

ID No.: MSS20156

Creator: Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999

Extent: 400 items

Extent: 21 containers

Extent: 8.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81020156>

Summary: Translator, anthologist, author, and radio and TV entertainer. Drafts and proofs of books and articles by Fadiman and correspondence with his publishers and brother, Edwin Fadiman, also an author.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999, American treasury, 1455-1955. 1955.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999, Dionysus; a case of vintage tales about wine. 1962.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999, Fifty years; being a retrospective collection of novels, novellas, tales, drama, poetry, and reportage and essays ... 1965.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999, Mathematical magpie; being more stories, mainly transcendental, plus subsets of essays, rhymes, music, anecdotes, epigrams and other prime oddments and diversions, rational or irrational, all derived from the infinite domain of mathematics. 1962.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Any number can play. 1957.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Enter, conversing. 1962.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Lifetime reading plan. 1960.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Party of one: the selected writings of Clifton Fadiman. 1955.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Party of twenty: informal essays from Holiday Magazine. 1963.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904-1999. Wally the Wordworm. 1964.

Fadiman, Edwin--Correspondence.

Subjects

American essays--20th century.

American literature.

Best books.

Books and reading.

English essays--20th century.

Literature, Modern--20th century.

Literature--Collections.

Literature--History and criticism.

Literature.

Mathematics--Literary collections.

Short stories, American.

Vocabulary--Fiction.

Wine and wine making--Fiction.

Occupations

Anthologists.

Authors.

Entertainers.
Translators.

Provenance

The papers of Clifton Fadiman, translator, anthologist, author, and radio and TV entertainer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by Fadiman via his brother, Edwin Fadiman, 1964-1966.

Processing History

The Fadiman were processed in 1965 and expanded in 1966. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Clifton Fadiman is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Clifton Fadiman 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Clifton Fadiman Papers Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1904, May 15	Born, Brooklyn, N. Y.
1925	A.B. Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1929-1935	Editor, Simon and Schuster
1933-1943	Book review editor, <i>New Yorker</i>
1938-1948	Master of ceremonies for the radio program "Information Please"
1944	Became member of editorial board, Book-of-the-Month Club
1951	Regular essayist for <i>Holiday</i> magazine
1954-1957	Master of ceremonies for radio program <i>Conversation</i>
1959-	Became member of board of editors, <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i>
1984-1985	Published <i>The World Treasury of Children's Literature</i> . Boston: Little, Brown
1999, June 20	Died, Sanibel Island, Florida

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Clifton Paul Fadiman (1904-1999) span the years 1952-1964 and consist primarily of manuscripts and other papers relating to his books, including *The American Treasury*, 1455-1955; *Any Number Can Play*; *Dionysus*; *Enter*; *Conversing*; *The Lifetime Reading Plan*; *Fifty Years*; *The Mathematical Magpie*; *Party of One*; *Party of Twenty*; and *Wally the Wordworm*. Also in the collection are drafts and shooting scripts for a film about Huckleberry Finn

as well as manuscripts of unpublished writings. Material related to individual books varies from a few pages to full documentation including correspondence, handwritten and typewritten drafts, final manuscripts, and galley proofs. The amount of correspondence is greatest for *The American Treasury, 1455-1955*; *Enter*; *Conversing*; and *Wally the Wordworm*.

The collection also includes papers related to magazine columns and book reviews, unpublished essays, other film material, and educational series produced by Fadiman.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by title of writing or type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-2	<i>Dionysus</i> (1962), illustrations; handwritten drafts of introductions to the selections; manuscript; some plate proofs and instructions to the printer; galley proofs
BOX 3-4	<i>Enter, Conversing</i> (1962), correspondence arranged chronologically (including photocopies of correspondence between Jerome Fried, managing editor of World Publishing Co. and Georgie Starbuck Galbraith concerning permission to use her poem "The Product"); manuscript; a few miscellaneous papers; galley proofs
BOX 5-6	<i>The Lifetime Reading Plan</i> (1960), typescript of early draft of the bibliography; manuscript (typewritten with corrections); galley proofs
BOX 7	<i>The Mathematical Magpie</i> (1962), manuscript
BOX 8	<i>Party of Twenty</i> (1963), handwritten and typed drafts of the biographical sketches; correspondence (two letters); handwritten and typed drafts of the introduction; manuscript; photocopies of articles from <i>Holiday</i> which were included
BOX 9	Other papers arranged alphabetically by title or form
BOX 9	<i>The American Treasury</i> (1955), correspondence arranged chronologically (letters between Fadiman or his brother Edwin and Cass Canfield or Evan Thomas of Harper & Brothers; some holograph letters from Clifton Fadiman; contract between Fadiman and Harper's; congratulatory letters from Eleanor Roosevelt, Harry Truman, etc.); some miscellaneous papers
BOX 9	<i>Appreciations</i> (an English edition of certain Fadiman essays), two letters
BOX 9	"Book-of-the-Month Club Reviews," handwritten and/or typed drafts of eleven reviews
BOX 9	"Book Reviews," handwritten and/or drafts of eleven reviews
BOX 9	"Books and Reading" (lecture given Sept. 28, 1962, Ridgewood, N. J.), handwritten draft
BOX 9	"Eighth Grade Omnibus/Adventures in Good Books," correspondence arranged chronologically; typescripts of "teasers" and "afterwords"; study questions (by Allan A. Glatthorn)
BOX 9	"Epistle to Dr. Adler" (privately published), handwritten and typed drafts
BOX 9	"The Game of Conversation" (unpublished), draft
BOX 9	"Huckleberry Finn," handwritten draft of script for film
BOX 9	"Humanities Film," typed draft of script for training film
BOX 9	"Junior Classics Series," handwritten and/or typewritten drafts of "Afterwards" arranged alphabetically by book title
BOX 10	"Lec and the Art of the Aphorist" (introduction to Lec's <i>Unkempt Thoughts</i>), letter and carbon draft of manuscript
BOX 10	"A Literary Tour of the United States" (unpublished), handwritten draft
BOX 10	<i>Party of One</i> (1955), correspondence arranged chronologically
BOX 10	"Party of One" (essays published in a column in <i>Harper's</i>), handwritten and/or typed drafts of nine essays
BOX 10	"Reading I've Liked" (book reviews), handwritten or typed drafts of nine reviews
BOX 10	<i>Wally the Wordworm</i> (1964), correspondence arranged chronologically (mainly between Clifton Fadiman and Ann Diven and Frances Keene of Macmillan Co.); typed drafts with corrections
BOX 11	Addition
BOX 11	Galley proofs
BOX 11	<i>Fifty Years</i> I, II, and III (3 folders)

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 12	<i>Fifty Years</i> IV and V
BOX 12	<i>Lifetime Reading Plan</i> , proofs, English edition
BOX 13	Drafts
BOX 13	Huck II, first draft
BOX 13	Huckleberry Finn-film 2, "The Art of Huckleberry Finn," 22 Nov. 1964
BOX 13	Huckleberry Finn-film 3, "Huckleberry Finn and the American Experience," 23 Dec. 1964
BOX 13	Huck III
BOX 13	Huck Finn I, first printed draft
BOX 13	Huck Finn I, first draft, "What Does Huck Finn Say"
BOX 13	Huck Finn III, first draft, one carbon
BOX 13	Huck Finn I, "Huck Searching for Identity"
BOX 13	Huck Finn I, second draft shooting script, one original and one carbon
BOX 14	Huck Finn II, draft, second cut to two draft
BOX 14	<i>Life Time Reading Plan</i> , English Edition
BOX 14	Knopf, <i>Fifty Years</i>
BOX 14	<i>Fifty Years</i> , file copy
BOX 14	Knopf, anthology notes, correspondence
BOX 14	Knopf, <i>Fifty Years</i> , lists
BOX 15	Proofs, typewritten books
BOX 15	"The Lost Lady," part one of one
BOX 16	"The Immora List"
BOX 17	"The Celestial Omnibus"
BOX 18	"The Marx"
BOX 19	<i>Fifty Years</i>
BOX 20	Correspondence and drafts
BOX 20	"The American Dream"
BOX 20	Proof of draft "Bertram the Hungry Bookworm"
BOX 20	"Why I Write for Holiday"
BOX 20	"Men of Imagination" and "Publish in Playboy"
BOX 20	"War on the Children's Book Front"
BOX 20	Published in <i>Holiday</i> magazine
BOX 20	"Ladies and Gentleman"
BOX 20	Humanities and public education (draft)
BOX 20	Miscellaneous draft, "Fifty Years Two Folders"
BOX 21	Proof of work, "Measure of Nation"
BOX 21	Drafts
BOX 21	Public in the North Club News (2 folders)
BOX 21	Carbon of Afterward Series of Profile Classes
BOX 21	"Children and Words" and "Party of Twenty"
BOX 21	Film script of Huck Finn release by S.B.F.
BOX 21	A statement