#### Yale University Library Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# **Guide to the Owen Dodson Collection**

# **JWJ MSS 103**



Drew Adan and Lisa Conathan

2013

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### **Collection Overview**

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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New Haven, CT 06520-8330

(203) 432-2977

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**CALL NUMBER: JWJ MSS 103** 

CREATOR: Dodson, Owen, 1914-1983

TITLE: Owen Dodson collection

**DATES: 1896-1982** 

**BULK DATES:** 1936-1982

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 7.1 linear feet (19 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Owen Dodson Collection consists of correspondence, writings, diaries,

photographs, artwork, and posters that document the life and work of American playwright and poet Owen Dodson. The bulk of the material was created and accumulated by Owen Dodson in the course of his activities as an author and theater director, though portions of the collection were

acquired from other sources.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <a href="https://">https://</a>

hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dodson

### **Requesting Instructions**

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <a href="https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dodson">https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dodson</a>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to <a href="mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu">beinecke.images@yale.edu</a>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

f. folder

### **Administrative Information**

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. For further information, see notes at the level of each acquisition.

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The materials are open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

The Owen Dodson Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

#### **Preferred Citation**

Owen Dodson Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

### **Processing Information**

Former call numbers: Uncat JWJ MS 54, Uncat JWJ MS 57, JWJ MSS Small Collections, JWJ MSS Dodson

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization, in 1996, with further processing carried out in 2013. The list of Acquisitions before 1994 was produced from previously existing catalog cards, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. This is a preliminary listing of materials. The typescript copy of the Divine Comedy (Box 3, folder 51b) was added in May, 1999. The May 1994 and June 1995 Acquisitions were added to the collection contents in 2013. Various acquisitions associated with the collection have not been merged and organized as a whole.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

### Owen Dodson (1914-1983)

Owen Vincent Dodson, American playwright, was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1914. He received a B.A. from Bates College in 1936 and a M.F.A. in playwriting from the Yale School of Drama in 1939. He was on the faculty of Howard University's Drama Department from 1947 to 1969. He also briefly worked for Spelman College, Atlanta University, and Hampton Institute. Although best known for his playwriting, Dodson also published two novels and several volumes of poetry.

### **Scope and Contents**

The Owen Dodson Collection consists of correspondence, writings, diaries, photographs, artwork, and posters that document the life and work of American playwright and poet Owen Dodson. The bulk of the material was created and accumulated by Owen Dodson in the course of his activities as an author and theater director, though portions of the collection were acquired from other sources.

### Arrangement

Organized into two groupings: Acquisitions before 1994; May 1994 and June 1995 Acquisitions.

### **Collection Contents**

### Series I: Acquisitions before 1994, 1936-1951

1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

Material in this grouping was chiefly acquired by gift from Owen Dodson, 1939-1945, and dates unknown.

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence, 1937-1945. II. Writings, 1936-1951. III. Personal Papers, 1942. IV. Drawings, undated.

	Series I: Correspondence	1937-1945
b. 1, f. 1	General correspondence, A-Z To: 1 / From: 15	1940-1944
b. 1, f. 2	Anderson, Margaret To: 3 / From: 0	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 3	Auden, W. H. To: 1 / From: 0	undated
b. 1, f. 4	Bond, J. Max To: 2 / From: 0	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 5	Buck, Pearl S. To: 1 / From: 0	1943
b. 1, f. 6	Crawford, George W. To: 1 / From: 0	1938
b. 1, f. 7	Cullen, Countee To: 4 / From: 0	1942-1944
b. 1, f. 8	Dodson, Kenneth To: 0 / From: 1	1938 October
b. 1, f. 9	[Dodson], Lil To: 1 / From: 0	undated
b. 1, f. 10	DuBois, William E. B. To: 1 / From: 0	1942
b. 1, f. 11	Ellison, Ralph To: 2 / From: 0	1942
b. 1, f. 12	Embree, Edwin R. To: 4 / From: 0	1943
b. 1, f. 13	Frederick, John T. To: 4 / From: 0	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 14	Horne, Lena To: 0 / From: 1 (copy)	1945 September 10

#### Series I: Correspondence (continued)

b. 1, f. 15	Hughes, Langston To: 1/ From: 0	1944 February
b. 1, f. 16	Jackman, Harold To: 0 / From: 2	1937, 1939
b. 1, f. 17	Johnson, Charles S. To: 1 / From: 0	1944 April 3
b. 1, f. 18	Johnson, Greer To: 1 / From: 0	1943 September 7
b. 1, f. 19	MacLeish, Mrs. Andrew Includes letter to Archibald MacLeish from Margaret Anderson (enclosure)  To: 3 / From: 0	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 20	Mauriber, Saul To: 0 / From: 2	1947
b. 1, f. 21	Negro Freedom Rally Includes letters signed by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. To: 3 / From: 0	1944
b. 1, f. 22	Patterson, Frederick D. To: 1 / From: 0	1941 November 13
	Powell, Adam Clayton, Jr. <u>See: Negro Freedom Rally</u>	
b. 1, f. 23	Prophet, N. Elizabeth To: 1 / From: 0	1943 December 1
b. 1, f. 24	Sebree, Charles From Alexander Brooks to Charles Sebree	1942 December 31
b. 1, f. 25	Theatre Arts Includes: "Principal Themes from China" To: 13 / From: 0	1943-1944
b. 1, f. 26-27	Van Vechten, Carl To: 3 / From: 6	1939-1943, undated
b. 1, f. 28	Voorhees, Lillian W. To: 1 / From: 0	1939 March 23
	Arranged alphabetically by title.	1936-1951
b. 1, f. 29	Americus, Ga. [poem]  Autograph manuscript, corrected	undated

#### Series II: Writings (continued)

#### Amistad [play] 1938-1939 b. 1, f. 30 Second draft, autograph manuscript, corrected Notes with unidentified comments 1938-1939 b. 1, f. 31 The Ballad of Dorie Miller b. 1, f. 32 Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, corrected, with 1943, undated mimeograph copy Bayou Legend [play] b. 1, f. 33 Mimeograph copy undated Black Mother Praying in the Summer b. 1, f. 34 Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, corrected 1943, undated Boy at the Window b. 1, f. 35-36 Organizational notes circa 1946-1951 b. 2, f. 37-39 Organizational notes circa 1946-1951 b. 2, f. 40 Early draft of chapter 1, autograph manuscript, corrected undated b. 2, f. 41-42 "Some first drafts," typescript, corrected undated b. 2, f. 43-44 "A draft for the typist," typescript, corrected undated b. 2, f. 45-47 Setting typescript, corrected undated The Carter Family [film treatment] b. 3, f. 48 Typescript carbon 1945 [Christmas Poem] b. 3, f. 49 Autograph manuscript, corrected 1942 November **Divine Comedy** b. 3, f. 50-51 Autograph manuscript, corrected 1937 b. 3, f. 51a Libretto and score, autograph manuscript, photostat 1938? 1944 b. 3, f. 51b Typescript carbon [Includes printed copy of poem: "Laughter Underneath the Rock" in envelope addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Norman DeMarco, 1946 December 22] Doomsday Tale b. 3, f. 52 "First notes," autograph manuscript, corrected 1941 b. 3, f. 53 First draft, autograph manuscript, corrected 1941

#### Series II: Writings (continued)

	Everybody Join Hands	
b. 3, f. 54	"2nd draft," autograph manuscript, corrected, accompanied by notes, mimeograph of script, and program	[1943]
	Freedom the Banner	
b. 3, f. 55	"Rough draft," autograph manuscript, corrected, accompanied by notes, mimeograph of script, and program	[1943]
	The Garden of Time	
b. 3, f. 56	Notes	1938-1939
b. 3, f. 57	Outline with draft pages	1939, undated
b. 3, f. 58	"2nd draft," autograph manuscript, corrected	1938 December
b. 3, f. 59	"1st rewrites," typescript carbon, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 60	"Rewrite of 2nd Draft," typescript carbon, corrected	undated
	The Graveyard and the Circus	
b. 4, f. 61	Autograph manuscript, corrected	undated
	Heroes on Parade	
b. 4, f. 62	Mimeograph script	1942-1943
	Hotspots U.S.A.	
b. 4, f. 63	Mimeograph script	1945 January 7
•		•
•	Including Laughter [play]	
b. 4, f. 64		1936
	Including Laughter [play]	
	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected	
b. 4, f. 64	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"	1936
b. 4, f. 64	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b	1936
b. 4, f. 64	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming	1936
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.	1936
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65 b. 4, f. 66	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.  Notes	1936 1943 1944, undated
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65 b. 4, f. 66 b. 4, f. 67	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.  Notes  "1st Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected	1936 1943 1944, undated 1944
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65 b. 4, f. 66 b. 4, f. 67 b. 4, f. 68	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.  Notes  "1st Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected  "2nd Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected	1936 1943 1944, undated 1944 1944 May
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65 b. 4, f. 66 b. 4, f. 67 b. 4, f. 68 b. 4, f. 69	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.  Notes  "1st Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected  "2nd Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected  "2nd Draft Corrected," typescript	1936 1943 1944, undated 1944 1944 May 1944 May 19
b. 4, f. 64 b. 4, f. 65 b. 4, f. 66 b. 4, f. 67 b. 4, f. 68	Including Laughter [play]  Typescript, corrected  Jonathan's Song [poem]  Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript carbon, corrected  "Laughter Underneath the Rock"  See: Divine Comedy, Box 3, folder 51b  New World A-Coming  Pageant for the second Negro Freedom Rally.  Notes  "1st Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected  "2nd Draft," autograph manuscript, corrected	1936 1943 1944, undated 1944 1944 May

#### Series II: Writings (continued)

#### [Poems written at Bates College]

b. 4, f. 72	Autograph manuscript, corrected	undated
	Preparing for Miracles [story]	
b. 4, f. 73	Typescript carbon, corrected	undated
	Includes: letter from Margarita Smith of Mademoiselle	
	"Ruby May Counts: Blue Singer" [poem]	
b. 4, f. 74	Autograph manuscript and typescript, corrected	undated
	Soundtrack for a Dance	
b. 4, f. 74a	Typescript, carbon	[1944]
	The Southern Star [play]	
b. 4, f. 75	Autograph manuscript, corrected	1940
	The Third Fourth of July	
	Ballet written with Countee Cullen	
b. 4, f. 76	"2nd draft," typescript	undated
	A Tropical Fable [musical]	
b. 4, f. 77	Program	1943
	"Two Metaphors for Carl Van Vechten" [poem]	
b. 4, f. 77a	Autograph manuscript	1943 January
	Series III: Personal Papers	1942
b. 4, f. 78	"Godspeed and Bon Voyage from the Communications Center and the People of Pygmalion"	1942 October
	Series IV: Drawings	
b. 19, f. 241	Costume designs for Countee Cullen's Medea, ten drawings	undated

#### Series II: May 1994 and June 1995 Acquisitions, 1896-1982

5.25 linear feet (13 boxes)

Purchased from McBlain Books on the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of Negro Arts & Letters Fund, 1994-1995.

Organized into seven series: I. Correspondence, 1896-1981. II. Writings, 1941-1982. III. Diaries, 1938-1982. IV. Photographs, 1951-1977. V. Posters, 1947-1977. VI. Drawings, 1947-1964. VII. Papers Relating to the Estate of Edith Dodson, 1963-1983.

Series I: Correspondence 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

1896-1981

Organized into two subseries: Owen Dodson Correspondence, and Family Correspondence.

# Owen Dodson Correspondence Arranged alphabetically.

b. 5, f. 79	Arbita, Malcolm	1979 April 29
b. 5, f. 80	Bethea, Ednah	1943-1983
b. 5, f. 81	Brown, William T.	1964 May 17
b. 5, f. 82	Cleaveland, Henry Folger	1977 July 9
b. 5, f. 83	Copyright Office (Library of Congress)	1981
b. 5, f. 84	Dodson, Edith	1978
b. 5, f. 85	Embree, Edwin R.	1946
b. 5, f. 86	Fenton, Edward	circa 1957-1965
b. 5, f. 87	Foster, Elizabeth	undated
b. 5, f. 87b	Gorer, Geoffrey	1954-1956
b. 5, f. 88	Hardy, Sallee	1978, 1983
b. 5, f. 89	Hodgson, Jane	undated
b. 5, f. 90	Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project	1949
b. 5, f. 91	Olson, Jery and BoBo	1956 June 13, undated
b. 5, f. 92	The Paris Review	1956 May 23
b. 5, f. 93	Phi Beta Kappa Society, Howard University	1983
b. 5, f. 94	Pinnacle Books, Inc.	1982
b. 5, f. 95	Priebe, Karl	circa 1947-1976
b. 5, f. 96	Read, Florence	1961, 1963
b. 5, f. 96 b. 5, f. 97		1961, 1963 1945 July 9

#### Series I: Correspondence > Owen Dodson Correspondence (continued)

b. 5, 6.99         Smith, Abbott P.         1951 February 18           b. 5, 6.100         Unthank, Thomas         1980 January 15, February 11           b. 5, 6.101         Van Vechten, Carl         1944-1962           b. 5, 6.102         Yado         1949-1983           b. 5, 6.103         General correspondence         1954-1981           b. 5, 6.104         Bodson, Edith incoming         1954-1981           b. 5, 6.105         Fabre, Genevieve         1974           b. 5, 6.106         Forsyth, Louise         1963           b. 5, 6.107         Pool, Rossey E.         1964-1981           b. 5, 6.108         General         1964-1981           b. 5, 6.109         Dodson, Wenn to Edith Dodson         circa 1954-1970           b. 5, 6.110         Dodson, Netneth, to Dodson sisters         1938-1939           b. 5, 6.111         Jobinear feet (5 boxes) Organized Into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others.         19791-1982           b. 6, 6.112         Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript         1979           b. 6, 6. 113         "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Ward word word word word word word word wo	b. 5, f. 98	Shine, Ted	1981 September 29
February 11	b. 5, f. 99	Smith, Abbott P.	1951 February 18
D. 5, f. 102	b. 5, f. 100	Unthank, Thomas	
D. S. f. 103   General correspondence   Family Correspondence   Dodson, Edith incoming   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1954   1955   1955   1956	b. 5, f. 101	Van Vechten, Carl	1944-1962
Pamily Correspondence   Dodson, Edith incoming   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954-1981   1954   1954   1954   1954   1955   1955   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1963   1964-1981   19	b. 5, f. 102	Yaddo	1947
Dodson, Edith incoming   1954-1981   1954   1954   1954   1955   1954   1955   1955   1955   1955   1955   1955   1955   1955   1963   1963   1963   1964-1981   1955   1965	b. 5, f. 103	General correspondence	1949-1983
b. 5, f. 104         Brown, Robert         1954           b. 5, f. 105         Fabre, Genevieve         1974           b. 5, f. 106         For syth, Louise         1953           b. 5, f. 107         Pool, Rosey E.         1964           b. 5, f. 108         General         1964-1981           b. 5, f. 109         Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson         circa 1954-1970           b. 5, f. 110         Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters         1938-1939           b. 5, f. 111         [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY         1896 February 13           Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others.         1941-1982           b. 6, f. 112         Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript         1978           b. 6, f. 113         "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.         1970           b. 6, f. 114         Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript         1976           The Confession Stone: Song Cycles         1960           b. 6, f. 115         Printed copy Removed from frame         1970		Family Correspondence	
b. 5, f. 105         Fabre, Genevieve         1974           b. 5, f. 106         Forsyth, Louise         1953           b. 5, f. 107         Pool, Rosey E.         1963           b. 5, f. 108         General         1964-1981           b. 5, f. 109         Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson         circa 1954-1970           b. 5, f. 110         Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters         1938-1939           b. 5, f. 111         [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY         1896 February 13           Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, Arranged alphabetically.         1941-1982           b. 6, f. 112         Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript         1978           b. 6, f. 113         "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.         1972           b. 6, f. 114         Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript         1976           b. 6, f. 115         Printed copy Removed from frame         1960           b. 6, f. 116         Printed copies         1970		Dodson, Edith incoming	1954-1981
b. 5, f. 106 Forsyth, Louise  D. 5, f. 107 Pool, Rosey E. 1963 D. 5, f. 108 General 1964-1981 D. 5, f. 109 Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson Circa 1954-1970 D. 5, f. 110 Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters 1938-1939 D. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13 Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically. D. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript D. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson. D. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript D. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame D. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970	b. 5, f. 104	Brown, Robert	1954
b. 5, f. 107 Pool, Rosey E. 1963 b. 5, f. 108 General 1964-1981 b. 5, f. 109 Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson circa 1954-1970 b. 5, f. 110 Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters 1938-1939 b. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13  Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically. b. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript b. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson. b. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles b. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame 1970	b. 5, f. 105	Fabre, Genevieve	1974
b. 5, f. 108 General 1964-1981 b. 5, f. 109 Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson circa 1954-1970 b. 5, f. 110 Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters 1938-1939 b. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13 Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically. b. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript b. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson. b. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976 The Confession Stone: Song Cycles b. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame 1970	b. 5, f. 106	Forsyth, Louise	1953
b. 5, f. 109 Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson b. 5, f. 110 Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters 1938-1939 b. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13  Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically. b. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript b. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson. b. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles b. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame b. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970	b. 5, f. 107	Pool, Rosey E.	1963
b. 5, f. 110 Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters 1938-1939 b. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13 Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically. b. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript b. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson. b. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976 The Confession Stone: Song Cycles b. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame b. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970	b. 5, f. 108	General	1964-1981
b. 5, f. 111 [Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY 1896 February 13  Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically.  b. 6, f. 112 Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript b. 6, f. 113 "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114 Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115 Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970	b. 5, f. 109	Dodson, Owen to Edith Dodson	circa 1954-1970
Series II: Writings 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically.  b. 6, f. 112  Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript  b. 6, f. 113  "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies  1970	b. 5, f. 110	Dodson, Kenneth, to Dodson sisters	1938-1939
2.09 linear feet (5 boxes) Organized into two subseries: Writings of Owen Dodson, and Writings of Others. Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically.  b. 6, f. 112  Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript  b. 6, f. 113  "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence 1972 The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies 1970	b. <b>5,</b> f. <b>111</b>	[Dodson], Nathaniel to Sarah [Dodson], Brooklyn NY	1896 February 13
Writings of Owen Dodson Arranged alphabetically.  b. 6, f. 112  Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript  b. 6, f. 113  "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy 1960 Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies 1970		2.09 linear feet (5 boxes)	1941-1982
Arranged alphabetically.  b. 6, f. 112  Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript  b. 6, f. 113  "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies 1970			
b. 6, f. 112  Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft, autograph manuscript  b. 6, f. 113  "Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence 1972 The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript 1976  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy 1960 Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies 1970			
The proposed book was to have been a volume of portraits by Carl Van Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies  1970	b. 6, f. 112	Africa Where I Baked My Bread, review by Lance Jeffers, draft,	1978
Vechten accompanied by text by Owen Dodson.  b. 6, f. 114  Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript  The Confession Stone: Song Cycles  b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies  1970	b. 6, f. 113	"Black Breakthrough," proposals and related correspondence	1972
b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies  1960 1970			
b. 6, f. 115  Printed copy Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116  Printed copies  1960  1970	b. 6, f. 114	Come Home Early, Child (novel), draft, typescript	1976
Removed from frame  b. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970		The Confession Stone: Song Cycles	
b. 6, f. 116 Printed copies 1970	b. <b>6,</b> f. <b>115</b>	Printed copy	1960
<u> </u>		Removed from frame	
b. 6, f. 117 Draft, typescript undated	b. 6, f. 116	Printed copies	1970
	b. 6, f. 117	Draft, typescript	undated

#### Series II: Writings > Writings of Owen Dodson (continued)

b. 6, f. 118	The Crisis, book review, draft, autograph manuscript	undated
b. 6, f. 119-120	The Divine Comedy, draft, typescript (copy)	undated
b. 6, f. 121	The Harlem Book of the Dead, reviews	undated
b. 6, f. 122	I Saw How Black I was (introduction to an anthology of poetry), draft, typescript	undated
b. 6, f. 123	Memories of Rosey Pool	
b. 6, f. 124	Who Has Seen the Wind, draft, autograph manuscript	undated
b. 6, f. 125	"The Widows Walk," "My Love is Tender of the Holy Crosses," and "Ballad of Badmen" (poems), drafts, typescript	undated
b. 6, f. 126	Unidentified, notes, typescript and autograph manuscript	undated
	Writings of Others	
A	Arranged alphabetically by author.	
b. 7, f. 127	Adler, Marnie: poems, typescript	undated
	Barbour, Floyd	
b. <b>7</b> , f. <b>128</b>	Antony and Cleopatra (play), draft, typescript	1968
b. 7, f. 129	Auto Sacramental (play), draft, typescript	1961
b. 7, f. 130	The Bird Cage (play), draft, typescript	1969
b. 7, f. 131	Captain America (play), draft, typescript	1971
b. 7, f. 132	ESSO (play), draft, typescript	1970
b. 7, f. 133	The Firefly Arcade (play), draft, typescript	1960
b. 7, f. 134	GATES to ANY KINGDOM (play), draft, typescript	1970
b. 7, f. 135	Brown, Kevin: The Prophecy of Sebastian (novel), typescript	undated
	Chambers, Chico	
b. 7, f. 136	One Sunday Mawnin', the old man screamed! I'ma Build Me A Mountain So's My Children Can Dream (play), typescript	undated
b. 7, f. 137	"Spinners of Soft Black Birth-songs" (poem), typescript	undated
b. 7, f. 138	Davis, Ossie: Curtain Call, Mr. Aldrige Sir, (dramatic reading), typescript	1963 January 28
b. 7, f. 139	Dean, Phillip Hayes: Everynight when the Sun Goes Down typescript, draft, copy	undated
b. 7, f. 140	Fudge, Anthony R.: Egghead Thorough (poems), typescript	1975
b. <b>7</b> , f. <b>141</b>	Greenlee, Sam: Blues for Little Prez and South Side Blues: A Jazz Love Poem in Two Acts (plays), typescript	1978
b. 7, f. 142	Haines, Corrie: "Your Servant: Judas" (poem), typescript	1974

#### Series II: Writings > Writings of Others (continued)

b. 7, f. 143	Jeffers, Lance: Untitled poem, typescript	undated
b. <b>7</b> , f. <b>144</b>	Lee, Ritten Edward: <i>Cush</i> draft, typescript	undated
b. 8, f. 145	Liyong, Taban lo: <i>Apwoyo Gin Ki Lyec</i> (fable), typescript	undated
b. 8, f. 146	Matheus, John: Tambour (play), typescript, copy of a 1929 original	undated
	Norman, Riley	
b. 8, f. 147-148	The Black Panther (play), typescript	undated
b. 8, f. 149	Runaway People (play), typescript	undated
b. 8, f. 150	Untitled prose draft, typescript	undated
	Shine, Theodis	
b. 8, f. 151	Cold Day in August (play), typescript	undated
b. 8, f. 152	Idabel's Fortune (play), typescript, two copies	undated
b. 8, f. 153	Morning, Noon, and Night (play), typescript	undated
	Wesley, Richard	
b. 9, f. 154	Gettin' it Together (play), typescript	1970
b. 9, f. 155	The Last Street Play (play), typescript	1976
b. 9, f. 156	The Past is Past (play), typescript	1972
b. 9, f. 157	Strike Heaven on the Face (play), typescript	1972
b. 9, f. 158	Wiggins, Ernest: "Play Street" (poem), typescript	undated
b. 9, f. 159	Unidentified author: Cotton Patch (play), typescript	undated
	Series III: Personal Papers 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)	1934-1982
b. 9, f. 160	Clippings relating to Owen Dodson	circa 1952
b. 9, f. 161	Diary	1934
b. 9, f. 162	Journal	August 1934
b. 9, f. 163	Journal, Bates College	October 1935
b. 9, f. 164	Diary inscribed to Kenneth Dodson	December 1938
b. 10, f. 166-167	Diaries	1942, undated
b. 10, f. 168-172	Desk Diaries	1976-1982
b. 11, f. 173	The Lion, yearbook of Lincoln University	1938
b. 11, f. 174	The Garnet, Bates College	1937 June

#### Series III: Personal Papers (continued)

b. 11, f. 175	Printed material and correspondence relating to Bates College and Howard University	1967
b. 11, f. 176-179	Theater programs and related ephemera	1951-1982
b. 12, f. 180	"Ten Master Painters" announcement	1981
b. 12, f. 181-182	Notes and ephemera	1937-1983
b. 12, f. 183	Clippings	1970s
b. 12, f. 184	Curriculum vitae of Owen Dodson	1959-1979
	Series IV: Photographs 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)	1951-1977
b. 13, f. 181a	[, Eleanora?]	undated
b. 13, f. 182a	[Priebe, Karl?]	undated
	Jackson, Harold, photographs Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	The Importance of Being Earnest, photograph Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
b. 13, f. 185-191	Dodson, Owen and Edith, photographs and negatives Other subjects include Georgia Douglass Johnson, James Moore, Beverly and Karia Bryn Robeson Kelch, Eleanor Traylor, Athur Taylor, and others.	1951-1977
b. 14, f. 192-200	Dodson, Owen and Edith, photographs and negatives	1951-1977
b. 14, f. 201	Photographs and correspondence relating to Darryl Croxton	1975-1979
b. 14, f. 202-205	Photographs and negatives of a house and wedding	1960-1967
b. 15, f. 206-210	Photographs and negatives of a house and wedding	1960-1967
b. <b>15</b> , f. <b>211</b>	Promotional keychain slide viewer for Oedipus Rex	undated
	Series V: Posters	1947-1979
	Bayou Legend Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	The Confession Stone Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1979
	Defiant Island Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Dr. Faustus (Howard University Players) Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Dutchman and Sho is Hot in the Cotton Patch Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Garden of Time Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated

#### Series V: Posters (continued)

	Long Day's Journey Into Night Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Macbeth, accompanied by a note from Edmund Cambridge Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1977
	Medea in Africa (Howard University Players) Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1963
	The Mighty Gents, accompanied by a note from Richard Wesley Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Oedipus Rex (Howard University Players) Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1966
	You Can't Take It With You (Howard University Players) Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1966
	Three one-act plays of the absurd Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1966
	Unidentified Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	Series VI: Drawings	
	Unidentified, pen and ink, unidentified artist Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1964
	"Play within the play scene," pen and ink, unidentified artist Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1964
	Portrait of Owen Dodson, charcoal, unidentified artist Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	undated
	"He hasn't read Kafka!," pen and ink, by Barrett Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1947
	Untitled, pen and ink, by Gregory Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1964
	"Darmon Braswell as Claudius," by Gregory Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1964
	"Hamlet," by Gregory Stored in: Box 18 (Oversize)	1964
	Series VII: Papers Relating to the Estate of Edith Dodson 0.83 linear feet (2 boxes)	1963-1983
b. 16, f. 212-215	Bills and correspondence relating to the estate of Edith Dodson	1963-1983
b. 17, f. 216-217	Bills and correspondence relating to the estate of Edith Dodson	1963-1983
	Oversize 0.25 linear feet (1 box)	
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 218	Jackson, Harold (Series IV)	undated

#### Oversize (continued)

b. 18 (Oversize), f. 219	The Importance of Being Ernest (Series IV)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 220	Bayou Legend (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 221	The Confession Stone (Series V)	1979
b. 18 (Overize), f. 222	Defiant Island (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 223	Dr. Faustus (Howard University Players) (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 224	Dutchman and Sho is Hot in the Cotton Patch (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 225	Garden of Time (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 226	Long Day's Journey Into Night (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 227	Macbeth, accompanied by a note from Edmund Cambridge (Series V)	1977
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 228	Medea in Africa (Howard University Players) (Series V)	1963
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 229	The Mighty Gents accompanied by a note from Richard Wesley (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 230	Oedipus Rex (Howard University Players) (Series V)	1966
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 231	You Can't Take it with You (Howard University Players) (Series V)	1966
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 232	Three one-act plays of the absurd (Series V)	1966
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 233	Unidentified (Series V)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 234	Untitled, pen and ink, unidentified artist (Series VI)	1964
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 235	"Play within the play scene," pen and ink, unidentified artist (Series VI)	1964
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 236	Portrait of Owen Dodson, charcoal, unidentified artist (Series VI)	undated
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 237	"He hasn't read Kafka!," pen and ink, by Barrett (Series VI)	1947
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 238	Untitled, pen and ink, by Gregory (Series VI)	1964

#### Oversize (continued)

b. 18 (Oversize), f. 239	"Darmon Braswell as Claudius," by Gregory (Series VI)	1964
b. 18 (Oversize), f. 240	"Hamlet," by Gregory (Series VI)	1964

#### **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.

#### **Subjects**

African American authors -- 20th Century -- Archives
African American dramatists -- 20th Century -- Archives
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Dramatists, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

#### **Genres / Formats**

Diaries Photographs

### **Occupations**

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century Dramatists -- United States -- 20th Century

#### **Names**

Dodson, Owen, 1914-1983