

# **Guide to the Ethel May Gate Papers**

**GEN MSS 250**



by Beinecke Staff

June 1997

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 250

**CREATOR:** Gate, Ethel May (1882-1942)

**TITLE:** Ethel May Gate papers, 1912-1940.

**DATES:** 1912-1940

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.09 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Includes typescript and holograph manuscripts of Gate's collections of stories and poems for children, including "Punch & Robinetta", "The Fortunate Days", and "Tales from the Enchanted Isles", among others. Other writings include the essay collection "The Harvest of the Years" and individual short stories, poems, novels, and plays, including two acts completing Sir James M. Barrie's unfinished play, "Shall We Join the Ladies?". Also in the collection are actors' annotated copies of many of the plays, a letter from Joan Luxton, a personal reflection concerning Gate's father, and manuscript copies of four nineteenth century songs.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.gate>

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## 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 <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.gate>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Bequest of Ethel May Gate, 1946.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Ethel May Gate Papers are 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Ethel May Gate Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing card set in the Manuscripts Catalog, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ethel May Gate (1882-1942), English writer, was born in Romford, Essex, England, the daughter of Henry James Gate and Ann Amelia Gate.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection contains literary manuscripts of the English writer Ethel May Gate (1882?-1942). A small number of other papers are also included. The collection is organized into two series, *Writings* and *Other Papers*, and spans the dates 1912-1940.

[Series I, \*Writings\*](#), contains two subseries. The first, "Anthologies," includes manuscripts and typescripts for several of the author's collections of children's stories and poems, including *Punch and Robinetta*, *The Fortunate Days*, and *Tales from the Enchanted Isles*, among others, and the essay collection *The Harvest of the Years*. The second subseries, "Other Writings," includes manuscripts and typescripts of short stories, poems, novels and plays, as well as actors' annotated copies of scripts for many of the plays. Also included is a typescript of two acts completing Sir James M. Barrie's unfinished play, "Shall We Join the Ladies."

[Series II, \*Other Papers\*](#), includes a letter from Joan Luxton, a tally of expenses, a personal reflection concerning the author's father, and copies of four nineteenth century popular songs.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: WRITINGS, 1912-1940

2.05 linear feet (5 boxes)

Series I, *Writings*, is organized into two subseries: Anthologies and Other Writings. Each subseries is arranged alphabetically by title. Individual pieces within anthologies are also arranged alphabetically, with the exception of poetry, which may be found at the end of the anthology in which it appeared.

#### ANTHOLOGIES

##### *The Fortunate Days*

b. 1, f. 1	Typescript for the anthology, corrected	1922
b. 1, f. 2	"The Castle of Delight," autograph manuscript	1920 Jul 2
b. 1, f. 3	"The Fortunate Days," autograph manuscript of title story, signed	1920 Aug 20
b. 1, f. 4	"The Golden Horseshoe," autograph manuscript, signed	1919 Jun 7
b. 1, f. 5	"The Story of the Learned Man," autograph manuscript, signed	1920 Sep 23
b. 1, f. 6	Poems from "The Fortunate Days" Autograph manuscripts and drafts, including "The Enchanted Isle," "Hard Times," "Under the Ground," and "You and Me." Included also, on the verso of an "Enchanted Isle" draft, is "The Foundling," not published in this anthology, and on the same leaf with "Under the Ground," "The Ball," which was published in her anthology <i>Punch and Robinetta</i> .  For other drafts of "You and Me" and "Under the Ground"  <a href="#">See: <i>Punch and Robinetta</i>, box 1, folder 20</a>	

##### *The Harvest of the Years: Six Essays*

b. 1, f. 7	2 typescripts, corrected	n.d.
b. 1, f. 8	"On a Looking Glass," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 1, f. 9	"On Perfection (Being the Last of the Little Girl)," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 1, f. 10	"On a Spider," autograph manuscript	n.d.

##### *Punch and Robinetta*

b. 1, f. 11	Title Page and Table of Contents Autograph manuscript fragment of early draft, before the anthology was split into two volumes	n.d.
b. 1, f. 12	Carbon typescript, corrected Early version before the split into two volumes	n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	Typescript and galleys, corrected Anthology as published, after the split into two volumes	1922

## ANTHOLOGIES &gt; Punch and Robinetta (continued)

b. 1, f. 14	"The Fairy Shoemaker," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 1, f. 15	"The Princess Dyonetia," autograph manuscript	1920 Oct 13
b. 1, f. 16	"Punch and Robinetta," autograph manuscript of title story, corrected, signed	n.d.
b. 1, f. 17	"The Tapestry Prince," autograph manuscript, corrected	n.d.
	"The Two Poor Seamstresses"	
b. 1, f. 18	Autograph manuscript	1920 Mar 19
b. 1, f. 19	Typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 1, f. 20	Poems from <i>Punch and Robinetta</i> Autograph manuscripts and drafts of "The Ball," "The Minstrel," "The Talisman," "Raspberry Tarts," and "The Return." Also includes drafts of poems published in <i>The Fortunate Days</i> , and "The Lovely One," not published in either volume. For another draft of "The Ball" <a href="#">See: <i>The Fortunate Days</i>, box 1, folder 6</a>	1920, n.d.
<i>Tales from the Enchanted Isles</i>		
b. 2, f. 21	Title Page and Table of Contents, autograph draft and manuscript	n.d.
b. 2, f. 22	Carbon typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 2, f. 23	Typescript and illustration proofs	n.d.
b. 2, f. 24	"The Enchanted Galleon," autograph manuscript	1925 Jul 24
b. 2, f. 25	"The Good Queen's Son," autograph manuscript, signed	1922 Oct 20
b. 2, f. 26	"The King's Sceptre," autograph manuscript, signed	1923 Jul 23
b. 2, f. 27	"The Lamp from Fairyland," autograph manuscript, signed	1923 Oct 27
b. 2, f. 28	"Proper and Right," autograph manuscript	1925 Aug 2
b. 2, f. 29	"The Singing Water," autograph manuscript	1924 May 20
b. 2, f. 30	"The Tree of Stone," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 2, f. 31	Poems from <i>Tales from the Enchanted Isles</i> Autograph manuscripts of "The Adventure," "The Curiosity Shop," "The Golden Violet," "Great News," "The Harper," and "The Song of the Fountain"	n.d.
<i>Tales from the Secret Kingdom</i>		
b. 2, f. 32	Typescript, revised and corrected	n.d.
b. 2, f. 33	"The Fog Princess: a Fairy Story," autograph manuscript, signed	1918 Mar 11

## ANTHOLOGIES (continued)

*Tales of the Italian Renaissance*

"The Banker's Daughter" [Story]

[See also: "The Banker's Daughter" \[Play\], box 3, folder 42](#)

b. 2, f. 34	Autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 2, f. 35	Typescript	n.d.
	"Born Under Taurus" [Story] <a href="#">See also: "Born Under Taurus" [Play], box 3, folder 43</a>	
b. 2, f. 36	Autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 2, f. 37	Typescript	n.d.
b. 2, f. 38	"The Duchess Diverts her Lord with an Old Wives Tale," carbon typescript, incomplete	n.d.

## OTHER WRITINGS

b. 2, f. 39	"The Admiral's Lady: An Extravaganza of Napoleonic Times," autograph manuscript, signed	[1940?] Nov
b. 2, f. 40	[All the King's Trumpets], typescript, corrected p. 99a inserted after p. 99 and p. 110 numbered 110 and 111 <a href="#">See also: "To the Sound of Trumpets," box 5, folder 97</a>	
b. 3, f. 41	"The Bale of Merchandise," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 3, f. 42	"The Banker's Daughter" [Play], autograph manuscript	1937 Sep 28
b. 3, f. 43	"Born Under Taurus" [Play], autograph manuscript	1937 Jul 11
b. 3, f. 44	"Brilliantina, or Our Wildest Dreams: an Extravaganza" A play, part hectographed (?) and part mimeographed	n.d.
b. 3, f. 45	"Constancy," autograph manuscript, signed	1919 May 2
	"The Curtain"	
b. 3, f. 46	Autograph manuscript; signed	n.d.
b. 3, f. 47	Typed manuscript, corrected	n.d.
b. 3, f. 48	"The Drinking Cup," autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
	"Enquire Within: A Play in One Act"	
b. 3, f. 49	Carbon typescript, corrected, signed In folder, with title and author's name and address on front cover, and note (Copyright by the author)	n.d.
b. 3, f. 50	Typescript, corrected (incomplete)	n.d.

## OTHER WRITINGS &gt; "Enquire Within: A Play in One Act" (continued)

b. 3, f. 51	Typescript labeled "Prompt Copy," corrected In brown paper folder, with blue spine with title and author's name and address on front cover, and note "The fee for each performance of this play is one guinea, payable to the author in advance"	n.d.
b. 3, f. 52	3 mimeographed copies, with manuscript corrections and additions	n.d.
b. 3, f. 53	Typescripts of the individual parts of the 4 main characters 4 main characters: The Young Lady, First Enquiry Officer, Second Enquiry Officer, and The Young Airman; in 4 small folders	n.d.
<i>"Epitaph for Lucrezia"</i>		
b. 3, f. 54	Autograph manuscript of a play in one act, signed and dated	1936 Jun 19
b. 3, f. 55	Carbon typescript Inscribed "Please return to Miss Hartley, [...] Munwell Hill, London."	n.d.
<i>"Folly and Discretion, or What Jane Left Untold (A Jane Austin Trifle in One Act)"</i>		
b. 3, f. 56	Autograph manuscript, signed and dated	1932 Aug 21
b. 3, f. 57	2 typescripts (1 carbon), with manuscript corrections First copy in brown paper folder	n.d.
b. 3, f. 58	2 carbon typescripts, with notes and sketches	1932 Aug 21
b. 3, f. 59	6 carbon typescripts, annotated In brown paper covers; with notes [by actors?]; two bear the author's name and address, Makepeace Avenue, Highgate; four are dated on the last page	1932 Aug 21
<i>"The Fountain"</i>		
b. 3, f. 60	Autograph manuscript, signed	1921 Jan 12
b. 3, f. 61	Typescript, corrected, with manuscript title page, signed	n.d.
b. 3, f. 62	<i>"The Frozen Princess: Fairy Play in Three Acts,"</i> autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
<i>"Der Gevatter Tod: Ein Schauspiel in Einem Akt aus der Deutschen Romantik Nach Grimm's Marchen"</i>		
b. 4, f. 63	Autograph manuscript, signed Working title: "Der Gevatter Tod: Phantasiestuck in Einem Akt Mit Prolog"	1936 Feb 12
b. 4, f. 64	Autograph manuscript of prologue	n.d.
b. 4, f. 65	2 carbon typescripts With manuscript corrections and additions; attached to the carbon copy is a list of names and addresses, apparently of people who took part in a performance of this play	n.d.



OTHER WRITINGS > "Der Gevatter Tod: Ein Schauspiel in Einem Akt aus der Deutschen [...]  
(continued)

b. 4, f. 66	Manuscript copy in English, signed Titled "Godfather Death: A Play in One Act with Prologue, Founded on Grimm's Fairy Tale Der Gevatter Tod"; in writing tablet; 28 p. of other dramatic material in pencil, in back of tablet	n.d.
	"In Search of Her Youth (Synopsis)"	
b. 4, f. 67	Autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 4, f. 68	Typescript With one page in manuscript	n.d.
b. 4, f. 69	"The Knotted Willows," autograph manuscript, signed	1920 Jun 26
b. 4, f. 70	"Meriting Attention," typescript, signed, corrected	n.d.
	"The Net: A Tragic Episode"	
b. 4, f. 71	Autograph manuscript, signed In brown paper folder, with title, and author's name and address on front cover	1927 Jul 17
b. 4, f. 72	Autograph manuscript, signed Note on first leaf: "Copyright by the Author in 1928"; in gray paper folder, with title, and author's name and address on front cover	n.d.
b. 4, f. 73	Autograph manuscript, signed, of the "full version" In black paper folder, with title, author's name and address on front cover	n.d.
b. 4, f. 74	Typescript with manuscript corrections and additions In brown paper folder, with title on front cover	n.d.
b. 4, f. 75	Typescripts of the individual parts of the five main characters Characters: Rosina, Alessandro de'Medici, Caterina de'Pazzi, Lorenzino, Palacia de'Pazzi; in 5 small separate folders	n.d.
b. 4, f. 76	"Once Upon a Time," typescript with manuscript corrections	n.d.
	"Perfect Bliss: A Christmas Mystery"	
b. 4, f. 77	Autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 4, f. 78	Typescript, with author's manuscript corrections	
b. 4, f. 79	"The Polite Shepherd of Manor Gardens: An Episode of the Arcadian Civil Service," autograph manuscript, signed	1929 Nov 16
b. 4, f. 80	"A Portrait by Kneller," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 4, f. 81	"The Portrait of the Madonna," autograph manuscript, signed	1916 Nov 26
b. 4, f. 82	"The Potter's Wheel," autograph manuscript, signed	1912 Jul 6
b. 4, f. 83	"Queen Flora's Garden," autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 4, f. 84	"Queen Flora Ruled the Flowers," autograph manuscript of poem	n.d.

## OTHER WRITINGS (continued)

b. 4, f. 85	"The Secret Room," autograph manuscript, signed	1923 Nov 28
	"Shall We Join the Ladies"	
b. 5, f. 86	Typescript, with corrections Two acts completing Sir James Barrie's unfinished play of the same name; in green paper folder, with title, author's name and address on front cover in author's autograph	n.d.
b. 5, f. 87	Mimeographed copy of Sir James Barrie's unfinished play Issued from the office of Elizabeth Marbury with the terms of the contest offering a prize of \$1,000 for the best completion of the play; in blue folder, with title, announcement of the prize, etc., on front cover	[1925]
b. 5, f. 88	"Something Gorgeous," autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 5, f. 89	"The Story of the Cid," autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 5, f. 90	"Strange and Beautiful," autograph manuscript, signed	1940 Dec 8
b. 5, f. 91	"The String of Beads," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 5, f. 92	"Tales from Ariel's Isle," autograph manuscript of "Forward"	n.d.
b. 5, f. 93	"Teaching Us All a Lesson," 2 typescripts with manuscript corrections	n.d.
	<i>A Thing of Beauty</i>	n.d.
b. 5, f. 94-95	Autograph manuscript; in 8 thin, blue exercise books	
b. 5, f. 96	Typescript, corrected Accompanied by a printed announcement issued by Hodder & Stoughton, concerning a prize of one thousand guineas in a novel competition; also, a copy of a letter (dated 1916 Mar 27), in Miss Gate's hand, addressed from her to Hodder & Stoughton entering her novel, <i>A Thing of Beauty</i> , in the contest	n.d.
b. 5, f. 97	"To the Sound of Trumpets: A Fairy Play in Three Acts," typescript, corrected Note in author's hand on leaf 1: "All the King's Trumpets, published simultaneously in Gt. Britain & the U.S.A. by Basil Blackwell, Oxford, & the Yale University Press, New Haven & New York, is based upon this play by the same author;" promotional material from both publishers for that work included on paper cover <a href="#">See: Box 2, folder 40</a>	n.d.
b. 5, f. 98	"The Unknown Princess," autograph manuscript	1933 Nov 4
b. 5, f. 99	"The Upholding Arms," autograph manuscript, signed	1924 Jun 9
b. 5, f. 100	"The Window," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 5, f. 101	"Within the House of God the Priest has hung," autograph poem On a brown wrapper for typing paper	n.d.

## OTHER WRITINGS (continued)

"The Wonderful Journey: A Fairy Play for Grown-Ups in 4 Acts and a Prologue"

Note: Gate published a story of the same title in *Tales from the Secret Kingdom*, 1919

b. 5, f. 102	Autograph manuscript, scenario only	n.d.
b. 5, f. 103	Autograph manuscript, signed	n.d.
b. 5, f. 104	Typescript (carbon) with manuscript corrections	n.d.

**Series II: OTHER PAPERS, 1935-1938***4 Folders*

b. 5, f. 105	Luxton, Joan. ANS to Ethel May Gate, [London]	1935 Jul 17
b. 5, f. 106	[Dream of Her Father], autograph manuscript	1938 Oct 25
b. 5, f. 107	Autograph account of expenses	n.d.
b. 5, f. 108	Manuscript copies of 4 songs Songs include "I Remember" [Charles Zeuner, 1830?], "Pestal" by W.H. Bellamy, arranged by C.E. Horn, 1845, "Villikins and his Dinah" [from burlesque by F. C. Burnand], 1855, and "The Songs of Long Ago; air: Auld Scotia's Sangs, John Thompson"; in grey paper folder with titles on front cover and Miss Gate's name and address inside front cover	n.d.

## 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

Authors, English -- Archives  
Children's literature, English  
English literature -- 20th Century

### Preferred Titles

*All the king's trumpets*  
*Fortunate days*  
*Harvest of the years*  
*Punch & Robinetta*  
*Shall we join the ladies?*  
*Tales from the enchanted isles*  
*Tales from the secret kingdom*

### Names

Barrie, J. M. (James Matthew), 1860-1937 (*Shall we join the ladies?*)  
Gate, Ethel May (1882-1942)  
Luxton, Joan