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GAIL BOWEN

SEPTEMBER 2015

BY ELIZABETH SEITZ

**Biographical Sketch:** Gail Dianne Bowen was born in Toronto. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto in 1964 and her Masters of Arts from the University of Waterloo in 1975, she undertook graduate research at the University of Saskatchewan.

Bowen was a lecturer in English at the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College in Saskatoon. In 1979 she and her family moved to Regina where she once more served as a lecturer, this time at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (SIFC) and the University of Regina. In 1986 she was appointed assistant professor of English at SIFC (now the First Nations University of Canada), and was Chair of the English Department for six years.

The first six books in the Joanne Kilbourn series (about a widowed mother, political analyst and university professor who finds herself occasionally involved in criminal investigations in various parts of Saskatchewan) include *Deadly Appearances* (1990); *Murder at the Mendel* (1991); *The Wandering Soul Murders* (1992); *A Colder Kind of Death* (1994), winner of the Crime Writers of Canada Arthur Ellis Award; *A Killing Spring* (1996) and *Verdict in Blood* (1998) have appeared as made-for-television movies with world-wide distribution. *Burying Ariel* (2000); *The Glass Coffin* (2002); *The Last Good Day* (2004); *The Endless Knot* (2006) *The Brutal Heart* (2008), *The Nesting Dolls* (2010) and *Kaleidoscope* (2012) have met with critical and commercial success and many have been adapted as Canadian television movies by Shaftesbury Films. In June 2008, Reader's Digest named Bowen 'Canada's Best Mystery Novelist'. Bowen's 14th book in the Joanne Kilbourn series, *The Gifted* was published in 2013, and her 15<sup>th</sup> book, *12 Rose Street* was published in 2015. *What's Left Behind*, the 16<sup>th</sup> in the series, is set to be published on March 1, 2016.

Bowen's short story *The King of Charles Street West*, which appeared in *Toronto Noir* (2008) published by Akashic Books, New York, was singled out for special praise by Publishers' Weekly.

Bowen has had four plays produced at Regina's Globe Theatre – *Dancing in Poppies* (1993) which was presented in a special performance for Prince Edward, *Beauty and the Beast* (1993); *The Tree* (1994) and an adaptation of *Peter Pan* (1997). Manitoba Theatre for Young People chose *Peter Pan* as its 2000 and 2013 Christmas production. The Grand Theatre in London, Ontario presented *Dancing in Poppies* in 2002 and *Peter Pan* in 2003.

Bowen's adaptation of *Doctor Doolittle* was broadcast on CBC's Showcase in April 2006, and the University of Regina produced a theatrical version of the play simultaneously. *Saving Lonesome George*, Bowen's original play about the last of the Galapagos tortoises, was produced by Persephone Theatre in 2008 and was produced by Carousel Players in 2009/10.

Bowen's radio play *The Word According to Charlie D.* was broadcast on CBC's Showcase in October 2006. Her *Long Time Listener/First Time Caller* was CBC's World Play for 2008 and rebroadcast on CBC in May 2009. To date, Orca Book Publishing has published 4 *Charlie D* novels: *The World According to Charlie D* became *Love you to Death*; *Long Time Listener* became *One Fine Day You're Gonna Die* and the two original Charlie D plays: *The Shadow Catcher* and *The Thirteenth Rose*.

Bowen was Writer in Residence for the Toronto Reference Library in May and June of 2009 and she has written the introduction to "Essays on Canadian Detective Fiction" that will be published by Wilfred Laurier Press in 2009. She was a mentor at the SFU Mystery Writers Retreat on Salt Spring Island in June 2010. In 2013 Gail became the Writer In Residence at the Regina Public Library.

Bowen's short story *The Foad Toad* was published in the University of Regina's *University Affairs* publication in 2010.

Bowen has won the Crime Writers of Canada's Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel, 1995, for *A Colder Kind of Death* and was named Canada's Best Mystery Novelist by *Reader's Digest*, 2008.

**Scope and Content:** This collection is comprised of approximately 78 centimetres of material and ranges in date from 2008 to 2015 with the predominant date of material being from 2014 to 2015.

Professional Activities and Writing by Gail Bowen are the main series in this collection as well as several drafts of Bowen's latest book in the Joanne Kilbourn series titled *What's Left Behind* (former title: *The Singing Grass*)

The Writing by Gail Bowen series is primarily made up of drafts of her mystery series. The Professional Activities series relates to activities she was involved in the promotion of her books and of herself as a professional mystery writer. This collection also includes 7 photographs and 6 contact print sheets.

**Custodial History:** These materials were retained by the donor until being transferred to the Archives and Special Collections in September 2015.

**Legal Agreement:** The donor agreement is pending.

**Future Accruals:** Future accruals are expected.

**Access Restrictions:** There are no access restrictions established by the donor for this collection however there is one Closed file.

**Related Accessions:** Related accessions may be found in 95-4 and 98-50, 2001-11, 2002-44, 2003-15, 2006-10, 2007-21, 2009-8, 2011-1, 2012-4, 2013-3, 2014-5, and 2014-62.

**Note on Arrangement:** Newspaper clippings were photocopied for preservation purposes, the photographs and contact print sheets were numbered and sleeved.

Box 1	Awards	
1	Distinguished Canadian – Honoring Gail Bowen	May 29, 2014
2	Clippings about Gail Bowen	2015
3	Clippings and Webpages of Interest	
	Correspondence	
4	Gette, Amber	n.d.
5	Glickman, Susan	n.d.
6	McClelland and Stewart – Ellen Seligman	June 18, 2015
7	St. Lukes Anglican Church	[March 30, 2014]
8	Turnley, Marilyn and Gerry	n.d.
9	University of Regina – External Affairs	May 8, 2015
	Finances	
10	Canada Council for the Arts – Title Earnings Summary	February 13, 2015
	Miscellaneous	
11	Notes and Notebooks	
12	Toronto Reference Library ‘Gail’s Office’ (Writer in Residence)	2009
	Personal	
13	40 Anniversary Madness Travel	2008
14	Letter to Friends	
	Photographic Material (includes photographs and Contact Print Sheets)	
15	Index (includes 7 photographs, contact 6 sheets)	
	Professional Activities	
16	Amnesty International (Canada)	June 8, 2015
17	Arts without Boundaries	June 15, 2015
18	Association of Canadian Archivists (Federation)	2015
19	Booklore	October 30, 2014
20	Brown, Jason Robert ‘The Last Five Years’ Goldern Apple Theatre Production (Artesian on 13 <sup>th</sup> )	February 2015
21	The Canadian Children’s Book Centre CBC Radio	July 10, 2015
22	Christmas Diaries	2014
23	Spelling Bee	May 27, 2015
24	East Gwillimbury Library	March 10, 2014
25	The John Spray Mystery Novel Award	2015
26	London Public Library	April 15, 2015
27	Oshawa Public Library Mystery Author Festival	June 2014
28	Red Deer Public Library	May 11, 2015
29	Regina Public Library – Banned Book Cafe	February 25, 2015

	30	Royal Canadian Mounted Police (R.C.M.P.) Creative Kids Auction	2015
	31	Saskatchewan Festival of Words July 17 – 20	2014
	32	Saskatchewan Writer's Guild <i>Freelance</i>	March 10, 2015
	33	Travel Itinerary	2014
	34	Word on the Lake Writers Festival	May 2015
		Publications by Gail Bowen (English)	
	35	<i>The Brutal Heart</i>	
		Publications by Gail Bowen in Foreign Languages	
	36	<i>Moord in het Museum</i> (Murder at the Mendel) [Dutch]	
Box 2	37	<i>De teddybeer moorden</i> (The Wandering Soul Murders) [Dutch]	
	38	<i>Dodelijke schijn</i> (Deadly Appearances) [Dutch]	
	39	<i>Der gläserne Sarg</i> (2 copies) (The Glass Coffin) [German]	
	40	<i>Der Campus Mord</i> (A Killing Spring) [German]	
		Publications Featuring Writing by Gail Bowen	
	41	<i>Detecting Canada Essays on Canadian Crime Fiction, Television, and Film.</i> Jeannetter Sloniowski and Marilyn Rose Editors (page 151)	
	42	<i>Entangled Roots – The Mystery of Perterboroug's Headless Corpse, Lundahl, Bev</i>	
Box 3	43	<i>Toronto A Literary Guide.</i> Greg Batenby	
		Recommendations	
CLOSED	44	K.J.B.	October 31, 2009
		Writing by Gail Bowen	
	45	<i>12 Rose Street</i> (former title "The Red Speedboat") Editors remarks (Lara Hinchberger and Kendra Ward)	2013
	46	Notes	
	47	Publicity and Reviews	2015
	48	Random House Correspondence	2015
	49	The Red Speedboat Plotline and Research	
	50	Reading Copy	March 3, 2015
	51	Spring Tour Schedule	2015
		<i>Charlie D Mysteries</i>	
	52	One Fine Day - Notes	
		The Gifted	
	53	Notes	
	54	Life after Writing with Styles: A Modest Proposal	
		Peter Pan	
	55	Manitoba Theatre for Young People	2014
		The Singing Grass (title becomes <i>Whats Left Behind</i> )	
	56	Brokenshire Farm printed February 17, 2014	
	57	Draft printed October 14, 2014	
	58	Draft printed October 15, 2014	

Box 4	59	Draft November 2014	
	60	Draft 1/2 printed November 8, 2014	
	61	Draft 2/2 printed November 8, 2014	
	62	Draft with Revisions 1/2 December 2014	
	63	Draft with Revisions 2/2 December 2014	
	64	Draft with Revisions 1/2 December 2014 – January 2015	
	65	Draft with Revisions 2/2 December 2014 – January 2015	
	66	Notes	
	67	Overview of the Time Between Tuesday, June 9 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup>	
	68	Timeline for Day of Lee's Death	
Box 5	69	<i>Ursula and the Great Bear</i> What's Left Behind (former title: The Singing Grass)	
	70	Catalogue Copy for Book	
	71	Character Lines for Michael Goetz	n.d.
	72	Draft	n.d.
	73	Draft with Revisions 1/2	Spring 2015
	74	Draft with Revisions 2/2	Spring 2015
	75	Draft with Revisions Spring 2015 printed May 5, 2015	
	76	Draft 1/3 Saturday, May 16, 2015	
	77	Draft 2/3 Saturday, May 16, 2015	
	Box 6	78	Draft 3/3 Saturday, May 16, 2015
79		Draft 1/2 printed May 26, 2015	
80		Draft 2/2 printed May 26, 2015	
81		Draft sent to Kendra Ward) June 6, 2015	
82		Draft with Revisions (with Kendra Ward's edits) Spring 2015 printed June 25, 2015	
83		Editors Remarks (Kendra Ward)	August 4, 2015
84		Matters to be Resolved	
85		Notes	
86		Revisions	Spring 2015
87		A Sufficient End	
88		The Yellow Canoe Revision Notes	January 2014