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GAIL BOWEN

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BY KIEU MA

AND

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, number 15, *12 Rose Street* was published in 2015 and *What's Left Behind*, the 16th in the series, was published in 2016.

The series continued with *The Winners' Circle* in 2017 and *A Darkness of the Heart* in 2018. *Sleuth: Gail Bowen on Writing Mysteries* was published by University of Regina Press in 2018.

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 60 centimetres of material related to the professional activities and writing by Gail Bowen, it ranges predominantly in date from 2015 to 2017. Also included in this collection are 3 computer diskettes, the contents have been printed out and files saved to the University's server for interim preservation.-

Custodial History: This material was delivered to the Archives and Special Collections in December 2017.

Legal Agreement: The donor agreement is pending.

Future Accruals: Future accruals are expected.

Access Restrictions: There are no access restrictions to material in this collection.

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, 2014-62, 2015-57 and 2017-15.

Note on Arrangement: Newspaper clippings were photocopied for preservation purposes. The computer disks are stored on the University server for interim preservation.

Box 1		Awards / Nominations	
	1	Saskatchewan Book Awards – Muslims For Peace and Justice Award	2017
		Biographical Information	
	2	Gail Bowen – 2015 Biography	2015
		Correspondence	
	3	Access Copyright - Change Form: May 3, 2017	2017
	4	McClelland and Stewart – The Endless Knot	2006
	5	Jeanette Lynes (University of Saskatchewan) and Bruce Walsh and others (University of Regina Press)	2016, 2017
		Penguin Random House	
	6	The Other Self (includes Agreement)	2017
	7	The Winners' Circle	2017
	8	Playwrights Guild of Canada – Membership Application	2014
	9	Miscellaneous	n.d.
		Publicity	
	10	Book mark and News clippings about Gail Bowen and her work	2017
		Professional Activities	
	11	A Good Story Well Told – Writing for the Reluctant Reader	n.d
	12	Amnesty Podcast, [April 2015]	2015
	13	Edna Staebler Laurier Writer-in-Residence Application	2017
	14	Kingston Writersfest, July 7, 2016	2016
	15	Saskatchewan Book Awards – Panelist Contract, April 26, 2017	2017
		Saskatchewan Writers' Guild	
	16	NaNoWriMo – Talk Topic, November 9, 2016	2016
	17	St. Peter's Abbey – Writer-in-Residence Agreement and invoice, November 9-12, 2017	2017
	18	Words in the Park – Reading, June 15, 2017	2017
	19	Write After Lunch – Workshop, March 2, 2017	2017
	20	Word on the Lake – Salmon Arm, B. C., May 16, 2015	2015
	21	49 th Shelf – 150 Canadian Authors Recommend... Robertson Davies – Fifth Business	2017
		Research Material	
	22	Bar Admission Course Material	
	23	News Clippings	2004, 2015
	24	Prostitution of Children: A Guild for Parents	n.d
		Royalty Statement	
	25	University of Regina Press –for Dancing in Poppies: A Play, May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017	2017

	Writing by Gail Bowen		
	Computer Diskettes (files in order as is they appear on the diskettes)		n.d
	26	Computer Diskette #1 (includes Computer Diskette #1)	
	27	Al.doc	
	28	Chapter Eigh1.doc	
	29	Chapter Eight.doc	
	30	Chapter Five.doc	
	31	Chapter Four.doc	
	32	Chapter Nine.doc	
	33	Chapter One.doc	
	34	Chapter Seven.doc	
	35	Chapter Six.doc	
	36	Chapter Ten.doc	
	37	Chapter Three.doc	
	38	Chapter Two.doc	
	39	Draft Ten.doc	
	40	Farm Crisis.doc	
	41	Gail's Beauty and the Beast.doc	
	42	Murder at Mishimi.doc	
Box 2	43	Notes for Chapter Ten.doc	
	44	Sweet Potato.doc	
	45	Computer Diskette #2 (includes Computer Diskette #2)	
	46	Just .doc	
	47	Just2.doc	
	48	Just3.doc	
	49	Computer Diskette #3 (includes Computer Diskette #3)	
	50	Just.doc	
	51	Just2.doc	
	52	Just3.doc	
	53	Just4.doc	
	54	Just5.doc	
	55	Just6.doc	
	56	Just7.doc	
	57	Just8.doc	
	58	Just9.doc	
	59	The Contest (includes Correspondence with Kelly Jo Burke, August 26, 2004)	2004
		A Darkness of a Heart	
		Drafts	
	60	Chapter Thirteen	n.d.
	61	1/2	n.d.
	62	2/2	n.d.
	63	pages 186 to 201 (Scene at April's Place)	n.d.
	64	printed September 10, 2017 1/2	2017
Box 3	65	printed September 10, 2017 2/2	2017
	66	printed September 22, 2017 1/2	2017
	67	printed September 22, 2017 2/2	2017
	68	Don't Let the Tail Wag the Dog	n.d
	69	The Endless Knot – Draft	n.d
		The Other Self	
		Drafts	
	70	page 2-55	n.d
	71	page 61-77	n.d
	72	Chapter 1, 2 - printed December 31, 2016	2016

	73	Chapter 3	n.d
	74	printed December 2016 / January 2017	2016, 2017
	75	printed January 3, 2017	2017
Box 4	76	printed and sent to Jared and Kelly on March 8, 2017	2017
	77	printed April 20, 2017 1/2	2017
	78	printed April 20, 2017 2/2	2017
	79	Rejected page - printed April 2, 2015	2015
	80	Perfect Circles – October 28 to November 2016 - printed December 14, 2016	2016
		Peter Pan	
	81	Adapted by Gail Bowen, revised script for Manitoba Theatre for Young People, October 2000	2002
	82	Message from the Playwright, September 2014	2014
		Sleuth - On Writing Mysteries	
	83	On Writing Mysteries - printed August 24, 2016	2016
	84	On Writing Mysteries - July 26, 2017	2017
Box 5	85	On Writing Mysteries - October 25, 2017	2017
	86	The Spur - printed November 19, 2008	2008
		The Winning Circle	
	87	Drawing	n.d.
		Drafts	
	88	printed October 3, 2015	2015
	89	revised with KW edits – December 1, 2016	2016
	90	revised – May/June 10, 2016, revised – June 20, 2016, printed July 2016 1/2	2016
	91	revised – May/June 10, 2016, revised – June 20, 2016, printed July 2016 2/2	2016
	92	revised – May/June 10, 2016, revised – June 20, 21, 2016, July 2016 – September – October 2016 - printed October 20, 2016 1/2	2016
	93	revised – May/June 10, 2016, revised – June 20, 21, 2016, July 2016 – September – October 2016 - printed October 20, 2016 2/2	2016
	94	Review of copyedited manuscript	