

**The New York Public Library  
Humanities and Social Sciences Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

**Robin Hardy Papers  
1964-2001**

**John D. Stinson  
October 2003**

**This version produced November 2003**

## Table of Contents

<b>Summary</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>Biographical note</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Scope and content note</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>Arrangement note</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>Series descriptions and container list</b> .....	<b>1</b>
I. PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1970-1996 .....	1
A. Letters Received .....	1
B. Letters Sent , 1971-1992 .....	1
II. FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE, 1964-1992.....	1
III. WRITINGS .....	2
A. Fiction .....	2
B. Nonfiction .....	3
1. Articles .....	3
a. Typescripts .....	3
b. Clippings of Published Articles .....	3
2. Autobiographical Writings and Poetry.....	4
C. <i>The Crisis of Desire</i> .....	5
a. Robin Hardy's File.....	5
b. David Groff's File .....	5
IV. EDITORIAL FILES .....	6
V. PERSONAL MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS .....	7
VI. PHOTOGRAPHS .....	8
VII. ARTWORK.....	8
VIII. PRINTED MATTER.....	8
IX. SOUND AND VIDEO RECORDINGS .....	9
A. Sound Recordings .....	9
B. Video Recordings .....	10
X. RESTRICTED PAPERS .....	10

## Summary

<b>Main entry:</b>	Hardy, Robin, 1952-
<b>Title:</b>	Robin Hardy Papers, 1964-2001
<b>Size:</b>	18 linear feet (32 boxes, 1 oversized folder)
<b>Source:</b>	Donated by the Estate of Robin Hardy, via Eloise Hardy, 2000. Additional materials donated by David Groff, 2002.
<b>Abstract:</b>	The papers reflect the personal life and career of Robin Hardy, Canadian-born gay activist, writer and editor of action/adventure fiction who emigrated to the United States from Canada in 1984.
<b>Access:</b>	Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division. Papers in Series X are closed until 2028.
<b>Preferred citation:</b>	Robin Hardy Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
<b>Special formats</b>	Diaries, Photographs, Sound recordings, Video recordings, Works of art

## Biographical note

Robin Clarkson Hardy, gay activist, writer, editor and producer of adventure fiction, was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on July 12, 1952, the son of William Hardy, a businessman, and Jean (Guppy) Hardy. In 1955 the Hardy family moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and in 1963, to Ottawa, Ontario, where Robin completed his secondary education at The Glebe Collegiate Institute from which he was graduated in July of 1970. Afterwards, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree (with honors) from the University of Alberta, where he studied creative writing, and a Bachelor of Laws Degree in 1976 from Dalhousie University. Finding the prospect of practicing law uncongenial, he turned his talents to journalism and to creative writing. He settled for a time in Toronto, where he became a staff writer and member of the editorial collective of *Body Politic*, a respected gay news magazine with an international circulation. During his Toronto years he published numerous essays and reviews on gay life and culture in the gay and straight press, produced radio documentaries for CBC Toronto, and served as human rights organizer for the Coalition of Gay Rights, purportedly the first full time salaried position of its kind in Canada.

After living for several years in Europe, Hardy emigrated to the United States in 1984, settling in New York City. Here he established a career as editor, writer and producer of fiction for the adult, young adult, and juvenile markets. From 1987 to 1991 he was executive editor of The Cloverdale Press which specialized in producing action/adventure fiction, westerns, and thrillers for Avon, Bantam, Dell, Ballantyne and other publishers. He was ghostwriter under several pseudonyms of numerous young adult novels in mystery and horror series. His book, *Call of the Wendigo* (N.Y., Bantam, 1994), the first young adult novel published under his own name, was a great popular success. His manuscript on the AIDS crisis, "Landscape of Death," was incomplete at the time of his death. The manuscript was completed by his friend, David Groff, and published (1996) by Houghton-Mifflin under the title *Crisis of Desire*.

In 1993 Mr. Hardy removed to Tucson, Arizona where he continued his work as a free-lance writer and editor. On October 28, 1995 he lost his life while hiking with a friend in the mountains of Tonto National Forest. At the time of his death he was undergoing treatment for HIV infection. He was survived by his parents, his two sisters, Eloise and Michele Hardy, of Ottawa, and by his brother Charles, also of Ottawa.

## Scope and content note

The papers consist of Hardy's personal and family correspondence; editorial correspondence and papers reflecting his work as editor and producer of action/adventure fiction; clippings of published articles; typescript drafts and outlines of stories, novels and other writings; personal miscellany including high school and college compositions; photographs; printed matter relating to AIDS; and sound and video recordings.

## Arrangement note

The Robin Hardy Papers are organized in the following series:

- I. Personal Correspondence, 1970-1996
- II. Family Correspondence, 1964-1992
- III. Writings
- IV. Editorial Files
- V. Personal Miscellaneous Papers
- VI. Photographs
- VII. Artwork
- VIII. Printed Matter
- IX. Sound and Video Recordings
- X. Restricted Papers

## Series descriptions and container list

### I. Personal Correspondence, 1970-1996

#### A. Letters Received

The letters received by Robin Hardy are mainly from his circle of Canadian friends in Ottawa, Halifax, Alberta and Vancouver, many of whom were college and university students. In the 1970's the bulk of the correspondence is from women with whom he had romantic or close personal relationships. In the later period there is correspondence from gay friends and lovers in Canada, France, Germany, and The Netherlands. The correspondence reflects the social and cultural life of middle class Canadians born in the 1950's, their hopes, ambitions, and quests for employment and personal fulfillment.

Letters from Kriss Boggild removed to Restricted Papers.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1-8	1970-1973
2	1-9	1974-1977
3	1-9	1978-1982
4	1-7	1983-1992
5	1-6	1993-1996, n.d.
	7	Postcards, n.d.
	8	Cards, n.d.
	9	Miscellany

#### B. Letters Sent , 1971-1992

The letters sent by Robin Hardy consist of original handwritten and typed letters mailed to his Canadian friend, Norman Hay, while he was sojourning in Europe in 1983. These letters, which were written from Berlin, describe his experience of gay life and culture in Berlin, Paris, and Amsterdam, his struggles for acceptance into German society, his efforts to support himself as translator of tourist brochures and as a writer of adventure fiction for his Canadian publisher, his gay friends, his sexual encounters in gay bars, and the vicissitudes suffered while hitchhiking between Berlin and Paris. They also contain reflections on German history and culture and a lengthy diatribe against his Canadian editor who had altered an article he had written on Canadian politics prior to his departure for Europe. At Hardy's request the letters were returned to him that he might have a record of his European experiences since he did not keep a travel journal.

### II. Family Correspondence, 1964-1992

The family correspondence consists of letters to Robin Hardy from his brothers, Charles and Christopher Hardy; from his sisters, Eloise and Michele Hardy; from his mother and father, Jean and William Hardy; and from his aunt and grandmother. There are a few letters from Robin Hardy to his brother, Christopher, in the period 1974-1981; and to his sister, Eloise, in the period 1972-1985; and miscellaneous papers of Christopher Hardy.

7	1	Charles Hardy. Letters to Robin, 1974-1992
	2	Christopher Hardy. Letters to Robin, 1971-1976
	3	Christopher Hardy. Letters from Robin, 1974-1991
	4	Christopher Hardy. Miscellaneous papers

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
7	5-6	Eloise Hardy. Letters to Robin, 1971-1992
	7	Eloise Hardy. Letters from Robin, 1972-1985
	8	Michele Hardy. Letters to Robin, 1972-1992
	9-11	William and Jean Hardy. Letters to Robin, 1971-1992
	12	Miscellaneous family, 1964-1979

### III. Writings

The writings are arranged into fiction and nonfiction. The nonfiction writings are arranged into typescripts of articles; clippings of published articles; autobiographical writings and poetry; and *Crisis of Desire*.

#### A. Fiction

The fiction consists of typescript drafts of stories, novels, sketches, vignettes, and story and chapter outlines for proposed works, arranged by title. There is an unedited typescript draft of the novel, *Call of the Wendigo*, which was published by Bantam Books (1994); typescript drafts of other novels or stories "Atlantis," "The Armageddon Conspiracy," (subtitled "Millennium Countdown"), and "The Janus Syndrome;" and notes and drafts of chapters for a novel centered in Berlin entitled "Nullpunkt." Included are multiple drafts of a short story entitled "Ghosts" which Hardy had submitted to a CBC literary competition.

See also Series VII. Artwork for literary notes on oversized drawing pad.

8	1	The Armageddon Conspiracy
	2	Atlantis
	3	A Boy Out of America
	4	Call of the Wendigo
	5	The Day the Homos Disappeared
	6	Ecco Homo
	7	Ghosts
9	1-2	The Janus Syndrome
	3	Johnny Was a Sweet Boy
	4	Journeys of the Mind to the City of Dreams
	5	Last Call
	6	Love in Amsterdam
	7	Marion's Dream
	8	Nullpunkt
	9	The Play
	10	Sadar in Search of the Waters of Oblivion
	11	Sebastian
12	The Smell of Death and Destruction	
13	The Visitor	
14	Miscellaneous mss and fragments	
15	Miscellaneous notes	

Box      Folder

## **B. Nonfiction**

The nonfiction is arranged into typescripts of articles; clippings of published articles; autobiographical writings and poetry; and *The Crisis of Desire*.

### **1. Articles**

The articles by Robin Hardy consist of typescripts of completed articles and essays; notes and drafts of articles in preparation; and clippings of published articles.

#### **a. Typescripts**

The typescripts of completed articles include articles on gay culture in Berlin; an essay entitled "Category Fiction and the Tyranny of Social Realism;" and an unedited "unbowdlerized" draft of an article on Terry Fox which was published in *Quest* (Sep 1983) under the title "The Legacy of Terry Fox." The articles by Robin Hardy consist of typescripts of completed articles and essays; notes and drafts of articles in preparation; and clippings of published articles.

The articles in preparation include notes for an article on Berlin taken in part from a letter (3/28/83) from Robin Hardy to Norman Hay in which he recorded his impressions of German culture and society; and notes and fragments of drafts of an essay on American culture. There are also extensive notes, drafts, and other papers relating to an article that Hardy was preparing on the historical development of gay culture in San Francisco down to its culmination in "Castro Street." Included are notes of interviews with Harry Britt (Apr 1979), Stuart Loomis, a professor at San Francisco State College, with Duke Smith, political editor of *The Sentinel*, and others; and an analysis of mayoral politics in San Francisco in the aftermath of the assassination of Harvey Milk.

10	1	American Culture
	2	Berlin
	3	Category Fiction and the Tyranny of Social Realism
	4	Don't Turn Out the Lights
	5	Historic Gay Exhibition in East Germany
	6	How to Get Laid in Berlin
	7	Interview with a Gay Cop
	8	Norman McLaren
	9-11	San Francisco
	12	Terry Fox

#### **b. Clippings of Published Articles**

The file of clippings of articles by Robin Hardy published in the gay press are arranged by title of publication. There are also a few clippings of articles from unidentified publications.

11	1	The Advocate
	2	Body Politic
	3	Canadian Environmental News
	4	The Canadian Forum
	5	Circuit
	6	Fuse

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
11	7	Gay News
	8	Last Rites
	9	Manner Actuell
	10	Mephisto Review
	11	Now
	12	Onion
	13	Parallelogramme
	14	Quest
	15	Standout
	16	Today
	17	Toronto Calendar Magazine
	18	Village Voice
	19	The Weekly Observer; and untitled publications

## **2. Autobiographical Writings and Poetry**

The autobiographical writings consist mainly of notes, sketches, and recollections of incidents, episodes, and events in Hardy's personal life, his childhood, his circle of personal friends, his impressions of "the city" (Toronto) and of New York City, and his impressions of America. The writings are typewritten on unlined yellow sheets arranged chronologically and by subject. The poetry consists of typescript drafts with corrections of his poems arranged chronologically in the period 1970-1977 and undated.

12	1	1973
	2	1974
	3	1975
	4	1976
	5	1977
	6	1979
	7	1983
	8	n.d.
	9	Berlin
	10	Tryptich
	11	New York City
	12	Miscellany
	13	Poetry

Box            Folder

**C. *The Crisis of Desire***

The papers relating to the book, *The Crisis of Desire*, are arranged into Robin Hardy's file; and David Groff's file. Hardy's original manuscript which bore the working title "Landscape of Death," was incomplete at the time of his death in 1995. The manuscript was subsequently expanded and completed by his friend, David Groff, and published as: *The Crisis of Desire: AIDS and the Fate of Gay Brotherhood*, Robin Hardy with David Groff (Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1999).

**a. Robin Hardy's File**

Robin Hardy's file contains his original book proposal, early typescript drafts; and a typescript draft of six chapters (197 pages) of "Landscape of Death" (the working title of *The Crisis of Desire*) which he sent in October of 1995 to his editor, Dawn Seferian, at Houghton-Mifflin. Included are Hardy's research files consisting of notes and ephemera arranged by chapter and by topic including transcripts of interviews conducted by him with health professionals in the field of AIDS research and safe sex, and with gays regarding their sexual practices.

13	1 2-3 4	Typescript drafts of six chapters of Landscape of Death (early title) Original book proposal and early drafts Miscellaneous
14-15		Research files

**b. David Groff's File**

David Groff's file consists of the final typescript draft with editorial corrections of *The Crisis of Desire*; a first draft, and draft of the introduction; a copy of Hardy's incomplete draft containing Groff's notes for the expansion of the text; a bound advance reading copy, and a copy of the published work. Included are Groff's correspondence (1996-1997) with Eloise Hardy, with Houghton-Mifflin, and others relative to the preparation of the manuscript; publicity papers, and research notes and papers. The research papers include printouts from Hardy's floppy discs made by Eloise Hardy; photocopies of Hardy's Xmas card list and of his list of addresses; and a copy of his publishing agreement with Houghton-Mifflin.

16	1 2 3 4 5 6	Final typescript with editorial corrections Page proofs Page proofs (master set) Typescript by Robin Hardy with Groff's notes for expansion of the text Typescript of 1st draft by Groff Introduction by Groff
17	1 2 3 4 5 6 7-8	Correspondence, 1994-2001 Correspondence with Eloise Hardy; print-outs of Robin Hardy's letters from his computer discs Photographs of Robin Hardy; and photocopies of miscellaneous papers relating to Hardy Memorial for Robin Hardy Production papers Publicity papers Research papers

<u>Box</u> 17	<u>Folder</u>	Advance reading copy of <i>The Crisis of Desire</i> and first edition
------------------	---------------	---

#### IV. Editorial Files

This series consists of a topical file of correspondence, authors' typescripts, book proposals, chapter outlines, research notes, agreements, and other papers relating to Hardy's work as executive director of the Cloverdale Press, publisher of action/adventure fiction, and to his free lance work as editor and author of action/adventure fiction. Included is correspondence with Mark Howell of Gold Eagle Books, a subsidiary of Harlequin Enterprises of Ontario, Canada, with his literary agent, Mitch Douglas, relative to work in progress and to marketing strategies; and correspondence with other editors and publishers including Mega-Books of New York, Inc. relative to a proposed Nancy Drew/Hardy Boys Super Mystery entitled "Conspiracy in Copper Canyon," with Chardiet Unlimited, Inc. relative to a horror series entitled "Foul Play;" and with Bantam Books regarding the publication of his book *The Call of the Wendigo*. There are also research notes on ancient Egypt and correspondence with John Anthony West regarding a proposed biography of West; and correspondence (including a letter from Congressman Barney Frank) regarding Hardy's article "Final Exit" about the euthanasia death in Holland of his friend, Hans Faasse, which was published in *Penthouse* magazine.

<u>Box</u> 18	<u>Folder</u>	
	1	Action/Adventure
	2	Armageddon. Background research
		Authors' scripts
	3	Burton-Hampton, Gina. Science fiction outline
	4	Dee, Jay. Decay, I'm Not Alone
	5	De Lint, Charles. Where Desert Spirits Crowd the Light
	6	Dougherty, Carol. Journey to Xinjiang
	7	Herringer, Jay. Incident in Belize
	8	Worman, Martin. Midnight Masquerade
	9	Miscellaneous
	10	Book covers
	11	Boys' Own Boy Zone
19	1	The Call of the Wendigo
	2	Chardiet Unlimited, Inc.
	3	Chester, Alfred
	4	Children's literature
	5	Cloverdale Press
	6	Comics
	7	A Death in Amsterdam
	8	Egypt
	9	Erotic Art
	10	Fan Mail
	11	Fantastic Fiction. Adventures for the Modern Imagination
	12	Final Exit article in <i>Penthouse</i>
20	1	Gold Eagle Books
	2	Grants/Fellowships
	3	The Hardy Boys Casefiles Plot List
	4	Killer's Club (Bantam Books)
	5	Letterhead designs
	6	Lycaons, by Alex Barbier. Notes for film version
	7	Mega-Books of New York, Inc.
	8	Miscellany

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
20	9	National Writers Union
	10	Notes
21	1	Notes
	2	Proposals
	3	Street Wizards
	4	The Trumpet Club
	5	Video Editing, Notes on
	6	Waterworld
	7	Writers Retreat Workshop
	8	Zimbab and the Greek Boy

### **V. Personal Miscellaneous Papers**

This series, which is arranged topically, consists of miscellaneous papers relating to Robin Hardy's personal life. Included are biographical papers, fragments of a personal journal (1972-1975), letters of recommendation, medical records including insurance invoices relating to his HIV infection, membership cards, passports, a memorandum book of personal accounts (1968-1969), pocket engagement calendars (1979-1995 in 15 volumes), file of addresses, report cards of his grades in primary school; and papers relating to his high school education at The Glebe Collegiate Institute in Ottawa; and to his studies at The University of Alberta and at Dalhousie University. Included are typescripts of his college compositions for courses in creative writing, philosophy, psychology, and political science; examination papers and grade reports.

22	1	Biographical papers
	2	Boy Scouts of Canada
	3	Certificates
	4	Dalhousie University School of Law
	5	Glebe Collegiate Institute
	6	Journal, 1972-1975
	7	Letters of Recommendation
	8	Marriage certificate and papers
	9	Medical records/insurance vouchers
	10	Memberships
	11	Miscellany
	12	Passports
	13	Personal accounts, 1968-1969
23	1	Primary school grades
	2	Scrapbook of Susan Collins
		University of Alberta
	3	Administrative records
	4-5	Compositions. Creative Writing and Poetry
	6	Compositions. Philosophy and Psychology
	7	Compositions. Political Science
	8	Examinations and grades
	9	Notes and miscellaneous papers
24		Pocket Calendars, 1979-1995

Box      Folder

**VI. Photographs**

This series includes snapshots and photographic portraits of Robin Hardy taken at various periods of his life, as a child, college student, and during his adulthood. Most of the photos appear to have been taken in Canada. There are also group snapshots of Robin Hardy with friends; and family photos of his mother, father, and siblings. There are also a few snapshots of gay demonstrations in New York City.

- |    |     |                           |
|----|-----|---------------------------|
| 25 | 1-2 | Robin Hardy               |
|    | 3   | Robin Hardy and Friends   |
|    | 4   | Hardy Family              |
|    | 5   | Gay Demonstrations in NYC |

**VII. Artwork**

This series consists of miscellaneous oversized artwork by, or relating to, Robin Hardy, and other oversized materials. Included are water color drawings depicting human images in distorted shapes some erotic in nature; cover designs for "Waterworld" and "Zimbab and the Greek Boy;" an oversized drawing pad containing brief notes and ideas for chapters of literary works in progress including "The Weimar Syndrome," "Saigon Story," "The Armageddon Conspiracy," and his action/adventure fiction series "The S.O.Bs" and "Soldiers of Barrabas." Included also is an oversized engagement calendar for 1995, "Art Against AIDS," containing a few entries by Hardy; and three nude photographic portraits of Robin Hardy on oversized sheets. There are also a few drawings of images of Robin Hardy by his friend [Susan] Collins dated 1973.

26

**VIII. Printed Matter**

The bulk of the printed matter consists of ephemera relating to gays and to AIDS.

- |    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 27 | 1   | Art catalogs                                |
|    | 2   | Circumcision (anti)                         |
|    | 3-4 | Gay ephemera                                |
|    | 5   | Vietnam                                     |
|    | 6   | Witness Against Our Vanishing               |
|    |     | AIDS  |
| 28 | 1   | Bulletin of Experimental Treatment for AIDS |
|    | 2   | Diet  |
|    | 3   | Herbs                                       |
|    | 4   | HIV   |
|    | 5   | Meditation                                  |
|    | 6   | Miscellaneous                               |
|    | 7   | Notes                                       |
|    | 8   | PWA of Tucson                               |
|    | 9   | Phoenix Body Positive                       |
|    | 10  | Project Inform                              |
|    | 11  | Research                                    |
|    | 12  | Tagline                                     |
| 29 | 1   | Treatment                                   |
|    | 2   | Treatment Update                            |
|    | 3   | Troy Stephenson Foundation                  |
|    | 4   | Tucson AIDS Project                         |

Box      Unit ID

## IX. Sound and Video Recordings

### A. Sound Recordings

Original sound recordings are not available. Order listening copies by unit id number. Recordings without id numbers have not yet been duplicated.

03638	The Day I Left for Amsterdam, 1991 May
03639	CBC Ideas / New Warriors #1 (1986) Discussion of action/adventure/fantasy novels.
03640	Ideas / New Warriors #2
03641	Letter + Song for Robin. On verso: ...de Maiseille?
03642	CBC Ideas / Trials of London / Picture This The Trials of London, 1995 – Child pornography rings in London, Ontario
03643	CBC – Ideas / Picture This.
03644A, B	Dave Kinnick Robin Hardy talks to video reviewer Dave Kinnick about the gay porn industry.
03645	Unsafe Sex Discussion
03646	Unsafe Sex Discussion
03647A, B	Martin Delaney, 1995 Jan 26 Founding Director of Project Inform. Discussion of AIDS drugs and their manufacturers.
03648	ACT UP (Robin Hardy talks about ACT UP.)
03649A, B	Michael Demeo
03650	Luis Nieves (Robin Hardy interviews Luis Nieves)
---	SCA-AB + Lifson #1 Sexual Compulsives Anonymous; Dr. Alan R. Lifson?
---	Siegel / Douglas Crimp
---	Sam Sanchez / Worman #1
---	Worman #1 / Sam Sanchez #2
---	Worman #2 / John Martin 1989 Dec 2 / Bruce Mailman 1989 Dec 12
---	Tartaglia #2 / Blasius #1
---	Sotomayor (Danny?)
---	Ekstrand / SCA Body Positive (Dr. Maria L. Ekstrand?)
---	Worman / Lukacs
---	Tartaglia #1 / Martin Worman #3
---	Shaw #4 / Russo #1 / Mailman, St. Marks Lawyer #1
---	Ed Sederbaum / Gay Male S/M Activists (Barry Douglas) / Dr. G. Bolan / CDC-Doll (Chicago study)

Unit ID

**B. Video Recordings**

Original video recordings are not available. Order viewing copies by unit id number.

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 01453-01454 | Hasselriis Misc. / Sag Harbor / Herzers / Egypt Revival, 1989; 1991<br>Mar 8  |
| 01455-01458 | Mark Hasselriis. The Book of What Is, 1989 Nov 11   |
| 01459       | Queer Moments in Great Literature<br>Robin Hardy is the moderator at a reading of various works from classic<br>gay literature and writers. |
| 01432       | Death in Amsterdam, 1992 Feb 27   |
| 01433A, B   | Forever Young / Hans Faasse's Death   |
| 01434A, B   | Memorial - Jay Chiodo   |
| 01435       | Michael Lynch, 1944-1991. A Memorial Tape   |
| 01436       | Dead at 21. TV show presented by MTV Networks (store scene), 1991<br>Jan 21   |
| 01437       | Teen Horror Books, 1994 Feb 23<br>Robin Hardy talks about writing horror books for teens  |

**X. Restricted Papers**

The restricted papers consist of correspondence removed from Series I; and a record of an interview removed from Series III.

These papers are closed until the year 2028.