

Reference number: MS 240

## Guide to the Papers of Lily Brett

Australian Defence Force Academy Library



Canberra 2000

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## Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Brett, Lily, 1946-
<b>Title:</b>	Papers of Lily Brett
<b>Date range:</b>	1969-1999
<b>Reference number:</b>	MS 240
<b>Extent:</b>	6.78 m (50 boxes)
<b>Repository:</b>	Australian Defence Force Academy Library Canberra ACT 2600
<b>Abstract:</b>	The papers document Brett's writings from 1979, including her poetry, short stories, novels, essays, newspaper columns, articles and reviews, together with several unpublished works, including a screenplay.

## Scope and Content

This collection comprises journals, notebooks, correspondence, manuscript and typescript drafts, notes, research material, computer discs and photographs. The papers reflect the voice and presence of a dedicated and passionate post-Holocaust writer. A notable aspect of the collection is a series of notebooks, spanning nearly two decades, which richly detail Brett's personal life and literary career.

The papers offer detailed documentation of Brett's writings from 1979, including her poetry, short stories, novels, essays, newspaper columns, articles and reviews, as well as several unpublished works, including a screenplay. There are working papers for eleven of Brett's publications, including *The Auschwitz poems* (1986), *Poland and other poems* (1987), *After the war* (1990), *Things could be worse* (1990), *What God wants* (1991), *Unintended consequences* (1992), *Just like that* (1994), *In her strapless dresses* (1994), *Mud in my tears* (1997), *In full view* (1997) and *Too many men* (1999).

The correspondence series includes a large proportion of draft letters by Brett, and these contribute to an understanding of her personal relationships, and her abiding interests and concerns. Among the major

correspondents are *The Age*, Angus and Robertson, Caroline Baum, Inara [Johnston?], Macmillan, *Meanjin*, *Overland*, Petrushka Owen, Christopher Pollnitz and *Southerly*.

## Organization

The original order of this collection has largely been retained by the Library.

## Biographical Note

Lily Brett was born on 5 September 1946 in a displaced persons' camp in Germany. Her Jewish parents were survivors of the Lodz Ghetto and Auschwitz. Her family moved to Melbourne in 1948, and in 1961 Brett began her literary career writing for the Australian rock magazine *Go-Set*. She currently lives in New York with her husband, Australian artist David Rankin.

Brett's publications include *The Auschwitz poems* (1986), *Poland and other poems* (1987), *After the war* (1990), *Things could be worse* (1990), *What God wants* (1991), *Unintended consequences* (1992), *Just like that* (1994), *In her strapless dresses* (1994), *Mud in my tears* (1997), *In full view* (1997), *Collected stories* (1999) and *Too many men* (1999). She has also contributed poetry, short stories and articles to Australian and overseas journals and newspapers.

In 1987 Brett was awarded the Victorian Premier's C.J. Dennis Prize for *The Auschwitz poems* (1986), which received great critical acclaim for its expression of the feelings and experiences of second-generation Holocaust survivors. In 1986 her suite of fourteen poems "Poland" won the Mattara Poetry Prize. Brett has also won the 1992 Steele Rudd Award for *What God wants* (1991), and the 1995 New South Wales Premier's Christina Stead Prize for Fiction for *Just like that* (1994). Her novel *Too many men* (1999) was awarded the 2000 Commonwealth Writers' Prize, South-East Asia and South Pacific Region Best Book from the Region Award.

## Administrative Information

### Access

This collection is restricted and partly closed.

### Restrictions on Use

No copying is permitted without the permission of the copyright owners.

One box of mould/mildew affected material has yet to be re-housed. The box contains 6 notebooks/journals and 1 folder of material regarding Ainslie Meares.

### Preferred Citation

[Manuscript Item], Papers of Lily Brett, Australian Defence Force Academy Library, MS 240, Series [Number], Folder [Number].

### Provenance

This collection was acquired from Lily Brett and David Rankin in four instalments from 1991 to 1999.

## Series List and Descriptions

### Series 1 Correspondence, 1979-1998

This small series comprises correspondence between Brett and her friends, family, literary associates, agents and publishers. A large proportion of the series consists of Brett's own letters, particularly faxes from New York to Australia, regarding personal and literary matters and arrangements. These letters contribute to a strong understanding of Brett, her personal relationships, and her abiding interests and concerns. The major correspondents include *The Age*, Angus and Robertson, Caroline Baum, Inara [Johnston?], Macmillan, *Meanjin*, *Overland*, Petrushka Owen, Christopher Pollnitz and *Southerly*. Notes and drafts for many of Brett's letters are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#).

#### Folder 1

A, 1980-1997

Including Robert Adamson, *The Age*, Richard Walshof Angus and Robertson, Anka [?], Jonathan Armytage, Arnold Bloch Leibler & Co., Rudi Krausmann of *Aspect*, Geoffrey Dutton of *The Australian Literary*

*Magazine*, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and Australian Transnational Consultants

Folder 2

B, 1980-1997

Including Rebecca Batties, Caroline Baum, Jan Mahyuddin and Sneja Gunew of *Beyond the echo: multicultural women's writing* (1987), B'nai B'rith Raoul Wallenberg Unit, Max Brett and *The Bulletin*

Folder 3

C, 1979-1997

Including Christine [?], Kathleen Clair, Suzy Coleman, Collins and Harriet Cooper

Folder 4

D-G, 1989-1997

Including Judith Dunford, Jeanine Fowler and Joanna Goldsworthy

Folder 5

H-J, 1982-1997

Including Robert Harris, Richard Hatchett, Hickson Associates Literary Agents, Hill of Content Publishing, Holocaust Publications, Hunter District Water Board, JC [?], Joan [?] and Inara [Johnston?]

Folder 6

K-L, 1984-1997

Including Mara and Sam K., Knopf (NY) and Lucy Kroll Agency (NY)

Folder 7

M, 1979-1998

Including Macmillan, Mary [?], McKee Gallery, *Meanjin*, The Media Market, Melbourne University Press, Georges Mora and *Ms*

Folder 8

N, 1980-1997

Including Nicki [?] and Noreen and Roy [?]

Folder 9-10

O, 1980-1997

Including *Overland* and Petrushka Owen

Folder 11

P-S, 1980-1997

Including Patronato Pro Niños (Mexico), Phoenix Publications, Christopher Pollnitz, David Rankin, Jessica Rankin, Jacob Rosenberg, together with typescripts of his poems "Yiddish shtetl", "Ghetto love" and "Ghetto lullaby", Schocken Books (NY), Scribe Books (NY), *Scripsi*, *Southerly* and Stein and Day (NY)

Folder 12

T-Z, 1980-1997

Including Paul Kavanagh of University of Newcastle, Viking Penguin, Mindy Weisel and Elaine Wolfensohn

**Series 2 Journals, 1969-1989**

The 28 journals in this series contain candid and self-revealing entries relating to Brett's personal life. The journals are often closely related to the notebooks included in [Series 3](#). A number of the journals are only partially filled with sometimes sporadic entries. This series is closed.

Folder 1

1969

Folder 2

1970s

Folder 3

1979

Folder 4

1 January-6 May 1980

Folder 5

1980

Folder 6

1981

Folder 7

13 November 1981, 20 June-26 September 1982

- Folder 8  
26 September-2 December 1982
- Folder 9-10  
1982
- Folder 11  
1983
- Folder 12  
2-3 January 1983
- Folder 13  
10 May-11 November [1983?]
- Folder 14  
29 August-4 October 1983
- Folder 15  
11 October 1983-6 January 1984
- Folder 16  
10 January-3 April 1984
- Folder 17  
Undated, with loose pages dated April 1984
- Folder 18  
5 May-18 May 1984
- Folder 19-20  
1984
- Folder 21  
16 June 1984-28 April 1985
- Folder 22  
1985
- Folder 23  
29 April 1985-5 June 1986
- Folder 24  
1986

Folder 25  
10 June 1986-18 March [1987?]

Folder 26  
1987

Folder 27  
1988

Folder 28  
1989

### **Series 3 Notebooks, 1979-1996**

From 1979, Brett has maintained an almost continuous series of notebooks which richly detail her writing and personal life. This series contains 99 notebooks, which are generally arranged in chronological order. Several of the notebooks are undated. The notebooks contain 'daily life' lists, arrangements and appointments; records of conversations and phone calls; drafts of letters; daily work plans; research notes and writing ideas, notes and drafts. This series is closed.

Folder 1  
Notebook with poetry notes and drafts, 25 December 1979-29 April 1980

Folder 2  
Notebook with poetry notes and drafts, 13 January-12 February 1980

Folder 3  
Notebook with poetry notes and drafts, 12 February-18 May 1980

Folder 4  
Notebook with general notes, and poetry and prose notes, 19 May-13 December 1980

Folder 5  
Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, 20 November 1980-2 January 1981

Folder 6  
Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, c. 1980-1981;  
notebook with general notes and prose notes, c. early 1980s



Folder 7

Notebook with personal notes, draft correspondence, and poetry and prose notes and drafts, 4 May 1982-13 June 1984

Folder 8

Notebook with general notes, 1983

Folder 9

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *The Auschwitz poems*(1986), 10 June 1984-13 July 1985

Folder 10

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *The Auschwitz poems*(1986), July-August 1985

Folder 11

Notebook with poetry notes and drafts, including poems used in *The Auschwitz poems* (1986), 14 July-14 December 1985

Folder 12

Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, including poems used in *Poland and other poems* (1987), April 1986

Folder 13

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *Poland and other poems*(1987), 18 May-27 July 1986

Folder 14

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *Poland and other poems*(1987), 5 August-18 December 1986

Folder 15

Notebook with poetry notes and drafts, including poems used in *Poland and other poems* (1987), 24 February-17 June 1987

Folder 16

Notebook with general notes, c. 1987

Folder 17-18

Notebooks (8) with general notes and drafts for reviews, c. 1987-1989

Folder 19

Notebooks (2) with general notes, c. 1988

Folder 20

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *After the war* (1990), 21 June 1987-6 April 1988

Folder 21

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *After the war* (1990), 24 April-14 August 1988

Folder 22

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems used in *After the war* (1990), 13 December 1988-16 February 1989

Folder 23

Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, including poems used in *After the war* (1990), c. 1988-1989

Folder 24-28

Notebooks (18) with notes and drafts for newspaper columns, c. 1988-1989

Folder 29

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, 16 February-7 March 1989, including poems used in *After the war* (1990), and notes regarding short stories submitted to various journals and newspapers, March-April 1989

Folder 30

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, inscribed 'Renia Bensky and *After the war* - both written in March 1989'

Folder 31

Notebook with general notes, and prose notes and drafts, c. 1989

Folder 32-33

Notebooks (2) with general notes, 1990

Folder 34

Notebook with general notes, and poetry and prose notes, from 23 April 1990

Folder 35

Notebook with general notes, and poetry and prose notes and drafts, from 27 August 1990

Folder 36-37

Notebooks (2) with general notes, and notes and drafts for *What God wants* (1991), c. 1990

Folder 38

Notebooks (2) with drafts for *Unintended consequences* (1992), 17 November-7 December 1990

Folder 39

Notebook with drafts and notes for *Unintended consequences* (1992), 18 December 1990-11 January 1991, including notes and drafts for "Unclear medicine" (published in 1994 as *Just like that*), 21-25 January 1991

Folder 40

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts for *Unintended consequences* (1992) and *Just like that* (1994), c. 1991

Folder 41

Notebook with poetry and prose notes and drafts, including poems for *Unintended consequences* (1992), 6 September-13 November 1991

Folder 42

Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts for *Unintended consequences* (1992), c. 1991

Folder 43

Notebook with notes and drafts for *Just like that* (1994), April-June 1992

Folder 44

Notebook with notes and drafts for *Just like that* (1994), 8 April 1992-18 February 1993

Folder 45-48

Notebooks (4) with notes and drafts for *Just like that* (1994), c. 1992-1993

Folder 49

Notebook with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, c. 1992-1993

Folder 50-52

Notebooks (3) with general notes, c. 1992-1993

Folder 53

Notebook with poetry notes and drafts for *In her strapless dresses* (1994), *Mud in my tears* (1997) and others, 19 March 1992-18 March 1996

Folder 54

Notebook with poetry notes and drafts for *Mud in my tears* (1997) and others, 16 May 1994-18 March 1996

#### Folder 55

Notebook with poetry notes and drafts for *Mud in my tears* (1997) and others, 15 November 1994-18 March 1996

#### Folder 56-61

Notebooks (6) with general notes, and poetry notes and drafts, c. 1994-1996

#### Folder 62

Notebook with notes and drafts for *In full view* (1997), c. 1996

#### Folder 63-64

Notebooks (2) with general notes [nd]

#### Folder 65

Notebook with notes and drafts for short stories and other prose [nd]

#### Folder 66-77

Notebooks (12) with notes and drafts for short stories [nd]

### **Series 4 Poetry**

This series includes manuscript and typescript drafts of published and unpublished poems, together with correspondence, notes, reader's reports, page and galley proofs, reviews and posters. The papers document the development and publication of Brett's six volumes of poetry, comprising *The Auschwitz poems* (1986), *Poland and other poems* (1987), *After the war* (1990), *Unintended consequences* (1992), *In her strapless dresses* (1994) and *Mud in my tears* (1997). There are also drafts of early and unpublished poems. Correspondence relating to these works is included in [Series 1](#). In addition, the notebooks in [Series 3](#) include often extensive notes, ideas and drafts for many of Brett's poems.

#### 4.1 Early and Miscellaneous Poems

Comprising manuscript and typescript drafts of early and unpublished poems dating from 1979. There are also drafts of miscellaneous poems, including poems later published in *Poland and other poems* (1987) and *After the war* (1990).

#### Folder 1

Manuscript and typescript drafts of early poems, 25 December 1979-19 May 1980

Comprising "A crowd", "A day with David", "Alleyne Avenue", "Along the way", "And the rock blinked back", "Anima", "A perfect wife", "A sad poem", "The baby", "The change", "Back from Tom's", "Bialik", "Cheesecake", "Church Street Parramatta", "Dad and Dave", "D and C", "David", "December with David", "Dickens Street", "Dilemma", "Dr G", "Drunk", "Enough is enough", "Enticing me inside", "Every year", "Feeling fat", "Feeling four", "Feeling nice", "Food", "Friends", "The games had started", "Girlfriends", "Glimpses", "Golden haired man", "Grade Three", "Growing up", "Gypsy", "I'd like to go away", "Inara", "In bed", "I've told them", "Jammed apart", "Jenny's legacy", "The land off McPherson Street", "The last lap", "Letter to Peggy", "Lily", "Living without a testament", "Lost friends", "Love at thirty-three", "The Lovett-Rankin circus", "Me", "Monday", "My arrival", "My breasts", "My Gypo", "Myself alive", "Nicholson Street", "Nigger", "Nine", "Not a nice poem", "Old friends", "On Bondi Bridge", "Poem for Joanna", "Poems for David", "Professional friend", "Rankin", "Required roles", "Rob", "Rob and Lily", "Robbie", "Siblings", "Sixteen", "Somebody else's wife and mother", "Sometimes", "Sue", "Telling my parents", "Thursday morning", "Together", "The town house", "Transparencies", "Twice as alive and half dead", "What am I doing", "When I'm half asleep", "The winner" and "You and me"

## Folder 2

Notes and manuscript and typescript drafts of miscellaneous poems

Comprising "Leaving" and "Your writing", 5 July 1980,

"Paris", 28 April 1984,

"Gypsy gold", 30 April 1984;

together with "1961", "A find", "A frame", "Ankles", "Apart", "A shave", "The Claremont", "David", "For David", "For Nancy", "Grim lips", "I ache (for Joanna)", "I feel loose", "I have sadness", "I visit you", "I would like", "The last train", "Missing parts", "Motherless", "Moving", "My dad", "Okay", "Old ladies (for Joanna)", [One way], "Ooh (for Caroline)", "Poem for Elaine", "Poetry", "Quiet surprise", "Saturday", "Sometimes", "Things that matter", "This is more important", "Thoughtful", "We left late", "When I look at you - for Ramona", "You", "Your face" and "Your feet"

## Folder 3

Typescript drafts of 'General and new' poems and 'Analysis' poems,

including poems published in *Poland and other poems* (1987) and *After the war* (1990)

'General and new' poems comprising "After days", "A move", "A quiet refrain", "Conversation with Anna", "Dear David I", "Dear David II", "Dear David III", "The high wire", "I have thrown", "I've learned", "My side", "On the first night", "Poem for Anna Weis" and "Wednesday night"; together with 'Analysis' poems, including "A child", "After what you've been through", "Analysis break", "A substitute", "Day two driving to you", "Driving to you", "Four weeks", "Getting home", "Given up", "I keep wondering", "My stomach", "My sweet witch", "On my way", "Relief", "This break", "Today", "When the session ends", "Where are you", "Who is this" and "You and me"

#### Folder 4

Notes and annotated typescript drafts for "The bruised room" suite, including poems later published in *After the war* (1990); letter of Lily Brett, 1988, regarding entry of "The bruised room" suite for the 1988 Mattara Poetry Prize

#### Folder 5

Typescript drafts for "Days in the half-light" suite, including poems later published in *After the war* (1990)

### 4.2 *The Auschwitz poems* (1986)

Comprising typescript drafts, page and galley proofs and other papers relating to Brett's first volume of poetry, published by Scribe in 1986.

#### Folder 1

Typescript, annotated typescript and typescript photocopy drafts of poems

#### Folder 2

Typescript drafts of poems offered for publication to *The Age*, *The Australian*, the ABC, *Island* and *Westerly*

#### Folder 3

Page proofs of preliminary pages and illustrations

#### Folder 4

Page proofs, 139 p.

#### Folder 5

Photocopied galley proofs, 86 p.

## Folder 6

Material regarding the launch, 1986; photocopy of a review, *The Australian Jewish Times*, 1986; *The Age Book of the Year 1986* booklet; material regarding the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, 1987

### 4.3 *Poland and other poems* (1987)

Comprising notes, typescript drafts, posters and other papers relating to Brett's second volume of poems, published by Scribe in 1987.

## Folder 1

Notes; typescript and typescript photocopy drafts of poems mostly published in *Poland and other poems*

Comprising the suites "Kaddish for my mother", "Two women", "Poem for my mother", "My mother is dying", "Poland" and "On the way to Lodz"

## Folder 2

Typescript and annotated typescript drafts of poems

Including "A look", "Displaced", "If", "I have been away", "I looked for you", "In cafes", "Mario Lanza", "On my first morning", "Something slight" and "Today"

## Folder 3

Typescript draft, 146 p.

## Folder 4

Typescript draft with photocopied illustrations, 146 p., and several loose annotated pages

## Folder 5

Material regarding launch, 1987; "Literature Board - Guidelines for Applicants", 1987, and related notes; posters (7) regarding the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, 1987; receipt from the ABC concerning a broadcast of the poem "Poland" on ABC Radio, 5 October 1987

### 4.4 *After the war* (1990)

Comprising notes, typescript drafts, page proofs, a reader's report and reviews relating to Brett's third volume of poems, published by Melbourne University Press in 1990.

## Folder 1

Notes; annotated typescript and typescript photocopy drafts of poems

Folder 2

Typescript drafts of poems published in *After the war* from “The bruised room” suite (16 poems) and “Days in the half-light” suite (10 poems)

Folder 3

Typescript draft

Folder 4

Notes and corrections

Folder 5

“Lily Brett MS: Reader's report” by Robert Harris, 13 p.

Folder 6

Photocopied page proofs, 122 p., together with photocopies of 2 reviews, 1990

4.5 *Unintended consequences* (1992)

Comprising typescript drafts for Brett's fourth volume of poems, published by Paper Bark Press in 1992.

Folder 1

Typescript draft, November 1990

Folder 2

Typescript draft, 143 p.

4.6 *In her strapless dresses* (1994)

Comprising notes and a reader's report for Brett's fifth volume of poems, published by Pan Macmillan in 1994.

Folder 1

Notes; letter from Julia Taylor of Pan Macmillan, 1994, with editorial notes; Pan Macmillan reader's report, 2 p.

4.7 *Mud in my tears* (1997)

Comprising typescript drafts and page proofs for Brett's sixth volume of poems, published by Pan Macmillan in 1997. A computer disc containing related draft material is included in [Series 14](#).

Folder 1

Typescript and annotated typescript drafts of poems published in *Mud in my tears*, together with typescript drafts of other poems



Including “After a few days”, “A stream”, “Buck's County”, “Don't cry for me”, “Dozing”, “Early morning”, “For the country”, “Geese”, “He is there”, “Home town”, “I eat”, “If I am not here”, “If I could have chosen”, “I have slipped away”, “I still cry”, “I wanted to cry”, “The mamba”, “My face and hands”, “Sex in the afternoon”, “Today is the ninth day”, “Wound up” and “You have appeared”

#### Folder 2

Typescript draft, 89 p.

#### Folder 3

Typescript draft with corrections, 89 p.

#### Folder 4

Page proofs with corrections, 129 p.

### **Series 5 Short Stories**

The papers in this series document Brett's two short story collections, *Things could be worse* (1990) and *What God wants* (1991), which were later published together as *Collected stories* (1999). There are notes, manuscript and typescript drafts, galley proofs and reviews for the published short stories, which feature tales of Holocaust survivors and their families living in Melbourne. There are also manuscript and typescript drafts of several miscellaneous short stories, comprising “Blue Heaven”, “Esther” and “Leeba Blis”. Correspondence relating to publication of the short stories is included in [Series 1](#). Notes, ideas and drafts for many of Brett's short stories are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#).

#### 5.1 *Things could be worse* (1990)

Comprising notes, manuscript and typescript drafts, galley proofs and reviews of short stories for *Things could be worse*, first published by Meanjin and Melbourne University Press in 1990.

#### Folder 1-3

Manuscript, annotated typescript and typescript photocopy drafts of short stories

Including “It was after the war”, “An illness”, “A drive”, “Mrs Bow” (retitled “A family portrait”), “Renia Bensky” (retitled “What do you know about friends”), “I wonder why she looks so happy”, “Every death”, “The

holiday", "The children", "Luba" (retitled "A mixed marriage"), "Miriam" (retitled "You will be going back to your roots"), "Ruth Blatt" (retitled "Chopin's piano"), "Malka" (retitled "I heard you got another husband"), "If you live long enough", "Things could be worse" and "Technical trouble"

#### Folder 4

"It was after the war" (early title) typescript draft

#### Folder 5

Notes and corrections

#### Folder 6

Typescript draft, 104 p., together with photocopies of 2 reviews, 1990

#### Folder 7

Galley proofs

### 5.2 *What God wants* (1991)

Comprising notes, manuscript drafts and typescript drafts of short stories for *What God wants*, first published by University of Queensland Press in 1991.

#### Folder 1-2

Notes, and manuscript and annotated typescript drafts of short stories

Including "Love" (retitled "Not a simple matter"), "Not one drop of juice", "Dora Lipshitz" (retitled "A lunatic proposition"), "Half-there", "Esther Schenkler" (retitled "Locker 1012"), "A glimpse of stocking", "A departure" (retitled "A hormonal imbalance"), "The alpha-jerk field", "Moving meals", "All kinds of things", "I'm fine" (retitled "On different fronts"), "Wombat Lodge", "We are all brothers and sisters" and "Is everything all right?" (retitled "What God wants")

#### Folder 3

Notes; typescript and typescript photocopy draft

#### Folder 4-6

Annotated typescript drafts (3)

### 5.3 Miscellaneous Short Stories

Comprising manuscript and typescript drafts of three miscellaneous short stories, "Blue Heaven", "Esther" and "Leeba Blis".

## Folder 1

“Blue Heaven” manuscript draft, 3 p., typescript draft, 3 p., typescript draft, 2 p., annotated typescript draft, 3 p.; “Esther” annotated typescript draft, various paging, annotated typescript draft, 10 p., typescript draft, 10 p.; “Leeba Blis” annotated typescript drafts (3), various paging, typescript draft, 9 p.

## Series 6 Novels

The papers in this series include notes, newspaper clippings and other research material, manuscript and typescript drafts, letters, a reader's report and a poster relating to Brett's first novel *Just like that* (1994). There is also a review of her second novel, *Too many men* (1999).

### 6.1 *Just like that* (1994)

Including notes, newspaper clippings, research material, manuscript and typescript drafts, letters, a reader's report and a poster relating to the novel, which was published by Pan Macmillan in 1994. The novel's central character, second-generation Holocaust survivor Esther Zepler, is an obituary writer living in New York. The novel was translated into German by Anne Lösch in 1998, and published as *Einfach so* by Deuticke Verlag. Correspondence regarding publication of *Just like that* is included in [Series 1](#). Notes and drafts for the novel are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#), and a computer disc containing a draft fragment is included in [Series 14](#).

## Folder 1-8

Newspaper clippings and other research material, including obituaries and articles on Bucky Balls, suicide, anti-Semitism and other issues

## Folder 9-13

Newspaper clippings and notes regarding obituaries, 6 March-5 April 1991

## Folder 14-17

Notes and research material, including notes from interviews with Sonia [?], Eli [?] and Chris [Beckinsale?]; letter to Win and Mimi Nathanson, c. 1991

## Folder 18-19

Photocopied notes

## Folder 20-21

Typescript notes, 17-25 September [1991?]

Folder 22-23

Notes, including typescript notes; "Unclear medicine" typescript draft, 10 p.; facsimile from Phillip Frazer, 1991

Folder 24

Notes, including final typescript notes; "Unclear medicine" annotated typescript draft, 10 p. and typescript draft, 12 p.

Folder 25

Photocopied notes and draft fragments

Folder 26

Notes, including notes regarding *The enigma of suicide* (1992) by George Howe Colt; annotated typescript draft of Chapter 1, 12 p.; annotated typescript draft of Chapter 2, 38 p.

Folder 27

Notes; annotated typescript draft of Chapter 2, 38 p.; "Anniversaries and addresses" typescript draft extract, 8 p., and annotated typescript draft extract, 8 p.

Folder 28

Typescript drafts (8) of Chapter 2

Folder 29

Annotated typescript draft of Chapter 3, 80 p.

Folder 30

Notes and notepad with notes and drafts for Chapter 4

Folder 31

Notepads (3) with notes and drafts for Chapter 4; "Three poems for David, 1992" typescript drafts (2)

Folder 32

Annotated typescript draft of Chapter 4, 78 p.

Folder 33

Manuscript draft of Chapter 5, 107 p., 7 April-12 May 1993

Folder 34

Annotated typescript draft of Chapter 5, 51 p.

Folder 35-37

Notes and notepads (10) with notes and drafts for Chapter 6

Folder 38

Manuscript draft photocopy of Chapter 6, 89 p., begun 2 June 1993; photocopied notes, 6 p.

Folder 39

Manuscript draft of Chapter 6, 213 p., 2 June-25 July 1993

Folder 40

Annotated typescript draft of Chapter 6, 97 p.

Folder 41

Typescript draft, 355 p.

Folder 42

Typescript draft photocopy, 358 p.

Folder 43

Notes; Pan Macmillan reader's report, 3 p.

Folder 44

Notes; letters from Julia Taylor of Pan Macmillan, 1994, with editorial notes

Folder 45

Photocopies of newspaper articles and reviews regarding *Einfach so* (1998) from Germany, Austria and Switzerland, with some English translations

Folder 46

Poster for *Einfach so* (1998)

6.2 *Too many men* (1999)

Including a review of Brett's second novel, which was published by Pan Macmillan in 1999. The novel explores the life of Ruth Rothwax, and her journey from New York to Poland with her father, Holocaust survivor Edek Rothwax. There are also copies of newspaper clippings regarding *Beyond lament* (ed. Marguerite Striar, 1998), an anthology featuring a selection of Brett's poems.

Folder 1

Newspaper clipping of review of the novel, *The Weekend Australian*, July-August 1999, together with clippings regarding *Beyond lament* (ed. Marguerite Striar, 1998)

## Series 7 Essays

This series comprises notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and reviews regarding Brett's collection of essays, *In full view*, published by Pan Macmillan in 1997. The nine essays cover such themes as food, sex, love, life in New York, family relationships, ageing and death. Notes and drafts for the anthology are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#).

*In full view* (1997)

Folder 1

Notes

Folder 2-3

Notes and manuscript draft fragments

Folder 4

“Ageing” notes, annotated typescript draft, typescript draft, 15 p., typescript draft, 19 p., annotated typescript draft photocopy, 18 p., 22 January 1996

Folder 5

“Daughter” and “Sex” notes and draft fragments

Folder 6

“New York, New York” and “Food” notes and draft fragments, together with miscellaneous notes

Folder 7

“Love”, “Death” and “Writing/analysis” notes and draft fragments

Folder 8-9

Manuscript drafts of essays

Folder 10-11

Editing notes, together with annotated typescript drafts of essays

Folder 12

Typescript draft, 223 p.

Folder 13

Typescript draft, 224 p.

Folder 14

Edited typescript draft photocopy, 224 p.; sample page proofs, 5 p.

Folder 15  
Page proofs

Folder 16  
Photocopies of newspaper articles and reviews regarding *In full view*, together with clipping of article "Balance and duality in the work of David Rankin", *Art and Australia*, p. 228-233

### **Series 8 Screenplays**

This series comprises notes and manuscript and typescript drafts relating to Brett's unpublished screenplay "The late bloomer".

"The late bloomer"

Folder 1-8  
Notes

Folder 9  
Notes; manuscript draft, 130 p.

Folder 10  
Notes; annotated typescript draft, 118 p.

Folder 11-13  
Typescript drafts (2) and corrected typescript draft, 31 December 1993

Folder 14  
Typescript draft marked 'working copy', 113 p., November 1995

### **Series 9 Newspaper Columns, 1989-1990**

Brett wrote a series of columns for the *Sunday Age* newspaper, from August 1989 to May 1990. This series includes notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and photocopied newspaper clippings regarding the columns, which cover such topics as food, city living and work. Related correspondence is included in [Series 1](#), and notes and drafts for the columns are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#).

Folder 1  
Notes for columns

## Folder 2-4

Notes, manuscript drafts, typescript drafts and photocopied clippings of columns, August 1989-May 1990

Including "Accoutrements for the job", "Assessing our value", "Batman's cholesterol", "City life", "Changes", "Diet", "Do we work hard enough?", "Dress", "Exercise", "Experts", "Food", "Friends," "The future", "Language", "Melbourne", "Misery", "The modern world", "Momentous moments", "Old rock and rollers", "Our service industries", "New York", "Parents", "Postures and positions", "Radicals", "The retreat into attitudes", "Routines", "Signs of our times", "Straight talk", "Sun", "The telephone", "Tolerating the intolerable", "The villages of Melbourne", "Whatever happened to love?", "What is history?", "What's in a name?", "When are we old enough?" and "Why do we drink so much?"

## Folder 5

Typescript drafts and photocopied clippings of *Sunday Age* columns submitted to *The New York Times*

### **Series 10 Other Prose, 1979-c. 1990**

Brett began her writing career as a journalist for *Go-Set* magazine in 1961. Since then she has written numerous articles, reviews and profiles for Australian and overseas newspapers and magazines, including *The Age*, *The Australian Jewish News*, *Die Zeit*, *The National Times*, *Pol* and *Vogue Living*. This series includes a selection of Brett's articles, 1979-1990, reviews for *The Age*, c. 1987-1989, and other unpublished prose writings and projects. Related notes and drafts are included in the notebooks in [Series 3](#).

### 10.1 Articles, 1979-c. 1990

Comprising notes, manuscript drafts, typescript drafts and clippings of articles by Brett, including articles on writers Jennifer Rankin and Naomi Rosh White. A photograph of Jennifer Rankin is included in [Series 13](#).

## Folder 1

"Jennifer Rankin" typescript draft and newspaper clipping of published article, *The National Times*, October 1979

## Folder 2

"Our house" manuscript draft and typescript draft, 3 p.; "Interview with Dr



Naomi Rosh White” typescript, 2 p., and photocopy of related article in *The Australian Jewish News*, 1988, together with “From death to life - Naomi Rosh White” annotated typescript drafts (3) regarding White's work *From darkness to light: surviving the Holocaust* (1988); typescript draft and notes regarding a photographic exhibition “Jewish life in Australia today”; miscellaneous notes, including notes regarding a proposed novel “The questions”

#### Folder 3

“Bicentenary” notes, manuscript draft and newspaper clipping of published article, *The Age*, 31 December 1988

#### Folder 4

“[The loft]” manuscript draft and typescript draft article for *Vogue Living*, c. 1990

### 10.2 Reviews and Critical Responses, c. 1987-1989

Comprising manuscript and typescript drafts of reviews and critical responses by Brett for *The Age*, c. 1987-1989.

#### Folder 1

Manuscript and typescript reviews and critical responses for *The Age*, c. 1987-1989

Including *The babe is wise* (1987) edited by Lyn Harwood, Bruce Pascoe and Paula White; “Choosing life”, by Mark Baker, *The Australian Jewish News*; *The drowned and the saved* (1988) by Primo Levi; *Kindergarten* (1988) by Elzbieta Ettinger; *Maus* [nd] by Art Spiegelman; *Twilight* (1988) by Elie Wiesel; *Two* (1985) by Ron Elisha; and *Utz* (1989) by Bruce Chatwin; together with research material and “Guidelines for Age reviewers”, 1 p.

### 10.3 Other Prose Writings and Projects, 1979-1988

Comprising papers relating to biographical writings, a proposed book of interviews with children of Holocaust survivors, and other non-fiction projects relating to motherhood, marriage and family relationships after divorce. There are also transcripts of interviews with poet Robert Adamson, and artists Charles Blackman and Albert Tucker. Two photographs of a couple interviewed for the “Happy marriage” project are included in [Series 13](#).

#### Folder 1

“A solution” annotated typescript, 2 p.; “[Until I was six years old]”

typescript, 1 p.; “A packet of Panadol and a packet of jelly beans” annotated typescript, 25 p.

#### Folder 2

“The meaning and demeaning of motherhood” manuscript draft, 22 p., typescript draft, 59 p., manuscript and typescript draft, 51 p., 1979; together with notes and research material, including transcripts of interviews with Marianne Beaulieu, Judith Colquhoun, Elaine Kermode, Penny Ramsey, Lyn Richards and Sandra Zurbo

#### Folder 3

Notes and research material regarding “Happy marriage”, c. 1979, including transcripts of interviews with Norman Claussen and Eileen Claussen, Peter Couchman and Trish Couchman, Mal Dobbin and Claire Dobbin, Warwick Horton, Corinne Kerby and Oscar Whitbread

#### Folder 4-5

Notes and research material regarding “Children and divorce”, 1979, including transcripts of interviews with Susan Crockett, Bill Garner, Ruth Maddison, Laurie Maloney, Mario Marchesani, David Mushin, Dan Slattery and Joy Slattery, Glen Staunton and Michael Wilks

#### Folder 6

Notes on mothers and daughters, together with research material regarding Nancy Friday

#### Folder 7

Research material regarding Stephanie Deste

#### Folder 8

Notes and transcript of an interview with Robert Adamson, c. early 1980s

#### Folder 9

Notes and transcripts of interviews with Albert Tucker, 2 March 1983 and 25 May 1983, together with transcript of interview with Charles Blackman, 28 April 1983, and manuscript draft of related article by Brett, c. early 1980s

#### Folder 10

Notes for future articles, together with notes on writing methods for a writing class

#### Folder 11

Notes and research material regarding second-generation holocaust survivors, including transcript of interview with Nuritt Borskyk, 16 March 1988

## Folder 12

Transcript of interview with Bela Mellor, 8 March 1988

## Folder 13

Transcripts of interviews with Charles Leski, 8 March 1988 and 6 April 1988

## **Series 11 Ainslie Meares Project, c. 1979-1981**

Following a profile of Australian psychologist Dr Ainslie Meares, published in *Pol* magazine, c. 1979, Brett was commissioned by Angus and Robertson to write a biography of Meares. The work was never published. This series includes a typescript copy of the original article on Meares, together with notes and transcripts of interviews with Meares, and his family members, friends, colleagues, employees and patients.

## Folder 1

"Dr Ainslie Meares" typescript, 30 p., marked "Original article as published in *Pol*", c. 1979, together with transcripts of early interviews with Ainslie Meares, Professor McCarthy, Mr Crock and Professor Kuhne

## Folder 2-4

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Ainslie Meares, 1980-1981

## Folder 5

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Norma Craig [nd]; Lyndsey Davis [nd]; Alex Sinclair, 1 October 1980; Dorothy Gepp Sinclair, 6 October 1980; Sylvia Meares Black, 8 October 1980; Russell Meares, 11 November 1980; A.W. Stewart, 13 November 1980

## Folder 6

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Garda Meares Langley, 14 November 1980; Norman Wettenhall, 14 November 1980; Russell Meares, 8 December 1980; Joan Wettenhall, 13 December 1980; Mrs Andrews, 15 December 1980; Mona Forrest, 6 February 1981; Sylvia Meares Black, 3 March 1981

## Folder 7

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Bernard Keays, 25 March 1981; Vere Langley, 1, 14 and 22 April 1981; Sir Thomas Webb, 13 May 1981; Reg Hooper, 19 May 1981; Wendy Mayhew, 29 May 1981; Dorothy Gepp Sinclair, 22 June 1981

#### Folder 8

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Michael Currie, 21 July 1981; Sir Sidney Sunderland, 29 July 1981; Diana Tatchell, 28 September 1981; Russell Howard, 8 October 1981

#### Folder 9

Transcripts and notes from interviews with Molly Ballard and Jessie Hearne, 28 October 1981; Jenny Webb and Diane Tatchell, 4 November 1981; Russell Meares, 14 November 1981; Professor Sali, 7 December 1981

#### Folder 10-11

Book and chapter outlines, research notes and questions for interviews

### **Series 12 Biographical Material, 1985-1988**

This small series of biographical material relating to Brett includes interview and seminar transcripts.

#### Folder 1

Transcripts of interviews (3) with Lily Brett by Delwyn [?], November-December 1985

#### Folder 2

Seminar transcript, Lily Brett and Sam Lipski, 13 April 1988, together with "Intro" typescript notes relating to a seminar with Lily Brett and David Rankin [nd]

### **Series 13 Photographs, 1979-1996**

This small series includes a photograph of Jennifer Rankin from a 1979 article by Brett. There are also two photographs relating to an unpublished article on "Happy marriage". Papers relating to these writings are included in [Series 10](#).

#### Folder 1

Photograph, 'Nathaniel on the move', August 1996  
Photograph of Jennifer Rankin, 1979  
Photographs (2) of a couple interviewed for an article on "Happy marriage", c. 1979  
Strip of photographs (4) featuring two girls

## Series 14 Computer Discs, c. 1994-1997

This small series contains three computer discs including drafts for *Just like that* (1994) and *Mud in my tears* (1997).

### Folder 1

Computer discs, 'Odd letters' [nd]

### Folder 2

Computer disc, "Fermented by the ferryman" from *Just like that* (1994)

### Folder 3

Computer disc, *Mud in my tears* (1997)

## Box List

Series	Folder/Piece	Box	Location
1	1-7	1	Main
	8-12	2	Main
2	1-5	3	Main
	6-10	4	Main
	11-20	5	Main
	21-28	6	Main
3	1-13	7	Main
	14-19	8	Main
	20-25	9	Main
	26-31	10	Main
	32-39	11	Main
	40-46	12	Main
	47-53	13	Main
	54-60	14	Main
	61-69	15	Main
	70-77	16	Main
4.1	1-5	17	Main
4.2	1-2	17	Main
	3-6	18	Main
4.3	1-5	19	Main
4.4	1-6	20	Main
4.5	1-2	21	Main

4.6	1	21	Main
4.7	1-2	21	Main
	3-4	22	Main
5.1	1-2	22	Main
	3-6	23	Main
	7	24	Main
5.2	1-4	25	Main
	5-6	26	Main
5.3	1	26	Main
6.1	1-2	26	Main
	3-9	27	Main
	10-17	28	Main
	18-25	29	Main
	26-31	30	Main
	32-38	31	Main
	39-41	32	Main
	42-45	33	Main
	46	34	Map Drawer 8
6.2	1	35	Main
7	1-4	35	Main
	5-8	36	Main
	9-11	37	Main
	12-14, 16	38	Main
	15	39	Main
8	1-8	40	Main
	9-14	41	Main
9	1-5	42	Main
10.1	1	42	Main
	2-4	43	Main
10.2	1	43	Main
10.3	1-2	43	Main
	3-8	44	Main
	9-13	45	Main
11	1-4	46	Main
	5-7	47	Main

	8-10	48	Main
	11	49	Main
12	1-2	49	Main
13	1	50	AV
14	1-3	50	AV