

Dorothy Joan Harris Fonds

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Dorothy Joan Harris (Canadian). – 1972-3? – 2010. – 1 archival box, 12.5 cm.

Biographical sketch: Dorothy Joan Harris was born in Kobe, Japan on February 14, 1931. Her Canadian mother and English father were educators and moved with her family to St Catherines, Ontario in 1938. With a degree in modern languages from the University of Toronto, which she completed in 1955, she taught in France and Japan. She settled in Toronto, Ontario in 1954, married Alan Harris in 1955, and worked as an editor with Copp Clark Publishers from 1955-1961. From 1977-1996 she worked as a public library assistant in Toronto. She began writing for her children Kim and Doug and still lives in Toronto.

The *mouse* series of books was inspired by her young children. Harris has authored several informational novels for teens, such as *Don't Call Me Sugarbaby*, about a teen coming to terms with her diabetic status and *Even If It Kills Me* about anorexia nervosa.

Awards:

1999 - Ragazzi Prize from the Bologna Book fair (Best Non-Fiction book) for her contribution to *Too Young to Fight* (Stoddart, Toronto, 1999).

2005-2006 – Nomination, Chocolate Lily Award for *A Very Unusual Dog*.

Bibliography:

Picture Books:

The House Mouse. New York: F. Warne, 1973

The School Mouse. New York: F. Warne, 1977.

The School Mouse and the Hamster. New York: F. Warne, 1979

Goodnight, Jeffrey. New York: F. Warne, 1983.

Four Seasons for Toby. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1987.

Racing Stripes for William. Toronto, ON: Three Trees Press, 1987.

No Dinosaurs in the Park. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1990

Rumpelstiltskin. Oxford: Don Mills, ON: University Press, 1991.

Cameron and me. Toronto, ON: Stoddart Kids, 1997.

A very unusual dog. Markham, ON: North Winds Press, 2004.

Books for Beginner Readers:

Speedy Sam. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1989.

Annabel the Detective: The Case of the Missing Tooth. Scarborough, ON: HarperCollins, 1991.

Annabel the Detective: The Case of the Missing Note. Scarborough, ON: HarperCollins, 1992

Annabel the Detective: The case of the birthday surprise. Scarborough, ON: HarperCollins, 1994

Young Adult Novels:

Don't Call Me Sugarbaby!. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1983.

Even If It Kills Me. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1987

Our Canadian Girl: Ellen Series

Ellen: Hobo Jungle. Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2002.

Ellen: the wishing time. Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2004.

Ellen: the waiting time. Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2005.

Ellen: Book Four. A time for courage. Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2006.

Anthologies

Contributor to *Too Young to Fight* (Stoddart, Toronto, 1999) – winner of the Ragazzi Prize from the Bologna Book fair (Best Non-Fiction book, 1999).

Books translated into French

Theo et les Quatre Saisons (Four Seasons for Toby). Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1987.

Cleo la Souris Express (Speedy Sam). Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1989)

Pas de Dinosaures dans le parc (No Dinosaurs in the park). Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1990.

Books translated into Braille

Don't Call Me Sugarbaby!. Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1983.

Cameron and me. Toronto, ON: Stoddart Kids, 1997.

Custodial history: Gift of Dorothy Joan Harris

Scope and content: This gift of material represents the literary archive of Dorothy Joan Harris to spring 2010. The current gift contains biographical sketches, manuscripts and papers for works published from 1973.

Arrangement: The archivist has grouped folders by title, ordered by date of creation. The original location of each file is provided. Date order is complicated by the fact that drafts and proofs are dated both by “day/month/year” and by “month/day/year.” In cases of ambiguity, the archivist has assumed “day/month/year.”

Restrictions on access: No restrictions in place

Series and sub-series:

1. Dorothy Joan Harris

1.1 Biography

Dates of creation: 1986, 1991

Physical description: 4 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains biographical sketches by the Children's Book Centre and CANSCAIP (Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators and Performers).

1.2 Miscellaneous

Physical description: 4 sheets, 2 ephemera in manila envelope

Scope and content: Dollhouse pictures of Den & Bedroom (4 photos) and 2 commemorative coins from the University of Southern Mississippi.

1.3 Correspondence and Book Drafts

Dates of creation: 1972/3 - 2004

Physical description: 42 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains: correspondence from University of Mississippi, Scholastic Books and the Canadian Diabetic Association; a carbon copy of "The House Mouse" manuscript, and; letters from Madeleine L'Engle, and E.B. White.

The one page letter of encouragement from E.B. White to Mrs. Harris is dated June 28, 1974 and speaks of his difficulty when beginning *Charlotte's Web*.

Correspondence from Madeline L'Engle dated February 13, 1976 to Mrs. Harris. L'Engle discusses rejection letters she has received from publishers. The letter is printed on two 5½ x 8½" pages.

1.4 *Don't Call Me Sugarbaby* (Richmond Hill, ON: Scholastic, 1983).

Dates of creation: unknown

Physical description: 167 sheets **Scope and content:** This folder contains a typewritten draft for *Don't Call Me Sugarbaby!*

1.5 *Jonathan and the Jeep* (pub. as *The School Mouse*. New York: F. Warne, 1977).

Dates of creation: [197?]-1992

Physical description: 36 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains a manuscript for *The School Mouse* (was titled *Jonathan and the Jeep*) and *The School Mouse and the Hamster*. This folder also includes the creator's C.V. and select book reviews.

1.6 Ellen – *The Waiting Time* (Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2004).

Dates of creation: unknown

Physical description: 86 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains handwritten notes and typed drafts for *Ellen: The Waiting Time*.

1.7 Ellen – *The Wishing Time*. (Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2005).

Dates of creation: unknown

Physical description: 139 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains handwritten and typed notes and drafts for *Ellen – The Wishing Time*.

1.8 Ellen - *Ellen: Book Four: A time for courage*. (Toronto, ON: Penguin, 2006).

Dates of creation: unknown

Physical description: 79 sheets

Scope and content: This folder contains handwritten and typed notes and drafts for *Ellen: Book Four: A time for courage*

1.9 Ellen – Illustrations

Dates of creation: January 19, 2004- April 15, 2006

Physical description: 38 pages

Scope and contents: This folder contains correspondence, notes and illustrations and notes for *Ellen – The Wishing Time* and *Ellen: Book Four: A time for courage*.