OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Author: Herbert Gold

Title: Herbert Gold Collection

Date: 1969-1972

Abstract: Typescript of My Last Two Thousand Years, typescript of “Death on the East Side,” and four letters

Quantity: .6 cu.ft.

BIOGRAPHY OF Herbert Gold

Herbert Gold was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1924. A novelist, short story writer, and essayist, his writings have frequently focused on themes related to Jewish life in America. His book, My Last Two Thousand Years (1972), is autobiographical in nature.

During the 1971-1972 school year, Gold was a visiting professor at Ohio University. His essay, “A Season at Middle-America U” in May 1972 Atlantic Monthly, discusses his time spent here.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

The Herbert Gold Collection consists of three typescript versions of My Last Two Thousand Years, a typescript of the short story “Death on the East Side,” and four letters. The first version of the book bears the working title “Being and Becoming,” the second “Witness at a Conversion,” and the third is the final title. The short story was published in the May 1971 issue of Esquire. The letters are related to either the book or the story; one dated 1969 is from Saul Bellow.
ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION

These records are organized into the following series:

Series I: Typescript for *My Last Two Thousand Years*
Series II: Typescript and Proofs for Short Story, “Death on the East Side”
Series III: Miscellaneous Correspondence

Abbreviations with in content list:

N/A

RELATED MATERIALS

Archives and Special Collections has a copy of *My Last Two Thousand Years* in its book collection.

For other books see Gold, Herbert in ALICE and OhioLink

Websites:
- [www.sanfranciscoreader.com/interviews/gold%2ointerview.html](http://www.sanfranciscoreader.com/interviews/gold%2ointerview.html)
- [www.oplin.org/ohioana/hgold/belief.html](http://www.oplin.org/ohioana/hgold/belief.html)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Restrictions:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Ohio University Libraries.

**Preferred Citation:** Researchers are requested to cite the collection name, collection number, and the Ohio University Libraries, in all footnotes and bibliographical references.

**Accession Number:** UKN

**Provenance:** The Ohio University Archives received the collection prior to 1977.
Property Rights: Ohio University retains all property rights to the collection.

Copyrights: Ohio University retains all copyrights unless retained by the donor, other correspondents, or other artists.

Photoduplication: Ohio University will entertain requests to photocopy reasonable amounts of material from the collection for the convenience of individual researchers.

Processing: Liane M. Lassiter completed the inventory in Spring 1996.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

CONTAINER LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Series 1:</strong> Typescript (Draft) for <em>My Last Two Thousand Years</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Draft. Typescript with holograph corrections. Written under the original title &quot;Being and Becoming.&quot; Inscribed &quot;working draft&quot; and signed by the author. 272 pages present, 38 pages missing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 / 1</td>
<td>Title page, table of contents, and chapters 1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chapters 6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chapters 10-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series 2: Typescript and holograph corrections. Written under the second title "Witness at a Conversion." Inscribed "early draft" and signed by author. 257 pages present, 73 pages missing.
4 Title page, table of contents, and chapters 1-7

5 Chapters 8-11

6 Chapters 12-13

Setting Copy. Typescript with corrections and final title "Mt Last Two Thousand Years." Inscribed "final draft" and signed by the author. 277 pages present, 19 pages missing.

7 Title page and chapters 1-6

8 Chapters 7-9

2 / 1 Chapters 10-11

2 Chapters 12-14

3 Page proofs with editor's instructions for printing. 246 pages.

4 Page Proofs. Xeroxed "Second Set" copy with editor's instructions for printing. 256 pages.

5 Page Proofs. Unbound signatures (with minor corrections) of the finished book. 246 pages.

**Series II:** Typescript and Proofs for short story, "Death on the East Side" (Published in *Esquire*, May 1971 issue)

6 Preliminary Draft. Typescript corrections. 38 pages.

7 Page proofs with minor corrections in printing. 10 pages.
Series III: Miscellaneous Correspondence

Four letters ranging in date from 1969 to 1971.

- Lonnie Coleman to James Oliver Brown. TLS, September 4, 1969, one page. McCALL's declines offer to publish "Death on the East Side."

- Saul Bellow to H.G. TLS, December 4, 1969, one page. Praises the strengths of H.G.'s, "Death on the East Side" and offers suggestions for improvement.

- Margaret Falk to H.G. TLS, March 2, 1971, one page. Sends page proofs to H.G. for final corrections of "Death on the East Side."

- H.G. to James Oliver Brown. TLS, June 19, 1971, one page. Discusses some of the problems encountered by H.G. while writing My Last Two Thousand Years.