

A Guide to the
ELIZABETH HONEY PAPERS



© Courtesy of Elizabeth Honey

The Lu Rees Archives

The Library
University of Canberra

September 2009

ELIZABETH HONEY PAPERS

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Elizabeth Honey, who is both an author and an illustrator, donated this collection to the Lu Rees Archives under the Cultural Gifts Program in 2009. The size of the collection is 11 standard archival boxes, four oversized folders and various artwork storage containers which together comprise 24 representative works from her 74 published works. The works in this donation span the years from 1976 to 2004, and include her earliest illustrative work and a selection of her later work, which is primarily textual. There are over 350 artworks, including preliminary work and published material. These artworks are separately listed and described.

Published books donated include three collections of rhymes in large and small book format (Southern Cross Macmillan Australia publisher), *Oh no! Not again* (1989), a picture book written by Linda Allen and illustrated by Elizabeth Honey, the Spanish edition of *No Gun for Asmir* (1997), written by Christobel Mattingley and illustrated by the donor, and *More Puzzles Galore!* (1980) written by Meryl Brown Tobin and illustrated by the donor.

These papers comprise general correspondence; manuscripts in various drafts with comments from editors, critical readers (before publication) and book designers; revision correspondence; galleys and proofs with editing; layout and jacket cover designs, storyboards and commentary; dummies; children's responses to the donor's published writings and correspondence with overseas publishers and translators. The collection provides insights into an author who collects and is inspired by visual and written references. Examples of these are included with the papers. Additional material related to her work includes teacher's notes, promotional material such as book gigs and book launches, and reviews. Special attention is given to documenting readers' responses and the author's responses to these. Book design is also well documented with many roughs, alternate book jackets and layouts, and studies of typeface. This collection includes artwork from the artist's illustrations for picture books, educational publications and novels. These include thumbnail sketches and roughs in various stages of development and a range of original illustrations.

The papers were arranged and described by Dr Belle Alderman AM. The author's initial arrangement of her papers was usually by title, and this arrangement has been followed. Additional information featured in this finding aid, as a result of the arrangement and description, includes dates and extent of manuscripts, the date range of material, and key individuals involved with a title where these were evident. This enables researchers to trace the communication process and various influences on the author's work. The donors' use of terms—those recorded on the materials themselves—were retained when arranging and describing these papers.

The Archives holds an earlier collection of manuscripts and artworks which the author donated to the Archives in 1997. This collection includes material from seven works published between 1982 and 1994. This earlier donation includes manuscripts, proofs and galleys, illustrations, photographs and correspondence. Further details about these materials may be found in *A Guide to the Elizabeth Honey Papers* at

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/14311/honey-aid.pdf>

Other material held in the Lu Rees Archives about Elizabeth Honey includes many of the author's published works in Australian and overseas editions and an extensive research file on the author's work featuring reviews, articles and wide-ranging other material which aid in an understanding of her work.

ELIZABETH HONEY

BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

Elizabeth Honey was born on 7 February 1947 at Wonthaggi, Victoria. She grew up on a dairy farm near there and was the third of four children. She completed a Diploma in Film and Television at the Swinburne College of Technology in Melbourne and there met fellow student, Andrew Clarke, a graphic designer, whom she married in 1969. She then worked in a variety of jobs including ABC television and art director in advertising agencies and freelance designer and illustrator in London and Melbourne. She worked as a script assistant and in continuity on the film, *The Naked Bunyip* and in London on continuity for *The Adventures of Barry McKenzie*. During the 1970s she lived and worked in London for two years and travelled in Europe, the USA and South America.

Honey has illustrated a wide range of publications for both trade and educational publishers. In her early career, she freelanced and illustrated newspaper and magazine articles, stamps for Australia Post, informational publications, and the works of many well-known Australian writers for children, such as Morris Lurie and Christobel Mattingley. Her most frequent artistic media include pencil, pen and ink and watercolour. Her style varies depending on the subject matter, and includes the meticulously representational as well as the sketchy, exuberant and humorous. She has also written and illustrated her own work including picture books, poetry and novels for younger readers. Her work is characteristically humorous and inventive and features strong-willed characters. Her two children, Beatrice and William, have inspired several of her works. Some of her works have involved research into both the story and illustrative aspects, and samples of these are included in her papers and manuscripts. Her creations also include a film script, *Top Dog* (2003), which was a finalist in the Unproduced Screenplay Initiative, Adelaide International Film Festival in 2003 and a song, 'All the Wild Wonders' (2003) recorded by the performance group, Coco's Lunch, on 'A Whole New Way of Getting Dressed', which was a finalist in the Most Performed Jazz Work, APRA Music Awards, 2003. Honey has collaborated with other creators, including her German colleague, Heike Brandt, in the novel, *To the Boy in Berlin* (2007), and with lyricist and song writer, Sue Johnson, for the picture book, *I'm Still Awake, Still!* (2008).

Honey's works have received numerous awards from both adults and children including The Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year 1997 for *Not a Nibble!* (1996). Her novels, *45 & 47 Stella Street* and *Everything That Happened* (1995) and *Don't Pat the Wombat!* (1996) and her picture book *Honey Sandwich* (1993) were Honour books in The Children's Book Council of Australia Awards. Her novel, *Remote Man* (2000) won The Wilderness Society Environment Award for Children's Literature, Senior Fiction in 2001 and this same title was selected for the Teen Age List in 2003 by the New York Public Library. Many of her books have won children's choice awards. Her work is widely translated into such languages as Dutch, German, Italian, Korean, Chinese, and Catalan, and it also appears in British and American editions.

Sources

Allen & Unwin 'Elizabeth Honey Profile'

<http://www.allenandunwin.com/_uploads/documents/Authorprofiles/elizabethhoney.pdf> Accessed 20 April 2009

AustLit: The Australian Literature Resource. 'Elizabeth Honey Biography.'

<<http://www.austlit.edu.au/run?ex=GuidedSearch&type=simple&searchWhere=author&generalSearchString=elizabeth+honey>> Accessed 20 April 2009

Contemporary Authors Online. 'Elizabeth Honey.' Detroit: Gale, 2004

McVitty, Walter. 'Elizabeth Honey.' In *Authors & Illustrators of Australian Children's Books* Sydney: Hodder & Stoughton, 1989, pp 97-98.

Scobie, Susan, compiler. 'Elizabeth Honey' In *The Dromkeen Book of Australian Children's Illustrators* Sydney: Scholastic, 1997, pp 74-75

A GUIDE TO THE ELIZABETH HONEY PAPERS

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Additional material is available for some series as indicated by the following symbols.

**A Guide to the Elizabeth Honey Papers*, June 1999

#*Elizabeth Honey Artworks*, March 2009

OS Oversize folders are located with *Elizabeth Honey Artworks*, Cabinet 5, Drawer 4.

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Key Contacts	Box
1 #	1	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Plot outline, 2 pages		1
1	2	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms with ideas		1
1	3	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, rough draft, 11.02.94		1
1	4	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, labelled 'Take 2'		1
1	5	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, 104pp, pencil edit by R Price Chapter 22-24	Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin	1
1	6	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, with chapter headings, dated 2.10.94		1
1	7	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, 147pp, copy edited 9.02.95 by Lynne Segal	Lynne Segal, Editor	1
1	8	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, 151pp, dated 26.02.95, with author's views of editing and changes made		1
1	9	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , manuscript Ms, 151pp, reader's response, notes by Mirriam		1
1	10	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Rough page layouts		2
1	11	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Lists, grid, contents page, title page	Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin	2
1	12	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Drafts, facsimiles of letters included in text of novel		2
1	13	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design References for illustrations		2
1	14	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Cover designs, nos. 1, 3 & 4 Design 1: 'My mock-up using a recipe book with a few pages stuck in. And cardboard.' Design 3: mock-up as the author imagined – 'soft & bashed around as if Henni's been carrying it in her school bag for ages. With the red tag as I imagined it.' Design 4: 'Matisse cut-out style by Stephen except I've played with his design. Definitely my Briquette. Stephen's handwriting on the back. I'd always imagined handwriting through the book.'	Stephen Goddard, Tasmanian book designer	2
1	15	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Book design: cover designs, nos. 2 & 5 Author's notes, 2 pp, on cover design, 18.04.01 Design 5: clear pocket file with cover proof, cover workings, choosing typeface, Anna Purton's letter used for blurb, layout in thumbnails, readers' comments	Stephen Goddard, Tasmanian book designer Anna Purton (reader's letter used as back jacket blurb) Sue Flockhart, Editor, Allen & Unwin	2
1	16	<i>45 & 47 Stella Street</i> , book design Cover mock-up as guide for colour		OS 16-18

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Key Contacts	Box
1	17	45 & 47 Stella Street, book design Working drawings & paste-ups		OS 16-18
1	18	45 & 47 Stella Street, book design Pencil illustrations with text		OS 16-18
1	19	45 & 47 Stella Street, book design Proofs, 172pp, dated 13.03.95		OS 19-21
1	20	45 & 47 Stella Street, book design Proofs, 172pp, dated 14.03.95		OS 19-21
1	21	45 & 47 Stella Street, book design Proofs, 172pp, dated 14.03.95 Includes occasional corrections		OS 19-21
1 #	22	45 & 47 Stella Street Articles & reviews Italian prize RMIT Union Arts Show Visit to Italy, 1988 Correspondence - Germany, Beltz & Gelberg Correspondence – Allen & Unwin	Sue Flockhart, Editor, Allen & Unwin Angela Namoi, Allen & Unwin Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin Sarah Brennen, Editor, Allen & Unwin Jo Stanley, Performing Arts Co-ordinator, RMIT Union Arts	2
1	23	45 & 47 Stella Street, fan mail 3 examples	Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin	2
2 #	1	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, 'Bits', first ideas		3
2	2	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, plotting & story themes		3
2	3	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, first work Early chunk pp1-45; early chunk pp104-127; chunk pp146-196		3
2	4	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, chunk pp1-103; 'nearly there' chunk pp2-240		3
2	5	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, first draft, 239pp		3
2	6	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, dated 23.04.03		4
2	7	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, draft 3, sent to Sue, dated 16.08.03	Sue Flockhart, Editor, Allen & Unwin	4
2	8	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms, 'final chunks'; Rosalind's 1 st edit, pp194-end; unedited notes by Jan Rudd	Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin	4
2	9	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Ms timing, last lists, poems, contents, title		4
2	10	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> References, writing (magazines, newspapers, etc)		4
2	11	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> References, illustrations (printed material)		4
2	12	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> References on surfing		4
2	13	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> References – shell and biro pen top		4
2	14	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design - typeface		5
2	15	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – page layout, 2 nd last edit, Nov 2003		5

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Key Contacts	Box
2	16	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – with illustrations & ‘Gods marked’, dated Nov- 3.10.03		5
2	17	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – illustrations, picture references Illustrations for final cover		5
2	18	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – Gods (originals)		5
2	19	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – illustrations for cover (back) & cover (front)		5
2	20	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Design – illustrations, finished		5
2	21	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Proof, uncorrected copy of book		5
2	22	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Readers’ responses 1-10		6
2	23	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Readers’ responses 11-13		6
2	24	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> German translation by Brandt with notes	Heinke Brandt, German translator	6
2	25	<i>The Ballad of Cauldron Bay</i> Reviews, publicity, teachers notes, answer to translation questions		6
3	1	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, notes, ideas, early writing		7
3	2	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms’O’, plans & synopsis for first chapter		7
3	3	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, labelled ‘On the Wonnangatta’ (early title)		7
3	4	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, 92pp, on yellow paper, incomplete		7
3	5	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, 113pp, dated 10.07.98		7
3	6	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, 112pp, dated 14.07.98		7
3	7	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, 115pp, dated 25.07.98		7
3	8	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, draft 3 – ‘IT!’		7
3	9	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, searching for a title		7
3	10	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Reader’s response to ms, draft 4, dated 26.07.98		7
3	11	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Readers’ responses to ms (various)		7
3	12	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ms, Italian language, 84pp, with reader’s notes		7
3	13	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Cover props and objects in box		8
3	14	<i>Fiddle-back</i> References for writing 1 (on wood chipping, teenagers, etc)		8
3	15	<i>Fiddle-back</i> References for writing 2 (German children’s nursery rhymes book, 1921 – <i>Schweinchen schlachten</i>)		8

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Key Contacts	Box
3	16	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Ideas, rough stages, photographic proofs Illustration roughs, photocopies, pictorial references		8
3	17	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Illustrations – positioning & size, with some text changes		8
3	18	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Illustrations – pencil originals		8
3	19	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Knopf (USA edition) uncorrected proof		8
3	20	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Correspondence (1998-2001) with Australian publisher, American publisher, German publisher & German translator American publisher's correspondence includes reviews	Rosalind Price, Publisher, Allen & Unwin Honey Beth Felter, Editor, Knopf Heike Brandt, German translator	8
3	21	<i>Fiddle-back</i> Reviews & publicity		8
4 #	1	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Ms, 1-4, including first ideas, additional poems, hardcopy, lists (poem order)		9
4	2	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Reference: duck underpants		9
4	3	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Children's responses, 2 booklets		9
4	4	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Letters from readers		9
4	5	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Merri Creek Primary School Reading Handbook		9
4	6	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Correspondence & material concerning objections to poems		9
4	7	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Reviews & publicity		9
4	8	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Design roughs for illustrations, text, layout, font for 1 st edition		10
4	9	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Design storyboard for 1 st edition		10
4	10	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Pages roughed out for 1 st edition		10
4	11	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Dummies (2), cover proof for 1 st edition		10
4	12	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Copy proof, 1 st edition		10
4	13	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Design roughs for illustrations, text, layout, font for 2 nd edition		10
4	14	<i>Honey Sandwich</i> Design roughs new cover, 2 nd edition		10
5 #	1	Illustrated works – <i>Boys Whistle, Girls Sing</i> (1976) Picture references		11
5 #	2	Illustrated works – <i>The Two Chefs and Other Stories</i> (1984) Cover proof, roughs, photocopies, text		11

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Key Contacts	Box
5 #	3	Illustrated works – <i>Travel with Children</i> (1985) and <i>The 27th Annual African Hippopotamus Race</i> (1989) Jacket proofs (2)		11
5 #	4	Illustrated works – <i>My Sister Sif</i> (1986) Jacket design, text for jacket blurb, layout		11
5 *#	5	Illustrated works – <i>No Gun for Asmir</i> (1993) Correspondence; YABBA Shortlist certificate 1996		11
5 *#	6	Illustrated works – <i>No Gun for Asmir</i> (1993) Photographs – Asmir & family; illustrator & daughter; letter accompanying photographs		11