

# **Finding Aid for the Gertrude P. Weaver Collection Collection 449**

**Finding aid prepared by Drew Damron**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

October 2015

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Title</b>	Gertrude P. Weaver Collection
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1940s
<b>Extent</b>	0.25 Linear feet 1 Letter-Size Fliptop Box
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Gertrude P. Weaver and her husband, Clarence Weaver, were involved in the Grand Rapids, Michigan poetry group, The Bards, and they both wrote for their poetry magazine: 'Bardic Echoes.' Gertrude was also involved in a large number of poetry societies across the state and nationally. The Gertrude P. Weaver Collection contains sixteen scripts of original plays written by Gertrude P. Weaver. These sixteen scripts are arranged alphabetically by title.</p>

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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Gertrude P. Weaver was born January 13, 1904, in Toledo, Ohio. She studied Social Work and Literature at Ohio Wesleyan University in the 1920s and met her husband, Clarence, there. In 1946, Clarence Weaver took the position of Chief of the Catalog and Order department of the Grand Rapids Public Library, and she worked in the Maple Grove Nursery School.

Gertrude and Clarence both joined the Bards and wrote for their poetry magazine "Bardic Echoes" starting in 1960. The Bards were a local poetry group active from about 1924 to 1993. Around this time Gertrude became paralyzed from the neck down and learned to operate an electric typewriter with a stick held between her teeth. She completed her book-length children's story, *The Emperor's Gift*, this way and it was published by Thomas Nelson in 1969. She was also a member of the Fountain Street Church, Centro Studi e Scambi Internazionali, the World Poetry Society International, the Martha Kinney Cooper Ohioana Library Association, the Poetry Society of Michigan, and American Mosaic.

Gertrude Weaver passed away on May 15, 1970 from a cerebral hemorrhage. A large biography of Gertrude and Clarence is located in the "Weaver, Clarence & Gertrude" vertical file.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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This collection contains a box of scripts from a number of plays written by Gertrude Weaver. These scripts are arranged alphabetically by title, with sixteen plays total. Each script is typewritten and contains the year it was copyrighted at the bottom of the play.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department October 2015

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Received from the Children's Department of the Grand Rapids Public Library in 1986.

## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

Collection 109: Grand Rapids Public Library Records/ GRPL Administrative Archives

Collection 125: Robinson Studio

Collection 178: Lucy & Genevieve Swift Diaries

Collection 278: GRPL Poets & Poetry Collection

Biography & Portrait Files: Weaver, Clarence & Gertrude

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Weaver, Mrs. Clarence

### Subject(s)

- Library employees -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- Biography
- Public libraries -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Publishers and publishing -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Theater -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History
- Women -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Budding the Christmas Tree	1	1
Children's Day Program	1	2
The Cracker-Box Conspiracy	1	3
The Downfall of Peori, or Where's My Hat? Copyright 1944.	1	4
The Emporer's Gift	1	5
The Gift	1	6
The Golden Gate	1	7
Heritage	1	8
The King's English	1	9
The Magic Pipe	1	10
The Paper Doll's Romance	1	11
Peter's Pumpkin	1	12

The Queen's Tarts	1	13
The Shadow of God	1	14
The Spirit of the House	1	15
The Witch's Hat	1	16