

# Edwin C. Graber Poetry Collection

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## Collection Summary

<b>Identifier:</b>	MA 34
<b>Title:</b>	Edwin C. Graber Poetry Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1937-1949
<b>Extent:</b>	0.42 linear feet (1 document case)
<b>Creator:</b>	Graber, Edwin C.
<b>Language:</b>	English

**Repository:** South Dakota State University Archives & Special Collections, University Station, Box 2115, 1300 North Campus Drive, Brookings, South Dakota, 57007

**Access Note:** Open. Materials must be used in-house and do not circulate.

**Preferred Citation:** Title or description of item, date, collection ID, box number, folder number, collection title, South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Brookings, South Dakota.

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## Abstract

Edwin C. Graber was a poet from Freeman, South Dakota, whose literary activity flourished primarily between the late 1930s and late 1940s. Through a series of limited-edition chapbooks, Graber developed a lyrical body of work grounded in the landscapes and contemplative spirit of the Great Plains. His poetry reflects recurring themes of nature, solitude, time, and spirituality, expressed through reflective and meditative language. Titles such as *Stars Are My Parade*, *Nature the Peerless Colorist*, and *Zeniths as Yet But Dimly Seen* illustrate his attentiveness to the natural world and metaphysical inquiry.

The Edwin C. Graber Poetry Collection consists of chapbooks containing original poetry written between 1937 and 1949, along with several undated works. Preserved at South

Dakota State University, the collection documents Graber's creative output and represents a regional voice within mid-twentieth-century American poetry. The materials provide valuable evidence of literary expression rooted in the cultural and physical landscape of the Great Plains, particularly in southeastern South Dakota.

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## **Biography**

Edwin C. Graber was a poet from Freeman, South Dakota. Active primarily between the late 1930s and late 1940s, he produced a series of chapbooks featuring original poetry that explored themes of nature, solitude, time, and spirituality. His works, including *Stars Are My Parade* and *Nature the Peerless Colorist*, reflect a lyrical and reflective style rooted in the landscape and sensibilities of the Great Plains. Graber's chapbooks are preserved in the Edwin C. Graber Poetry Collection at South Dakota State University, which documents his creative output and contribution to regional literature.

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## **Scope and Content**

The Edwin C. Graber Poetry Collection consists of chapbooks containing original poetry written between 1937 and 1949, with several undated works. The poems explore themes of nature, solitude, time, and spirituality through lyrical and reflective language. Titles such as *Stars Are My Parade*, *Nature the Peerless Colorist*, and *Zeniths as Yet But Dimly Seen* illustrate Graber's focus on the natural world and metaphysical contemplation.

The collection documents the creative work of South Dakota poet Edwin C. Graber and preserves his limited-edition chapbooks, many of which are not widely available. It provides material for the study of mid-twentieth-century regional poetry and poetic expression rooted in the Great Plains.

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## **Access Points**

### **Subjects**

- Poetry

## Names

- Graber, Edwin C.

## Places

- South Dakota
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## Conditions Governing Access

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Description	Dates
1	1	All Life Was Once A Single Word	1946
1	2	Aloneness a Tent	undated
1	3	Alphabets the Cornerstones	undated
1	4	Behold the Pasques as They Stride Across the Hills	undated
1	5	Bejeweled Mirrors on the Dewy Grass	undated
1	6	Books are as Glints at Midnight Given	undated
1	7	Branches Twiddling Their Thumbs	1943
1	8	Brilliantly Aurora Borealis	1946
1	9	Colossal and More . . . the Night	1945
1	10	Cool Plashes	1943
1	11	Enshadowed Pools Now Beckon	undated
1	12	Eternal June	1945
1	13	Fertile Fields	1939
1	14	Flames Can Go But Chaos	undated
1	15	From Universe to Universe	undated
1	16	Golder Streets Across the Lake	1944

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1	17	Harvest of Youth	1937
1	18	In Quest of the Music of Timeless Time	1946
1	19	I Want My Horizons Far and Free	1947
1	20	Let Dreams Remember But Alacrities Nudge	1946
1	21	Looms of Greenery	1942
1	22	Meditations Brownd Selectively	1949
1	23	Mists Along the Horizon	1946
1	24	Mountains to the West	undated
1	25	Nature the Peerless Colorist	1944
1	26	Never a Bough But Adored the Hills	1946
1	27	Of Essences There is No End	1947
1	28	Olympus of the Prairies	1944
1	29	Packages to the Heart's Content	undated
1	30	Penciling Petaline Clouds as Pictures	1945
1	31	Prismatic Rainbow in the Sky	1949
1	32	Quintessence the Goal	undated
1	33	Resonant Rains	1939
1	34	Roses Symbolic of the Quiet Beauty	1948
1	35	Sauntering Paths	1942
1	36	Stars Are My Parade, The	1944
1	37	Sunset Tints	1943
1	38	Tangential Experiences in the Throes of Gyration	undated
1	39	Time Wends From Out the Starry Vast	1946
1	40	Tinselly Blossoms	1942
1	41	Today is as a Streamlet Meandering to the Sea	undated
1	42	To Lace the Dells With Flashy Flowers	1946
1	43	Trailblazing in the Dusk	1944
1	44	Wheats That May Whisper	1945
1	45	Whirling Through Endless Space	1947
1	46	Wisdom Robed in More Than Purple	undated
1	47	What Lyric Lends Itself as Living?	1949
1	48	With Trees on Either Hand	1942
1	49	Zeniths as Yet But Dimly Seen	1945