



Winter 2014

We are all apprentices in a craft where no one ever becomes a master.

Kevin Powers Wins 2013 PEN/Hemingway Award

When Kevin Powers was fighting for the United States Army in Mosul, Iraq, he could never have imagined writing a novel about that experience and then winning an award for it as the nation's best work of "first fiction."

Yet that is exactly what happened when Powers' bestselling novel, *The Yellow Birds*, was presented the 2013 PEN/Hemingway Award by Ernest Hemingway's son, Patrick Hemingway, at a ceremony at the John F. Kennedy Library.

Speaking for his fellow judges, novelist Craig Nova described *The Yellow Birds* as "a painful, compact and distressing novel, as blunt and painful as a broken shoulder, and as lyrical as any memorable epic poem about any of our terrible wars." Nova continued, "Kevin Powers was a machine gunner in Iraq. Now he's a writer with a poet's eye and a soldier's determination, bringing us a first great novel."

Finalists for the award were Jennifer duBois for *A Partial History of Lost*

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Friends of the

Ernest Hemingway Collection

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum

Family Scrapbooks Digitized and Made Available Online

Five extraordinary scrapbooks documenting the childhood of Ernest Hemingway have been made available to the public for the first time in their entirety as digital images. Created and annotated by Hemingway's mother, Grace Hall Hemingway, the scrapbooks chronicle the first eighteen years of her son's life and include many never-before-seen photographs, letters, drawings, homework assignments, and other keepsakes from his childhood.

"These scrapbooks, lovingly compiled by Grace Hemingway, provide an unprecedented glimpse into the making of one of the greatest writers of the 20th century," said Tom Putnam, Director of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum. "From the everyday minutia of childhood, to priceless early correspondence and writings, the scrapbooks are a treasure trove for anyone interested in the early life of Ernest Hemingway."



Created by Grace Hall Hemingway

Ernest Hemingway as a baby in a bowl. Photo on a 1903 Christmas card. His mother's caption "Ernest Miller made this and other Christmas presents, all himself. Just how he used to have a bath... "



Created by Grace Hall Hemingway

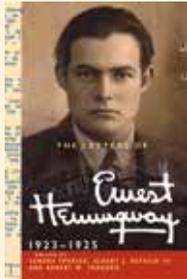
Ernest Miller Hemingway at "2 years 3 mo. old went to Sunday school for the first time October 27th 1901."

Spanning the years 1899 to 1917, the scrapbooks tell the story of Hemingway's childhood growing up in Oak Park, Illinois, and vacationing at the Hemingway family's cabin in Northern Michigan. Grace Hemingway's annotations throughout all five books provide context to the family photographs, letters, school work, and ephemera that she collected and preserved.

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Collection Updates

Second Volume of Collected Letters Published



Cambridge Press has published the second volume of *The Letters of Ernest Hemingway*, which illuminates Hemingway's literary apprenticeship in the legendary

milieu of expatriate Paris in the 1920s. In this period, Hemingway publishes his first book, *In Our Time* (1925), and forges friendships with Gertrude Stein, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and John Dos Passos. The volume features a number of previously unpublished letters, many of which come from the Ernest Hemingway Collection.

Hemingway Exhibit Announced



Graham S. Haber

The Morgan Library & Museum

The Kennedy Library in Boston and the Morgan Library in New York City have announced plans for an exhibit on Ernest Hemingway at both venues. The show will be curated by Declan Kiely, Robert H. Taylor Curator at the Morgan Library & Museum, and will open in the fall of 2015. It will then travel to Boston and be on display at the Kennedy Library in the spring of 2016.

PEN/Hemingway Award

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Causes and Vaddey Ratner for *In the Shadow of the Banyan*. Honorable Mention awards went to Catherine Chung for *Forgotten Country* and Peter Wheelwright for *As It Is On Earth*.

All PEN/Hemingway Award winners receive fellowships at the Ucross Foundation in Wyoming, a retreat for artists and writers. The PEN/Hemingway Award also includes a one-week residency in The Distinguished Visiting Writers Series at the University of Idaho's MFA Program in Creative Writing.



Kevin Powers with Patrick Hemingway.

Tom Fitzsimmons

Family Scrapbooks Digitized

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Mrs. Hemingway opens the first book with a lyrical account of her son's birth, saying: "At 8 o'clock on the morning of July 21st. 1899 Ernest Miller Hemingway came to town wrapped in a light blue comforter. It was a very hot morning. The sun shone brightly and the Robins sang their sweetest songs to welcome the little stranger to this beautiful world."

The scrapbooks can be viewed on the Kennedy Library website: www.jfklibrary.org/hemingway.



Ernest Hemingway feeding a squirrel at 11 years old, February, 1911.

Created by Grace Hall Hemingway

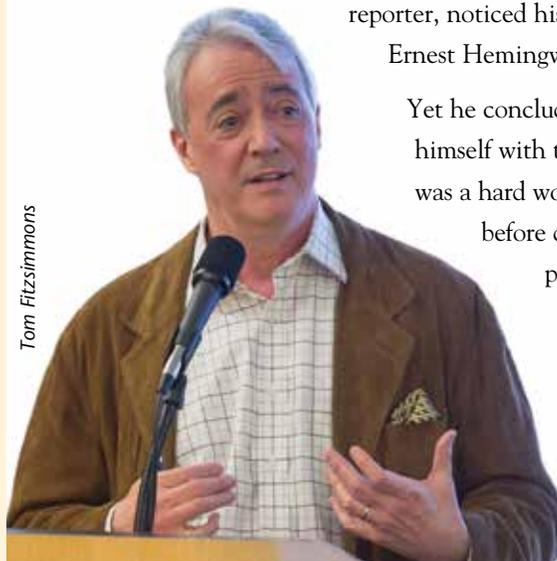
Scott Simon Speaks to Hemingway Council

Scott Simon, a founding member of the Hemingway Council, was the featured speaker at the luncheon preceding the PEN/Hemingway Award ceremony. He recounted having to clean out his office as NPR moved to a new building in Washington, DC and being needled by his wife who, in seeing photos of Scott as a young reporter, noticed his attempts to model himself after a young Ernest Hemingway.

Yet he concluded that all writers would want to associate himself with the Nobel laureate. "Ernest Hemingway was a hard working professional writer who would wake before dawn to stand at his desk with a thicket of pencils to confront a cold, white page with his imagination, and write rolling, blunt, beautiful prose that can still stop you cold and make you shiver."

Scott Simon at the Kennedy Library.

Tom Fitzsimmons



More Digital Scans from Cuba Arrive at JFK Library

The Ernest Hemingway Collection was pleased to receive a second shipment of digital scans—totaling over 2,000 items—from the Museo Ernest Hemingway in Cuba.

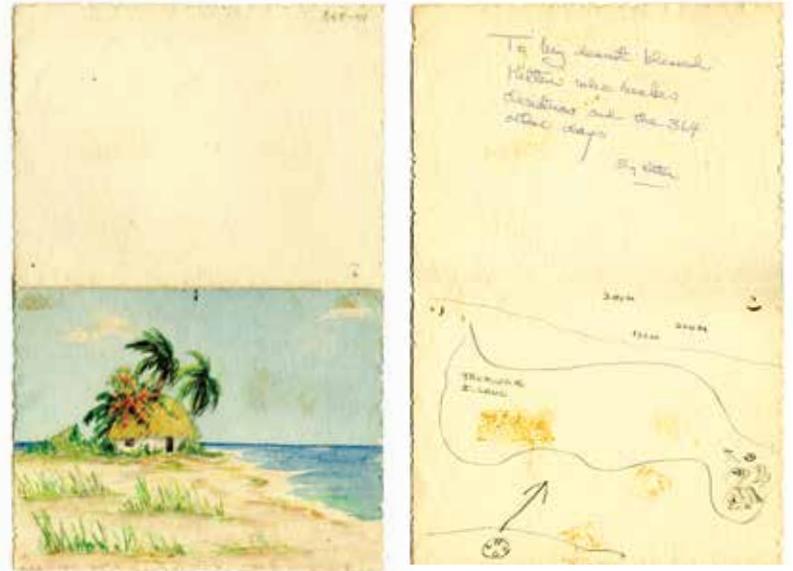
The new collection joins 3,000 images from the Finca Vigía that were donated to the Kennedy Library in 2008.

In 1961, Mary Hemingway, the writer's widow, got permission to travel to Cuba and remove manuscripts and other important papers that make up the bulk of the Ernest Hemingway Collection.

Yet due to time and space constraints, she also had to leave many materials behind.

Susan Wrynn, Hemingway Curator, is currently processing these new scans so that they can be made available to researchers and the general public.

The Kennedy Library wishes to thank the Museo Ernest Hemingway; EMC Corporation, which has provided financial support of this digitization effort; and Congressman Jim McGovern, who has been a strong supporter of this partnership with the Cuban government.



Christmas card from Big Kitten (Ernest) "To My dearest blessed kitten (Mary)."

Images are from the Museo Ernest Hemingway, Finca Vigía, San Francisco de Paula, Cuba, through courtesy of the Finca Vigía Foundation.

Hemingway Council Supports the Collection

Preceding the PEN/Hemingway Award ceremony, a lunch was held with members of the Hemingway Council hosted by the Council's co-chair, Sean Hemingway, Ernest's grandson. The mission of the Council is to promote a greater awareness of the Hemingway Collection and to encourage philanthropic support of this cultural treasure.



Sean Hemingway at the 2013 PEN/Hemingway Awards.



Colm Tóibín with Rose Styron of the Hemingway Council.



Tom McNaught, Executive Director of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Declan Kiely, Robert H. Taylor Curator at the Morgan Library & Museum, and Tom Putnam, Kennedy Library Director.

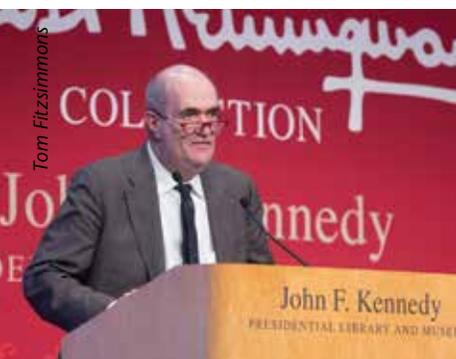
All photos by Tom Fitzsimmons

Colm Tóibín on Hemingway

Colm Tóibín gave the keynote address at this year's 2013 PEN/Hemingway Awards. The following is an excerpt of his address which begins when he was 17 and working as a bartender at a hotel in his native Ireland one summer.

And one day when the weather was fine, I went on my own to the Long Beach in Tramore. The word 'tramore' comes from the Gaelic trá, meaning beach, and mhór, meaning big. And I brought a book. And I have no idea why I had this book rather than any other book. I'd taken it from home, it was a Penguin paperback and it was called "The Essential Hemingway."

It had that photograph of that bearded man who looked wise and skeptical and handsome in a weathered sort of way on the jacket. It included short stories and extracts from some novels. But it also included the entire text of "The Sun Also Rises." And this was what I read on that beach, on that afternoon, and the afternoons that followed.



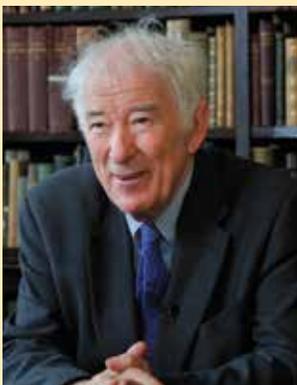
Colm Toibin at the 2013 PEN/Hemingway Awards.

"Literature," Ezra Pound said, "is news that stays news." But I wonder if literature is also something that hits the nervous system before it can be filtered by the intelligence. It moves like energy. I had nothing in common with any of the people in that novel. I had never been in Paris or in Spain. I'd never seen a bullfight. I'd never been fishing. I'd never been outside Ireland. I did not know any Americans, nor any English people. I'd never been drunk. I knew nothing, or nothing I wish to repeat here with a mixed audience, about sex.

And, yet, the book overwhelmed me. It opened a world for me. Before anything else, the world it opened was the world of the book itself, its characters, what they did and said. That world seemed more real and true, and indeed more fascinating than the one I inhabited. I felt for Jake, and indeed I became him. I, too, wanted Lady Brett Ashley, but I could not have her. I, too, wanted the bulls to be good. I, too, wanted my friends to behave. I, too, knew the manager of the hotel, although I should say the manager of the hotel was looking at me by this time in a very glaring sort of way in Tramore. I, too, was stoical. And I, too, liked being alone. And I, too, knew that things would never be the same again.

A Tribute to Seamus Heaney

On the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's dedication of the Robert Frost Library at Amherst College, the Kennedy Library hosted a tribute to Seamus Heaney, the Nobel Prize-winning Irish poet who passed away on August 30. Speakers included fellow poets **Rose Styron** and **Robert Pinsky**, and journalist **Kevin Cullen**. The Irish Consul General read a special letter from the President of Ireland **Michael Higgins**. Just two months before he died, Seamus Heaney participated in the dedication ceremony of a new visitor center at the Kennedy Homestead in Dugganstown, Ireland to help mark the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's historic visit.



Seamus Heaney

Letter from Patrick Hemingway

Dear Friends,

The Hemingway Collection, housed at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, is an outstanding national treasure that contains ninety percent of the known Hemingway manuscripts. The collection includes correspondence to and from Ernest Hemingway, more than 10,000 photographs from throughout his life, his books with marginalia, his personal collection of newspaper clippings and ephemera, and artifacts that reflect his personality and times.

Work is continually underway to preserve this extraordinary collection in order to make it available to new generations of teachers, students, and researchers.

If you are not a member, we ask you to join the Friends of the Hemingway Collection to support these efforts. If you are a member, I hope you will make a special donation to support programming that highlights American literature and the creative process as illustrated by Hemingway's legendary career.

Thank you.

Patrick Hemingway

Please visit the JFK website, www.jfklibrary.org to contribute or send your tax-deductible donation made out to the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Hemingway Collection to:

Friends of the Ernest Hemingway Collection
John F. Kennedy Library Foundation
Columbia Point, Boston MA 02125

The Friends of the Hemingway Collection was founded in 1990 by Patrick Hemingway, son of the Nobel-prize winning author, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to provide financial support and resources to preserve and make accessible the Ernest Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, the world's principal center for research on the life and work of Ernest Hemingway.

www.jfklibrary.org

