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### Voss, Ralph F., Collection, 1986-1995

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## Voss, Ralph F., Manuscript, MS 332

### The Ralph F. Voss Manuscript

<b>Collection Number</b>	MS 332
<b>Title</b>	Ralph F. Voss Manuscript
<b>Repository</b>	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
<b>Dates</b>	1986-1995
<b>Collection Size</b>	.4 linear feet
<b>Creator</b>	Ralph F. Voss
<b>Scope and Content</b>	A manuscript of Ralph F. Voss's novel <i>A Life of William Inge: The Strains of Triumph</i> (University Press of Kansas, 1989).
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Biographical Note</b>	Ralph F. Voss, a Kansas native who grew up watching the films based on Inge's plays, is a former professor of English at the University of Alabama. He also taught at the University of Texas, East Texas State University, Atlanta Junior College, and was a visiting professor of the University of Utah. Voss's other books include <i>Truman Capote and the Legacy of 'In Cold Blood,'</i> and <i>Magical Muse: Millennial Essays on Tennessee Williams</i> .

William Inge (1913-1973) was a playwright, screenwriter, and novelist known as the "Playwright of the Midwest." Born in Independence, Kansas, he attended Independence Community College and graduated from the University of Kansas in 1935 with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Drama. Inge worked as a laborer on state highways, as a Wichita news announcer, and taught English and drama at Cherokee County Community High School in Columbus, Kansas. He completed his Master of Arts degree at George Peabody College for Teachers, in Nashville, Tennessee in 1938, and taught at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri until 1943. Following that teaching job, he became a drama critic and later began

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writing plays. These include *Come Back, Little Sheba* (1950), *Picnic* (1953), and *Bus Stop* (1955). *Picnic* won Inge a Pulitzer Prize. His screenplay for the 1961 film, *Splendor in the Grass*, won him an Academy Award. Inge also wrote screenplays for television, and two novels set in Freedom, Kansas, a fictional town. Near the end of his life, Inge taught playwrighting at the University of California.

### **Processing Note**

Papers processed in December 2020

### **Content Description**

A manuscript draft for Ralph F. Voss' novel *A Life of William Inge: The Strains of Triumph* (1989). 473 pages.