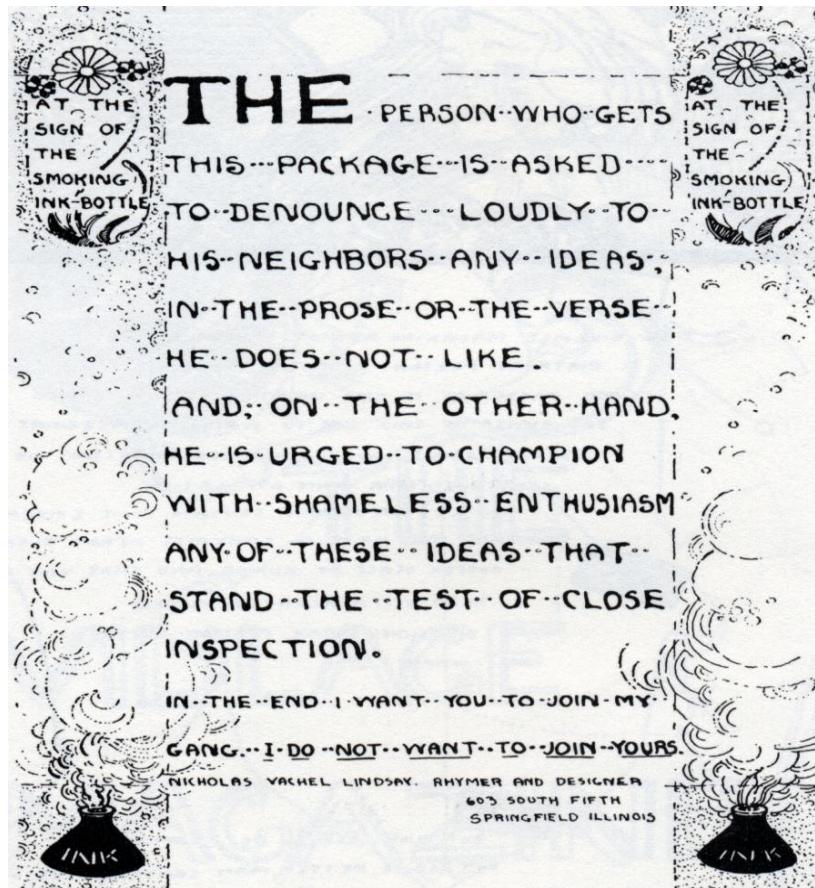


# Uncle Boy

## A Biography of Nicholas Vachel Lindsay: Poet

### *Works Cited and Resources*

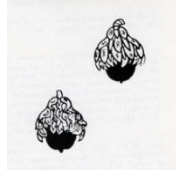


[Vachel's insert introducing his self-published *Village Magazine* (1910)]

by

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[This ongoing biography may be read online at [www.VachelLindsayHome.org](http://www.VachelLindsayHome.org)  
Choose "Biography" and then "Uncle Boy: A Biography of Nicholas Vachel Lindsay."  
The biography and the website are sponsored by the Vachel Lindsay Association.]



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Unless noted otherwise, all VL quotations are from:

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[A valuable biography of VL, with detailed listings of works by and about VL, may be found online at: [www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/vachel-lindsay](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/vachel-lindsay)]

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Reprint of VL's 1920 work, with an "Introduction" by Sakolsky. Published as  
part of the "Lost Utopias Series."

## **VL: Published Articles, Stories, and Drawings**

[Many of these may be read online at: [www.VachelLindsayHome.org](http://www.VachelLindsayHome.org) Choose "Biography" and on the next page "Essays & Stories."]

- "Adventures of a Literary Tramp." *The Outlook* 91 (January 2, 1909): 36-39; (January 9, 1909): 86-90; (February 6, 1909): 312-316; (February 13, 1909): 357-359. Revised and reprinted in *A Handy Guide for Beggars* (1916). Online at Google Books.
- "Adventures While Preaching the Gospel of Beauty." *The Forum* 50-51 (September 1913): 296-307; (October 1913): 500-510; (November 1913): 671-684; (December 1913): 827-838; (January 1914): 57-67; (February 1914): 232-241. Reprinted as *Adventures While Preaching the Gospel of Beauty* (1914). Online at Google Books.

“Art and the Church.” *The Christian-Evangelist* (May 13, 1909): 597; (May 27, 1909): 662; (July 15, 1909): 889; (September 9, 1909): 1148+. Online at:

[www.VachelLindsayHome.org](http://www.VachelLindsayHome.org)

“The Altgeld Temperament,” *The Public* 15 (May 24, 1912): 494-496. Online at Google Books.

“Avel Boone, and the Young American Poets of Russian Blood.” *The Dial* 70 (May 1921): 540-544.

“The Buggy-Breaking Doctor,” *Macmillan News Review*, 1 (1931): 4. Revised and reprinted as “Vachel Lindsay: To Vachel Thomas Lindsay.” *What I Owe to My Father*. Ed. Sydney Dix Strong. New York: Holt, 1931. Available online at:

[www.VachelLindsayHome.org](http://www.VachelLindsayHome.org)

“The Definition of the Middle West.” *The Dearborn Independent* 27 (July 16, 1927).

“The Education of Aladdin.” *Collier’s: The National Weekly* 46 (March 18, 1911): 36.

“The Factor in the Village.” *Collier’s: The National Weekly* 45 (August 13, 1910): 30.

“Father Springfield in the Mirror.” *The Survey* 33 (December 19, 1914): 316-318. Available online at Google Books.

“The Fighting Marine: An American Poet Runs a Race with Gene Tunney, the American Pugilist, and Wins.” *Vanity Fair* 29: 81+.

“The Four Trumps.” *The Advance* (May 1898). Hiram, Ohio: Hiram College. College literary magazine. Available online.

“Gibson GIRLS, Gibson MEN and the Chicago World’s Fair,” *The Dearborn Independent* (March 19, 1927): 4-5+.

“The Golden-Faced People: A Story of the Chinese Conquest of America.” *The Crisis* (November 1914): 36-42. Reprinted from *War Bulletin Number One*.

“Great Chief White Horse, the Man on Horse Back.” *The World Review* 8 (February 18, 1929): 33.

“The Great Douglas Fairbanks.” *The Ladies’ Home Journal* 43 (August 1926): 12, 114.

“Home Rule in Poetry.” *Reedy’s Mirror* 25 (November 24, 1916): 740-741.

*Home Town Topics: Essays Published in the Spokane Daily Chronicle*, March 7, 1928-May 23, 1928. Reprinted in Gilliland 86-103.

“How Mrs. Joy Celebrated Peace.” *The New Republic* 17 (November 23, 1918): 102.

“The Humorous King of Spokane.” *The Literary Digest: International Book Review* 4 (April 1926): 283-286.

“Introduction.” *John Burroughs at Troutbeck: Being Extracts from His Writings Published and Unpublished*. Amenia, NY: Troutbeck, 1926.

“Lady Iron-Heels.” *The Outlook* 99 (October 7, 1911): 335-338. Revised and reprinted in *A Handy Guide for Beggars* (1916). Online at Google Books.

- “The Lady Poverty: A Christmas Story.” *The Outlook* 99 (November 25, 1911): 734-742. Available online.
- “Litany of the Middle West.” *Kessinger’s Mid-West Review* (April 1930): 27-28. Reprinted from *The Litany of Washington Street* (1929).
- “The Litany of Washington Street.” *The Dearborn Independent* 27 (September 10, 1927): 1-2+; (September 17, 1927): 7-8+. Reprinted in *The Litany of Washington Street* (1929).
- “The Loneliness of Whitman, Statesman-Poet.” *The World Review* 8 (May 27, 1929): 247.
- Lumberjack Philosophy: Essays published in the Spokane Daily Chronicle*, August 1, 1928 to January 30, 1929. Reprinted in Gilliland 104-157.
- “The Man under the Yoke: An Episode in the Life of a Literary Tramp.” *The Outlook* 86 (June 1, 1907): 243-245. Revised and reprinted in *A Handy Guide for Beggars* (1916). Online at Google Books.
- “The New Localism.” *Vision: A Quarterly Journal of Aesthetic Appreciation of Life* 4 (1912). For the most part, this issue is dedicated to VL’s prose and poetry. Available online.
- “The New Poetry.” *The Christian Century* 41 (April 10, 1924): 460-461.
- “Open Letter to Floyd Dell.” *The Liberator* 1 (May 1918): 47.
- “A Photo-Play.” *Reedy’s Mirror* 25 (August 4, 1916): 505.
- “A Proclamation of Balm in Gilead.” *Farm and Fireside* 36 (January 18, 1913): 25; “Proclamation! Of the New Time for Farmers and the New New England” (February 1, 1913): 28; “Proclamation! Of the New Village, and the New Country Community, as Distinct from the Village” (February 15, 1913): 33; “Proclamation! Welcoming the Talented Children of the Soil” (March 1, 1913); “Proclamation: Of the Coming of Religion, Equality and Beauty” (August 16, 1913): 15. Revised and reprinted in *Adventures While Preaching the Gospel of Beauty* (1914).
- “Proclamation: Of the Return of the Spirit of Ruskin to the Earth.” *Farm and Fireside* 36 (March 29, 1913): 17.
- “Queen of My People.” *The New Republic* 11 (July 7, 1917): 280-281. Available online.
- “The Real American Language.” *The American Mercury* 13 (1928): 257-265. Revised chapters from VL’s manuscript: *Why Don’t You Talk United States?* (see below). Available online.
- “A Religious Mendicant.” *Twentieth Century Magazine* (June 1912): 45-51; (July 1912): 66-72; (August 1912): 11-16; (September 1912): 31-37. Revised and reprinted in *A Handy Guide for Beggars* (1916).
- “Rules of the Road.” *The American Magazine* 74 (May 1912): 54-59. Available online.
- The Spider Web*. Hiram, Ohio: Hiram College, 1898 [dated 1899—contains VL art work]; 1899 [dated 1900—contains VL art work]; 1900 [dated 1901—contains

- VL art work, verses, and prose (see Byrd 66-67)]; 1931 [dated 1932—contains a brief VL essay and a VL autobiography based on a five-page VL letter (dated August 1, 1930) to editor Otto Hittenrauch (see Byrd 67)].
- “Springfield—A Walled Town.” *The Christian Century* 38 (April 21, 1921): 17-18.
- “Thanksgiving for George Washington.” *The Christian Century* 48 (July 1, 1931): 866-868.
- “Thomas Jefferson’s One Thousand Years.” *The World Review* 8 (April 8, 1929): 129.
- “Thomas Jefferson’s Thousand Years.” *The Dearborn Independent* 28 (October 29, 1927): 1-2+; (November 5, 1927): 16-17.
- “Venus in Armor.” *The New Republic* 10 (April 28, 1917): 380-381.
- “A Vision, Called: ‘Lincoln in India.’” *The English Journal* 16 (September 1927): 495-509.
- “Walt Whitman.” *The New Republic* 37 (December 5, 1923): 3-5.
- “What It Means to Be a Poet in America.” *The Saturday Evening Post* 198 (1926): 12+.  
Early manuscript title: “Mr. Utopia & Mr. Flip” (Virginia). Available online.
- “The Wonderland of a Nation.” *The Dearborn Independent* 27 (June 18, 1927).
- “A Word of Advice about Policy.” *The Dial* 65 (September 5, 1918): 176.

## **VL: Unpublished Manuscripts**

[All below are part of the “Vachel Lindsay Collection” (#6259) located in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia.]

- “The Advantages of a High School Education” (May 20, 1897).
- “The American Dream” (autobiographical essays, c. 1927-28).
- “The Character of Brutus” (1894)
- “Chicago” (March 2, 1898).
- “Comparative Advantages of Farm & City Life” (1892).
- “A Corn Stalk Under the Microscope” (November 3, 1898).
- “The Development of Conscious Life” (December 31, 1898).
- “An Essay on the Love Affairs of Children” (1927?).
- “Georgewashingtonism” (February 22, 1895).
- “The Ground Ivy” (May 7, 1895).
- “Harriet Monroe, A Symbol of the Future” (1927).
- “Holy Grail” (April 5, 1895).
- “John P. Altgeld” (May 1898).
- “Labor & Learning” (1891).



- “A Life-Long Friend” (1896).
- “Lowell as a Patriot” (May 21, 1895).
- “The New Democracy” (March 7, 1900).
- “Notes on ‘The Tree of Laughing Bells’” (c. 1909-10).
- “Oration Delivered on the laying of the corner stone of the New High School” (April 1897--ms. wrongly dated 1895).
- “Patriotism” (August 1895).
- “The Power of the Platitude” (November 17, 1898).
- “Resolved: That Congress Recognize the Belligerency<sup>^</sup> of Cuba Immediately—Negative” (1894?, debate essay).
- “Resolved: It was unjust to behead Charles I.—Negative” (November 1, 1895, debate essay).
- “Resolved: That the latter times are better than the former—Negative” (1897, debate essay).
- The Saga of Hearbetter Readrail (autobiographical stories, early version of *Why Don't You Talk United States?*, 1927). In the latter manuscript, the hero's name is changed to “Standish F. Bradford.”
- “The Skeleton in the Cracker Box” (1894).
- “The Small Town,” in *The American Dream* (c. 1927-28).
- “The Story of the Poem” (April 17, 1896).
- “The Strength of a Purpose” (November 1899).
- “The Survival of the Fittest” (1895-96).
- “True Charity” (March 1895).
- “The Vision of Sir Launfaul<sup>^</sup>” (April 11, 1895).
- “Where Is Aladdin's Lamp? “[fragment] (1904-05).
- Why Don't You Talk United States?* (autobiographical stories, c. 1927- 28). See *The Saga of Hearbetter Readrail* above.
- “William the Conqueror” (December 1899).

## Unpublished Works: Collections

[This listing is selective, focusing on the substantial collections of Lindsayana. Many other libraries, organizations, and individuals have substantial VL materials.]

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library [ALPL]. The state of Illinois's Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library (Springfield) owns an important collection of VL letters, manuscripts, broadsides, and books—many donated by the Vachel Lindsay Association (see “Lindsay Home” below) and by VL's niece, Catharine Blair (see

below). In 2006, the Library added the substantial Nicholas Vachel Lindsay collection of the late Lindsay scholar-professors Ralph L[ietz] Schroeder and Owen Hawley. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library should not be confused with the city of Springfield's Lincoln Library (see below).

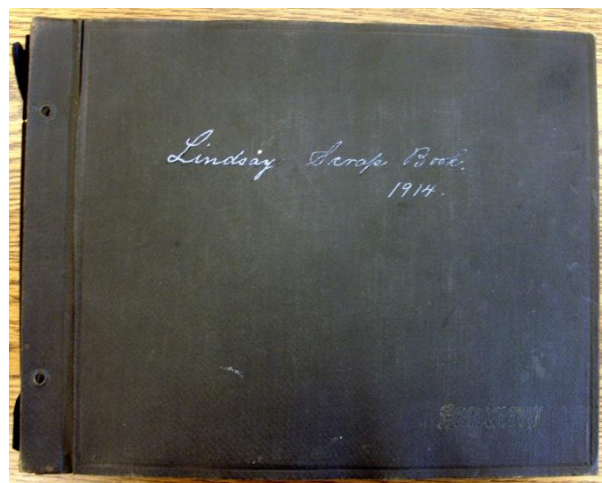
Aunt Fannie. See Blair, Catharine, below.

Blair, Catharine. Catharine Blair, Joy Lindsay-Blair's daughter and thus VL's niece, has donated a substantial collection of Lindsayana to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois. The collection consists of unpublished VL and family letters, most written by VL to his family, especially to his sister Joy Lindsay-Blair and to his Aunt Fannie (Frances Frazee Hamilton, see below). Catharine provided copies of these materials to me in the 1980s, before the originals were given to the Abraham Lincoln Library; for her encouragement and help, I am truly grateful.

Chicago. The Joseph Regenstein Library houses extensive Lindsay materials, primarily personal letters, in the following collections: Harriet Monroe, Harriet Moody, Edward Scribner Ames, and Morton Dauwen Zabel.

Dartmouth College. The Rauner Special Collections Library houses the George Matthew Adams collection, which features numerous VL books, pamphlets, and broadsides, many autographed and inscribed. Separately, the Library has several VL letters and drawings, including the congratulatory note sent to Helen Bruce Van Derveer published in *Chénetier* 47-48. The "little tribute" referred to in this letter is six original drawings, all pen-and-inks with the added lettering: "PRESENTED TO HELEN BRUCE VAN DERVEER." A hand-written note on the reverse side reads: "Original drawing for the Village Magazine / Presented to Helen Bruce Van Derveer by Nicholas Vachel Lindsay October 1910." Other VL letters at Dartmouth are to Robert Frost, Harold Mills Salisbury, Floyd Dell, Walter Storey, William Stanley Braithwaite, and Harold Goddard Rugg. All references to this collection are courtesy of the Dartmouth College Library.

Hamilton, Frances Frazee. See Blair, Catharine, above. In addition to Hamilton's book, *Ancestral Lines* (see above, under secondary sources), I have used two Hamilton scrapbooks, containing newspaper clippings pertaining to VL, as well as several VL manuscripts and letters. The scrapbooks are now part of the Sangamon Valley Collection at Springfield's Lincoln Library. Hamilton was VL's beloved confidante, "Aunt Fannie."



Harvard. The Houghton and the Schlesinger Libraries contain many Lindsay family letters, manuscripts, and diaries. The heart of the collection is a donation from Catharine Wakefield Ward (see below). A detailed list is available online at:

<http://discovery.lib.harvard.edu/>

Type “Lindsay Family” in the “SEARCH” box and choose “Lindsay Family” again in the first listing: “Lindsay-Wakefield Family Papers, 1879-1982.” On the next page, the two Houghton “Lindsay-Wakefield Family Papers” files are listed; and the “Papers, 1865-1993 (inclusive), 1855-1941 (bulk) Lindsay family” file is listed at the Schlesinger Library. This latter features the work of Esther Catharine Frazee Lindsay, VL’s mother.

Haverford College. Four VL letters and one note—all to Christopher Morley—are housed in the Treasure Room Manuscript Collection.

Hiram College. The substantial Nicholas Vachel Lindsay collection of published and unpublished works housed in the Hiram College Library has been catalogued by librarian Joanne Sawyer and is available online at:

<http://library.hiram.edu/Archives/Nicholas%20Vachel%20Lindsay%20Finding%20Aid.htm>

Humphrey, William. In 1978, Elizabeth E. Graham, then curator of the Vachel Lindsay Home, introduced me to William Humphrey, Maud Humphrey’s adopted son. Maud and her sister Mary were two of VL’s closest friends. William Humphrey gave me permission to copy and quote from VL poetry manuscripts in his possession; most of these were sent to Maud Humphrey between 1898 and 1905. Mr. Humphrey has since died, and the manuscripts remain with his heirs.

Indiana. The University of Indiana’s Lilly Library collection of Lindsayana is detailed by Cecil K. Byrd (see above under “Secondary Sources”).

Library of Congress. The library has a small collection of VL letters and manuscripts: several letters to Percy Grainger, one to Rachel Hiller, and one to VL’s parents.

Lindsay, Catharine Frazee. The reference is to an unpublished manuscript, dated February 23-24, 1916. Used with permission of Catharine Blair. This manuscript is now collected in Springfield’s Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Lindsay Home. The Vachel Lindsay Association owned (and still owns) many letters and manuscripts, including VL letters to Susan Wilcox and to Mary Humphrey, as well as a collection of VL poetry manuscripts sent to Maud and Mary Humphrey. Used with permission and encouragement of former Lindsay Home curator, Elizabeth E. Graham. These materials (and many more) are now collected in Springfield’s Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Lindsay-Blair, Joy. The reference is to one of two unpublished manuscripts: a memoir of VL and a memoir of VL’s parents. Used with permission of Catharine Blair. These manuscripts are now collected in Springfield’s Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Princeton. Princeton's Firestone Library houses VL letters to Elizabeth Mann Wills and to Jessie Kalmbach.

Rollins. The Rollins College Library houses the Jessie B. Rittenhouse books and papers, including several VL letters.

Sangamon Valley Collection. See "Springfield Lincoln Library" below.

Southern California Library, University of. The repository for several VL letters to Hamlin Garland, most of them published in Chénétier, *Letters of VL* (see above).

Springfield Lincoln Library. Springfield's city library must not be confused with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library described above. The Springfield Lincoln Library's Sangamon Valley Collection, the rare books and manuscripts unit, houses a substantial array of Lindsayana, highlighted by Frances Frazee Hamilton's two scrapbooks (see "Blair, Catharine" above). The collection contains a large number of newspaper clippings, especially from the 1920s and after, as well as personal letters from VL to Arthur Davison Ficke and Frank Waller Allen. The entire miscellany is stored in several hundred indexed folders.

Swarthmore. The Swarthmore College Jane Addams Collection features four VL letters to Jane Addams.

Virginia. The Nicholas Vachel Lindsay collection in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library, the University of Virginia Library, is by far the largest collection of Lindsayana. All of VL's notebooks and datebooks are in this collection, as well as hundreds of his letters, letters to him, drawings, manuscripts, and photographs. In 2011, when I revisited the Barrett Library (after thirty years), I learned that these Lindsay materials are now collected in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library:

<http://www2.lib.virginia.edu/small/>

However, one thing has not changed in thirty years: the University of Virginia Library staff are as friendly and as helpful as ever. For an informative history of the Barrett Library, see:

<http://www.celebratingresearch.org/libraries/virginia/barrett.shtml>

Wakefield-Ward. See Ward, Catharine Wakefield below.

Ward, Catharine Wakefield. Catharine Ward, Olive Lindsay-Wakefield's daughter and thus VL's niece, was custodian to a substantial collection of unpublished VL and family letters and manuscripts, including letters of VL and his wife, and VL poetry manuscripts and drawings. The collection features VL letters to his parents, to his sister Olive and brother-in-law, Paul Wakefield, and to Eleanor Dougherty [Mms. Francois Trives], as well as letters of VL's parents (covering several decades). Used with permission of Catharine Ward, who opened her home to me in 1986 and answered many of my questions by mail. For her assistance and encouragement, I am truly grateful. Most of the Ward materials are now collected in Harvard's Houghton and Schlesinger libraries (see "Harvard" above).

Wellesley. The Wellesley College Library houses VL letters to former college faculty members George H. Palmer and Katherine Lee Bates.

Yale. Yale University's Beinecke Library collects 264 largely unpublished letters (1913-32) from VL and his wife Elizabeth to Sara Teasdale and her husband Ernst Filsinger. Several are cited, at least in part, by Carpenter and Drake (see above). An annotated edition of these letters is now online at:

[www.VachellLindsayHome.org](http://www.VachellLindsayHome.org)

At the website, choose "Biography" and, on the next page, "Letters to Teasdale." The letters are numbered, and for convenience of readers, the letter number follows "Yale" in citations. For example, a quotation from a VL letter to Teasdale dated "December 18, 1913," will read: (18 December 1913, Yale 13), meaning that it is from Letter 13 in the annotated edition.

