

Personal Collection: Finding Aid*David Moles**583 Foundations of Preservation and Archives***Benjamin Rosenbaum's *The Unraveling*****COLLECTION OVERVIEW****Content Description**

Digital materials related to Benjamin Rosenbaum's novel *The Unraveling* as eventually published in English and in German, as well as the unfinished novel *Resilience* from which *The Unraveling* was developed, the short story "Droplet" that was the inspiration for the novels, and other related works. The collection includes working papers such as word processing files, research notes, worldbuilding notes, and page proofs, as well as correspondence with agents, editors, critique partners, and others.

The collection is organized into three series: novels, short works, and correspondence. The original order of the material has been retained; however, an access copy of the working papers has been created in which the material has been minimally re-organized to cleanly separate the *Unraveling* files from other works.

The novels series contains working papers relating to the published novel *The Unraveling* in text and audiobook form, as well as the substantially different German translation *Die Auflösung*, the unfinished *Resilience*, and an unfinished, untitled *Unraveling* sequel.

The short works series contains working papers related to the short story "Droplet" that inspired Rosenbaum to begin *Resilience*, as well as various sections extracted from the abandoned *Resilience* manuscript and reworked into standalone short pieces.

The correspondence series contains email correspondence with agents, editors, critique partners, and others regarding *The Unraveling* and related works.

Dates

2002-05-10–2022-11-02

CreatorBenjamin Rosenbaum, 1969– (<https://lcn.loc.gov/n2008021538>)**Conditions governing access**

Access is by permission of the donor.

Conditions governing use

Copyright in working papers held by Benjamin Rosenbaum. Copyright in email and other correspondence held by individual correspondents. Materials may not be reproduced without permission of the copyright holders. Other legal restrictions may apply.

Biographical / Historical

Benjamin Rosenbaum (1969–) is a critically acclaimed science fiction writer and game designer whose short fiction has been nominated for the Hugo, Nebula, BSFA, Sturgeon, and World Fantasy Awards. His first novel, *The Unraveling*, was published in 2018 in German translation by Piper Verlag as *Die Auflösung*, and in English in 2021 by Erewhon Books, with a substantially revised text. Originally from Arlington, Virginia, he lives near Basel, Switzerland with his family, and holds dual American and Swiss citizenship.

Extent

1.22 Gigabytes
5,012 Digital Files

Language of Materials

English, German

Additional Description

Arrangement

The collection is organized into three series:

- I. Novels
- II. Short Works
- III. Correspondence, 2007-02-14–2021-07-29

Series I. Novels is arranged in four subseries:

- A. *Resilience*
- B. *The Unraveling*
- C. *Die Auflösung*
- D. Untitled *Unraveling* sequel

Series II. Short Works is arranged in ten subseries:

- A. “Bereft, I Come to a Nameless World”
- B. “Droplet”
- C. “Fift and Shria”
- D. “Meeting Minutes”
- E. “Network Protocols of Reef Six”

- F. "Reef Six"
- G. "Salutations of Second Afternoon, Fullbelly!"
- H. "The First Gate of Logic"
- I. "Thirty-Nine Statistically Improbable Signs of the Apocalypse"
- J. "Wiwipewifawiwildoll"

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Many word processing files in the collection were created using Scrivener, and are best accessed with Scrivener 2.7 or later. Reading some files may require Adobe InDesign 15, Microsoft Word 2007, or Pages 4, or later versions.

Email is provided in both MBOX format (all messages in a single file) and EML format (1 file per message). PDF and WARC derivatives are also provided.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Working papers were provided by Benjamin Rosenbaum via Dropbox and email via forwarding to a shared Gmail account. The Dropbox file was downloaded as a Zip archive and the Gmail mailbox via Google Takeout, on December 1, 2022.

Processing information

Processed by David Moles in December 2022. Working files were converted to BagIt format using Bagger. Email was converted to BagIt format with Mailbagit, extracting attachments and creating PDF and WARC derivatives. SHA-256 checksums were calculated for all files as part of this process, and an inventory file created to capture original file modification dates.

An access copy has been created as an additional BagIt folder, minimally reorganizing the working papers into series by genre and work, and extracting snapshots of the *Resilience* manuscript from the email archive. Access copies can be matched to their original locations by SHA-256 checksum.

Subjects

- Authors, American (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85009808>)
- Authors, Swiss (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85010001>)
- Jewish authors (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh99004955>)
- Gender identity—Fiction (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh2008117817>)
- Science fiction (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85118629>)

Finding aid & Administrative Information

Author	David Moles
Description Rules	Describing Archives: a Content Standard
Language of description	English
Script of description	Latin

APPENDIX: CONTENT INVENTORY**Note**

Paths are relative to the data directory in each BagIt package.

Working files

As originally provided, working files for *The Unraveling* and for various short works are commingled under a single top-level directory.

Path (from bags/2022-12-01-dropbox/data)	Size	Count
The Unraveling	8.45 MB*	43 files*
The Unraveling/Bereft, I Come to a Nameless World standalone	9 MB	179 files
The Unraveling/Droplet 2.0	0.5 MB	9 files
The Unraveling/Erewhon	25 MB	47 files
The Unraveling/Fift & Shria standalone	14 MB	1,011 files
The Unraveling/Meeting Minutes standalone	0.5 MB	34 files
The Unraveling/Network Protocols of Reef Six standalone	0.2 MB	2 files
The Unraveling/Piper	32 MB	26 files
The Unraveling/Podium	1 GB	46 files
The Unraveling/Reef Six standalone	8 MB	313 files
The Unraveling/Salutations of Second Afternoon, Fullbelly! standalone	0.4 MB	24 files
The Unraveling/Thave disappears	0.06 MB	1 file
The Unraveling/The First Gate of Logic standalone	14 MB	1,015 files
The Unraveling/Thirty-Nine Signs standalone	0.02 MB	1 file
The Unraveling/Wiwipewifawiwildoll standalone	1 MB	93 files
The Unraveling/exports	1.24 MB	118 files

* Excluding files in subdirectories.

Email

Email was downloaded as a single MBOX file, then converted to Mailbag format for better preservability, in the process extracting each email message as a separate EML file, extracting attachments, and creating PDF and WARC derivatives.

Path (from bags/2022-12-01-email/data)	Size	Count
attachments	19.4 MB	78 files
eml	35.4 MB	125 files
mbox	35.9 MB	1 file
pdf	4.89 MB	125 files
warc	19.25 MB	125 files

Working files (access copy)

An access copy of the working files was created, refolding the files by genre and title while preserving subdirectories' original order insofar as possible, and extracting snapshots of the *Resilience* manuscript from the email archive.

Path (from bags/2022-12-15-access/data)	Size	Count
Novels		
Novels/Resilience	2.6 MB	17 files
Novels/The Unraveling		
Novels/The Unraveling/Die Auflösung		
Novels/The Unraveling/Die Auflösung/Piper	32 MB	26 files
Novels/The Unraveling/Erewhon	25 MB	47 files
Novels/The Unraveling/Podium	1,006 MB	46 files
Novels/The Unraveling/Working Files	8.45 MB*	43 files*
Novels/The Unraveling/Working Files/exports	1.24 MB	118 files
Novels/Untitled "Unraveling" Sequel	0.06 MB	1 file
Short Works		
Short Works/Bereft, I Come to a Nameless World standalone	9 MB	179 files
Short Works/Droplet 2.0	0.5 MB	9 files
Short Works/Fift & Shria standalone	14 MB	1,011 files
Short Works/Meeting Minutes standalone	0.5 MB	34 files
Short Works/Network Protocols of Reef Six standalone	0.2 MB	2 files
Short Works/Reef Six standalone	8 MB	313 files
Short Works/Salutations of Second Afternoon, Fullbelly! standalone	0.4 MB	24 files
Short Works/The First Gate of Logic standalone	14 MB	1,015 files
Short Works/Thirty-Nine Signs standalone	0.02 MB	1 file
Short Works/Wiwipewifawiwildoll standalone	1.06 MB	93 file

* Excluding files in the exports subdirectory.