
DOUGLAS MOORE:
A BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHY

by

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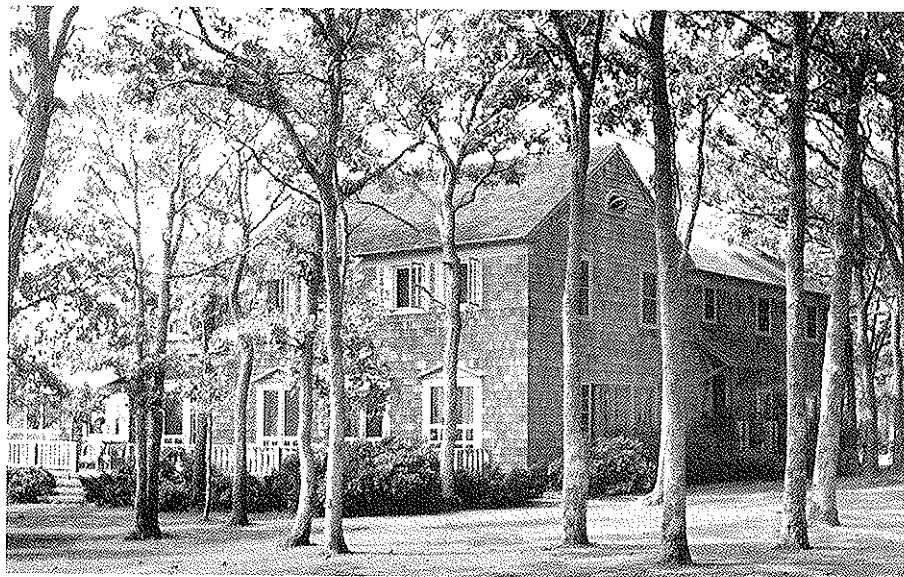
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CHRONOLOGICAL BIOGRAPHY

FAMILY AND EARLY LIFE

Douglas Moore was born into two very old American families as the youngest son of Stuart Hull Moore (1854–1915) and Myra Drake (1856–1933). The first member of the Moore family to settle in New York was Thomas Moore (1615–1691), who came from Connecticut and moved to Southold Town on Long Island in 1640, not far from Cutchogue, where the family farmed and lived for generations.¹ Although most of the Moore farm is now a golf course and country club, the original Moore farmhouse in which his grandfather, Joseph Hull Moore (1817–1904), lived and in which Douglas, his father, and his brother were born is about one mile inland from the shore of Peconic Bay on Moore's Lane. Two other family homes are still standing on the shore facing the bay. A small clubhouse known as Salt Meadow originally belonging to Joseph was first converted into a garage and later, in 1933, was made into a cottage. Next door to Salt Meadow, Stuart built a larger house named Quawksnest, in reference to the night herons found in that area. Salt Meadow eventually became Douglas's home.²



Salt Meadow



Douglas Moore, 1893

Stuart Moore was not interested in farming, and when he was still a boy, he left the Cutchogue home on a night boat for New York, where he apprenticed to a printer. Eventually, he acquired the literary magazine *The Fireside at Home* from F. M. Lupton (1854–1910), renaming it *Ladies' World*, which was published from 1887 to 1918. He sold the business to McClure in about 1913, after which he retired and acquired a summer residence in Pasadena, California.³

Myra Drake was born in Portland, Maine, to a family descended from the Mayflower settlers Miles Standish (ca. 1584–1656) and John Alden (ca. 1599–1687). Myra's mother's maiden name was Fobes, and she was Mr. Drake's second wife. When Drake left the family to prospect for gold in Alaska, Myra's mother moved to Brooklyn with Myra and her sister. Myra found employment as a secretary and editor at *Ladies' World*, where she met and married Stuart Moore.⁴

Stuart and Myra had four children: Arthur (1881–1956), Eliot (1882–1946), Dorothy (Mrs. Ransome G. Miller, 1891–1975), and Douglas (1893–1969), born on 10 August. The family lived in Brooklyn, first at 43 McDonough Street and then, beginning in 1914, in two apartments at the corner of Sumner Avenue and Van Buren Street, while spending the summers in Cutchogue. Arthur continued in the family business, eventually becoming a vice president for Hearst Magazines. Eliot pursued various occupations.

There were no professional musicians in Moore's family, but his mother was very active in Brooklyn society as a member of the Chaminade Society, a women's choral group, and other cultural organizations. The house at 43 McDonough Street included a music room that was added to the house at a cost of \$10,000 for the purpose of the family's music making and for presenting musical soirees.⁵ Stuart played Pianola rolls for the family consisting of parlor music typical of the late nineteenth century, while Myra played the piano and took singing lessons. Douglas enjoyed listening to the Pianola and to his mother's playing.

Myra soon insisted that Douglas take piano lessons, although he was not very interested in playing or practicing the instrument. He began piano lessons in 1900 as a student of Emma Richardson Kuster, the conductor of the Chaminade Society, and followed this with instruction by Beverly Day, from whom he learned salon pieces by composers such as Ethelbert Nevin, Anton Rubinstein, Chopin, Grieg, Edward MacDowell, and Tchaikovsky.⁶ In addition to the

LIST AND BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MUSICAL WORKS

A. MANUSCRIPTS, SCORES, AND RECORDINGS

"Adam Was My Grandfather"

Alternate title: "For All Blasphemers"

Genre: Song

Text: Stephen Vincent Benét

Instrumentation: Baritone voice and piano

Date of composition: 1938

1st line: "Adam was my grandfather, a tall, spoil'd child . . ."

Vocal range: C4-F#5

Dedication: To Sarah

Scores:

Pencil ms. score (5 pp.); Library of Congress

Ink ms. score (4 pp.); Library of Congress

Adam Was My Grandfather. Poem by Stephen Vincent Benét. Plate no.: G.M. 897-5. New York: Galaxy Music, 1938.

Adventures in the Latin Quarter

Waltz

Alternate title: *Improper pieces. I, Adventures in the Quarter*

Genre: Movement from a suite

Instrumentation: Piano

Date of composition: 1919

Score:

Ink ms. score (7 pp.); Library of Congress

Adventures in the Latin Quarter

Carillon

Genre: Movement from a suite

Instrumentation: Piano

Date of composition: Paris 1920; revised New York 1936

Score:

Ink ms. (3 pp.); Columbia University