

January 18, 1971

Dear Sylvia:

Allan Swartz claims that he met you in Los Angeles at Maggie's. It seems they were great friends for a long time (I gather they still are). He seems to feel that Maggie is a bit like David, though (doesn't want to turn loose of her "toys")... He is a pharmacologist ??? I should look that one up before trying to write it... particularly to someone with a vocabulary like you have.

I'll stick your check away and wait to see what develops. If all goes well, I'll return it to you. I don't think they will cost me nearly that much. If you are only wanting to borrow the copies I make from Arch's and then return them, I'll just send your check right back because I will certainly not take your money for that. I was going to make you copies to keep for yourself. But, if you don't want to keep the entire mass of 2000-odd pages or if you want to copy those you want to keep after I send you mine and then return all of them to me, I will send the check back to you. If you want the entire set for your own files, I'll wait to see what happens and how the copying goes. I don't think it will be any trouble or expense to me to make you a set from those I copy of Arch's (and, in a small way, mine) which apparently Bud now has... If it goes as well as I hope it does, either way, I shall return your check. But, thank you for being so kind and thoughtful.

I told Allan Swartz that you and he "broke my record." You took me and Bobby out to that lovely dinner and Allan took me out to dinner... I'm not used to co-critics who have any money... or, if they do, who will spend it, at least not on me...

Now--on to other things... You may be right about the library books but I did a little analysis of the dates he checked books out of the library, the dates they were due to be returned and the dates he apparently did return them. Look at Volume 22, pp. 82-83, CE 1117, to follow this:

<u>Date Checked Out</u>	<u>Number of Books</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Date Apparently Actually Returned</u>	<u>Number of Days Retained</u>
5/22/63	1	6/5/63	6/1/63	10 days
6/ 1/63	2	6/15/63	6/12/63	12 days
6/12/63	1	6/26/63	6/17/63	5 days
6/17/63	3	7/ 1/63	6/24/63	7 days
6/24/63	1	7/ 8/63	6/28/63	4 days
6/28/63	1	7/12/63	7/ 1/63	3 days

<u>Date Checked Out</u>	<u>Number of Books</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Date Apparently Actually Returned</u>	<u>Number of Days Retained</u>
7/ 1/63	1	7/15/63	7/ 6/63	5 days
7/ 6/63	2	7/20/63	7/10/63	4 days
7/10/63	2	7/24/63	7/15/63	5 days
7/15/63	2	7/29/63	7/18/63	3 days
7/18/63	1	8/ 1/63	7/30/63	12 days
7/30/63	2	8/13/63	7/31/63	1 day
7/31/63	2	8/14/63	8/ 5/63	5 days
8/ 5/63	1	8/19/63	8/ 8/63	3 days
8/ 8/63	1	8/22/63	8/12/63	4 days
8/12/63	1	8/26/63	8/22/63	10 days
8/22/63	3	9/5/63	9/ 9/63 ????	18 days ???
9/ 9/63	3	9/23/63	9/19/63	10 days
9/19/63	4	10/ 3/63	????	

To me, the strangest thing about this "record" is the books checked out on August 22nd, and apparently his next visit to the library is on September 9th...

Also in Vol. 22, p. 767, CE 1403 (p. 713), is a copy of a letter from Lee to the New Orleans Public Library (apparently never mailed). In the letter he states emphatically that he had returned the books. (This is possibly the first letter Lee typed on Ruth Paine's typewriter) If Lee checked the above four books out on September 19, Ruth Paine arrived the next day (the 20th), and Ruth, Marina and the children left New Orleans the next day, the 21st, the child had very little time to "get hold of the four books and play with them" removing the cards. OR, DID HE NOT RETURN THE three books checked out on 8/22/63 which should have been returned on 9/5/63...? Was someone else checking out books on his card and returning them to make it appear that he was in New Orleans??? Do you remember that out of all the Unemployment checks and Reily Coffee Co. checks he received and cashed, the FBI could not authenticate the checks for 8/12/63, 8/28/63, 9/6/63, 9/16/63, 9/25/63 and 10/31/63... The first five in this list were cashed at the Winn Dixie Store on Magazine (the only checks Lee apparently ever cashed at this particular Winn Dixie Store.)

Also, during this period, most of the places Lee claims he applies for work either don't exist or deny that he applied. One of them, Rosen's, said he applied there during the middle of August. He claimed he applied there on August 29th. He was writing a number of letters during this period (to the Worker or Socialist Party or some such things) but in some cases, the letters would be dated--for example Aug. 1st but postmarked Aug. 4th... Had he written these letters ahead of time for

understands on

Gold's anthologies are very thick and I don't think he read one of them plus another book in one day -

someone else to mail for him, again making it appear that he was in New Orleans during this period?

One rather peculiar thing~~x~~ about the "reading list" is that on July 30, 1963, Lee checked out two books: Mind Partner, which is Science Fiction and was edited by H. L. Gold; and The Hittite, by Gerson. He returned them the next day... On August 12, 1963, he checked out one book, Treasury of Science Fiction Classics, edited by Kuebler, and kept it ten days. I have several of Gold's collections and also Kuebler's... I would say that Gold's anthologies are much better... at least I think they would appeal more to the person who would also read Ian Fleming and A. C. Clarke (however, he seems to have only selected one of Clarke's -- he is a little heavy, but then Lee chose some pretty heavy stuff)..

On July 10, 1963, Lee checked out two books: The Hugo Winners, by Isaac Asimov (probably science fiction), and Russia Under Khrushchev, by Alexander Werth. I have Werth's book. It is over 350 pages and very readable and interesting and should appeal to someone who was interested in Russia... Lee kept these two books five days but later kept one ~~xxxx~~ science fiction book ten days ??? I just don't know... I've tried finding some message from the titles of the books, from the author's names, etc... NOTHING...

Sylvia, dear, you'll just have to be patient... I'm completely normal again and back to going off on a tangent whenever I get on any subject of this crazy case...

Please don't let all my rambling about "my analysis" stop you from doing research into the library thing... You may be entirely right! The books may have been returned in October by someone else... I do think it is possible someone was acting for Lee during this period in several areas...

Must get to bed...

Love,

Mary

You didn't say anything about coming this Summer... What about it???

I know I didn't get my points across very well - but I sat down the minute I read your letter and dashed this off - One of my points is - This boy couldn't get near a library without taking a book - Hence, my question re the 9/5/63 due date -

Sorry! This is a little confusing -