

September 5, 1967.

Dear Sylvia,

forgive me for not writing too soon - but I had to finish that novel and it took me some time. Now it is over and done - 300 pages, and a thick novel it is! I hope it goes well - although it is not important. As you know, at least for a work of creation like this - what counts is the fact that you've done it - and have given birth to it. After - what happens is just trivial and hazardous.

I suppose you're working on your book - and going well, I hope. I was sorry to read that you had a fight with Penn over Garrison. Well, Penn is a very nice man but I am afraid he is too innocent. I have not written to him lately and I should - he means well, although I think he is wrong in 9 out of 10 of his theories. As for Garrison, I have written him off as you know - and I have published a short paragraph about this. A few people from New Orleans have contacted me to say that they are, too, disappointed. Gurvitch is through with him too, so what else can we expect in this part of the story? Nothing, I am afraid. What I am also afraid of - and it is a deep impression - is this: Viet-Nam, the horror of the racial problem and ~~what~~ else (a war with China, ~~is~~ soon?) are quickly erasing the Kennedy problem from everybody's minds. You will even see that the famous " Kennedy magic" will die away. And that no Kennedy will ever be President again. It is not a prophecy but I have the feeling that what will happen in the next years and , mostly, from 68 to 72 will be decisive - and that the world will have other problems than Bullet 339- or whatever the number. I suppose it is sad - but isn't it normal and bound to happen? Well, I may be wrong, God knows I have been wrong about Garrison! But that's my feeling , today.

Besides that, there's nothing new here, as you can guess - and I look forward to read your letters whenever you have a minute.

Best, as ever,

Philipe .