

3 July 1967

Dear Shirley,

My phone number is listed, Chelsea 2-4293, Area code 212. I am sorry that I haven't been writing very much but as you rightly surmised I have been very busy with odds and ends, including a review of the CBS atrocity which will be in the September TMO. I will try to do better. Also, between the odds and ends, I have been depressed and lethargic, for a number of reasons (some unrelated to the case). I am sorry you are feeling miffed with Penn, although I would feel the same way in your place. We must each work at our own pace and certainly a divorce is not a minor little incident. I am surprised at Penn, who is usually more than generous and understanding of other people's circumstances.

When I read your letter of 6/30/67 I nearly fell off my chair with shock and surprise when you mentioned Bogard. Shirley! I had no idea he was DEAD! My God, I can't believe it. And has been dead since before March 1966---this is a terrible awful frightful shock. I guess I will be getting Penn's article on it but I wish I had your phone number so I could call you this minute and ask you more about it. (Your phone is unlisted, I know, or am I wrong?)

I was also greatly surprised when you mentioned that a friend of yours has seen the proofs of my book. Shirley, if it is not absolutely confidential, can you please tell me who this person is? I had the impression that a very few copies of the proofs were printed (because they are extremely expensive) and those very carefully doled out. I don't even have the proofs myself. Of course, whoever your friend may be, I am overwhelmed with happiness at his or her favorable reaction, I only hope it is not too sanguine. Needless to say, I will be satisfied beyond words if the book makes even a small contribution to the replacing of foul lies by the truth that has been defiled and abused on every side.

Shirley, I don't feel in the least that it is "immature" to be more and more convinced of LHO's innocence. If it is, then we are both "immature," because I share your convictions about this. I must admit that I am appalled that some of our colleagues are so befuddled by Mr. Garrison, who must have an uncanny seductiveness for both males and females, that even those who have been the most vehement about LHO's innocence, ready to flay alive their fellow-critics who were less sure or who were a little slow to the realization that he might be totally innocent, needed only to hear Garrison proclaim that LHO was conspiring with Ferrie and Shaw (which I do not believe for one second) to achieve instant defection. The more that big-mouth talks, the less I believe him. Why should I pussy-foot---the fact is that I am convinced he is a grandiose charlatan, and a terrible threat to all of us, to legitimate criticism of the WR, and may drag all the critics down with him into total disaster.

What is it with M in History? She never calls anymore (for which I give heartfelt thanks) but I do wonder what she is up to. I shudder at the very thought of what her feverish little mind may give birth to, and what she may be capable of doing or saying as a result.

Please do let me know, if you can, by return mail the name of your friend who read the proofs of my book; also, anything more you know about Bogard's death.

All my love, Shirley.

Sylvia