

Fri. July 13, 1973


Dear Sylvia:

I am sure my visit to your Fire Island establishment will stand as the happiest week of '73 for me, little except as there was to see by the standards of sophisticated world travelers. If the thistles were a disappointment, the mushrooms were a pleasing surprise.

I hope Isabel can make it, but in a letter of yesterday she intimates that visitors will prevent. (Of course, if it was only cats, we could keep 'em a few days, easy enough.)

I looked in on your apt. (how strange to have no Mimi bursting out as soon as opened & found all plants thriving, & most apparently damp; but gave them some more. As to the toaster, both broken connections are right at the ^{very} end of the wires—but I don't think I could do a decent fix, & shitted it. Perhaps there are repairmen who can refasten such wires reliably—it looks easy enough, but you'd need special wire I haven't got.



Poison ivy, beware! The leaflets may be shiny or dull, very jagged or hardly at all, but the basic shape is the same (One with 5 leaflets, , is Virginia Creeper, no relation.)

is also Poison Sumac in the swamps, but it would never be encountered accidentally; whereas Poison Ivy (& lots of it) is to be seen on ~~the~~ sand, in hedges, & in swampy places all in differently.

How's the psoriasis coming? (No answer)

needed, of course, but I'm curious as to how quickly the sun "kills" it.) A problem: don't you have it under your bathing suit, too? I suppose the back yard is private enough for the nude - provided the place still maintains its blessed freedom from mosquitoes, which seems to me a strange thing. I understand there are plenty at some places; but certainly I never saw a one. Fireflies now operating? This was the only insect I saw.

I send some RR schedules; I understand Elaine sent the ferry schedules. (I forgot about it, because of cutting off some elderblossom to make fritters of. Eaten some days later, they were good - might have been better, if plumb fresh.)

With much thanks,

Lex.