July 5, 1976

Dear Sylvia,

Do not know if this will reach you in time (I doubt it, assuming your Fire Island arrival to have been scheduled before the holidays) or if it will be forwarded--in any event--

Thank you for you letter, and rest assured that (limited as the opportunities are) I "confer" no dedications lightly, for with them goes considerable respect and/or affection (which surely requires no modification).

With regards to Lex Mebane, I have no idea how he got to be consigned to other planes. Please convey my sincerest apologies (and, when you've the time, his address so that I might deliver same myself). Putnam's has be informed that resurrection is the order of the day, fact, and author--I hope they will honour one of these considerations.

Have a wonderful vacation, Marcia sends her very best, and I look forward to seeing you on your return.

As always,

P.S. I was subsequently much amused, but he was hardly that at the time and doubtless even less so afterwards, when I nodded to Jones at your party and remarked in all absentminded sincerity: "Ah, I'm certain we've met."

> Also, saw Makarova (and Nagy) in Swan Lake a few days ago. She was superb, if a bit too remote, he progressed (through the acts) from adequate, to fair, to good. Sets: expensive, but Smith has run out of ideas. Costumes: opulent and much fun. Music: performance sufficient.

> > Again, best-