

9/7/70

II, III, IV,

In today's mail, from each of you, postmarked, resp. 9/2/ 9/6 and 9/2, obviously prepared with care. II's was torn opened and the flap tucked in. III was with part of flap missing. IV's was fairly obviously re-glued, last week, from my "publisher", one that had simply had the flap pulled open and not even re-glued (that one I took to postmaster with request for investigation, as I will do with these).

What appears to be different is callousness, openness, for the fact is not new, there being countless cases from the past. Whether or not it means anything new I'll not speculate to poster. It doesn't seem to me that much to see. However, I would request that after a short period at least you seal each flap with single tape, which does not tear readily, my sole purpose being that the possibility of accidental tearing be reduced to the minimum. Instruction cannot be addressed. Nor will this reduce my use of the mails or my expressions. I encourage you to take the same attitude, be not be intimidated.

Understand also that it is no trick to remove single tape and that it is no prevention of intrusion. It is merely for this limited purpose, to eliminate the possibility of accident to the degree possible, and it is better far than Scotch tape.

On the subjects mentioned in these letters, I will respond as I can. I have already skinned them. I am anxious to complete a few suggested changes in the new last part of II, which "I" has begun to retype, then will attack the cutting of the first part, which will have to be extensive and which I may find it difficult to go over a second time (if you have such suggestions and haven't provided them), then sitze with what was originally called III, where more than anything else I express it will be the high level of precision that will require editing. Aside from other complications in our lives, the time in which "I" can retype and read for accuracy and then index the new work is severely limited, so please understand the limitation that imposes on priorities here.

Strange coincidence: while I was writing this my wife had a personal phone call from her (III) sister which was abruptly cut off and replaced with a busy signal. The operator did not come back on the line after repeated flashing.

I do think the content of II III moves us into a different situation, if not one, which III alone of you can judge. And I think that the potential has to be known, there may be some significance to this rather new and open impropriety. It has a parallel in the detective business, known as "rough shadowing", in which the person shadowed is intended to know it is happening, the shadower's hope being the effect will be intimidation.

The new intro for all three parts is completed. It is (III) what I had written for the new third before there was this nice possibility of private printing, to which I added about 3,000 words at the front end.

Best, III