

Dear both,

4/3/95

I did not feel as Betsy feels when I was about to have my heart operation. I was relaxed and went through it easily. I hope her father was that way today. It helps. And although I recall very little of the time I was in intensive care, once I was in a room I got up myself and went to the bathroom without even calling a nurse. They were going to discharge me on the sixth day but they'd neglect to tell me or to notice that I needed transportation. So I left on the 7th day.

I did not have a valve replacement. I now wonder why because I know that one was calcified before the operation for several years.

With luck he'll be a new man. At least as new as the years allow.

By now you know the noise mystery is solved. But in setting the watch for the new time it acted up a bit and without my being aware of it have am and pm reversed. So when it is near noon remind me to set it for the alarm to go off and you'll hear the mystery noise.

I've written you about breakfast and we'll do what you want. I now have the manual from Jerry and if we speak before you get here will offer to leave it for you at the Red Horse so you can see what is in it and not copy that when you copy whatever you may want.

I've gotten an idea I'll tell you about when you are here. Until then, do you have any way of tapping retrieval sources? I'd like to see and have what has appeared about Norman Mailer since his Oswald book was announced. From what I have it was first Oswald in Minsk. Then the title was and may still be Oswald's Tale. And if such a source were available I'd like to include Bob Loomis of Random House.

Hope all goes well with Dick and that it lets Betsy return to her norm. That she is worried is natural. But the operation is now so commonplace and there has been so much experience with it it generally goes well. From my own experience it is not all that hard on the patient after they take the dope or whatever they use away. All I remember of that time in intensive care is when they woke me up to remove the tubes and did not know I hear nothing without the hearing aids. And they had me in a straightjacket so I could not point to my ears. I finally got the idea they wanted my mouth wide open so they'd not take some teeth with the tubes they were to remove. I also remember telling a nurse who brought me flowers to give them to a woman patient nearby to make her feel better. I never had any real pain from the operation except when I coughed and that was not all that bad. It was also very necessary.

Clippings interesting. Esp on the busy food racketeering.

Best,