

Ms, Carol Deck
9 West Second St., # 2
Frederick, MD 21701

12/5/95

Dear Carol,

As I wrote you I had, I asked one of my executors, who is a lawyer, for his opinion before seeking local counsel. He says, his word, the disk is "absolutely" my property. When I wrote him I had not seen the indication in one of your notes on what I'd sent Dr. MacDonald that indicates you used more than one disk. That is absolutely incomprehensible to me cheap as disks are and because I paid all expenses, including disks and paper.

I offered you the opportunity to examine the printout and to read what Dr. MacDonald, who is expert in those matters, write me about it. You have not accepted that offer.

The printout he made is from the disk you after much effort on my part you gave me instead of the original. I have written him asking that he return that disk.

This was not the only use made of the disk you gave me. The results were identical.

Aside from this there is the fact that you have what you have no right to have, my copyrighted work that you refuse to return.

As I also wrote you, the facts are the exact opposite of your representation of them in your letter of November 20 and as you should realize I am in a position to prove it. You were, despite your denial, nonresponsive and for a long period of time.

While I find your behavior in this incomprehensible, it has been costly to me and to others and you have left me no choice but to take this matter to court if you persist in your unconscionable behavior. I suggest you see a lawyer because in the end you are going to have to anyway. I suggest also that instead of giving the lawyer the arrogant girlishness you give the lawyer the truth because sooner or later you are going to have to face it and if your lawyer faces it by surprise it will be hurtful to you. Much as you deserve punishment for your behavior, that is not in my interest. I want only what is mine without any further intrusion into my life, of which so little remains, and my work.

It is my belief that you will also be assessed the costs you force on me.

In all of this I remind you that you have not given me any explanation of why you refuse to give me the original disks or, if you have anything else on them, why you did that when you knew that I wanted the disk and would use it to provide duplicates to others.

In fact, on another job, you did provide the disk voluntarily.

Because this is so incomprehensible it keeps returning to mind. You refer to what you said were my "insinuations" that you made my work available to someone else. I wond-

ered at your choice of words, "it would be near (my emphasis) impossible for me to be involved in any type of conspiracy (your word, not mine's) involving your manuscript."

I did not allege any conspiracy and you fell short of an absolute denial of anything like that.

As I wondered about that something did come to mind.

At about the time my wife gave you several dresses you said you could use you also, as I recall, said something about having a date with a new boyfriend who wanted to be or was somehow connected with the FBI. If my recollection is correct, it was for that very weekend.

Whether or no my recollection is correct, and if it is there is nothing I can now do about it or would take the time to do, the facts are simple: you have my property and I want its return intact, untouched. If I do not get it promptly I will go to court. Not knowing what reason you have; if any, for your refusal to return my property to me I suggest you start considering what it will cost you if you do not. And what else I may decide to do if you persist in this very bad behavior and putting me to extra cost and wastes of time.

If for some inexplicable reason you used my disks for any other purpose, I have no interest in whatever else may be on them. I will have anything else of that nature you may have on them duplicated commercially and given to you.

But cheap as disks are and when I was paying for them I find it senseless that you would use any for any other purpose, particularly when you knew I wanted and needed the disk or disks.

As you know, I know nothing about computers or about disks. But the indications are that the problem is on the disk you finally gave me, the duplicate you made. Some of it printed out perfectly. That seems to eliminate the possibility that the mess comes from any other cause. And, I repeat, it was duplicated.

If I do not have the untouched, unaltered originals by the time I get the disk from Dr. MacDonald, as soon thereafter as my health permits I will be getting a lawyer and you will be hearing from that lawyer.

I have gone to some trouble to keep you from the harm you so richly deserve for treating ^{so badly} anyone, particularly one of my age and in the state of my health. You have much of my work, as you even admit in your letter of the 20th. I cannot now take the time for a word-for-word check of what seems to be intact. But I call to your attention, as certainly a lawyer will in court, that you begin that letter with your belated acknowledgement that you retain the originals and made the defective copy from it and conclude with this ^{aw} sentence, "Since I have given you everything I can, I see no further reason for you to contact me." This is from your own letter false. You have the originals. I will make no further effort to protect ^{protect} protect you from yourself. Sincerely, Harold Weisberg *Harold Weisberg*