Mr. Gary Schoener
Walk-In Counselling Center
2421 Chicago Ave. South
Minneapolis, Minn. 55404

4/10/77

Dear Gary,

If my recollection is correct it was about two weeks ago that I wrote and told you that I had followed your precept as well as what under other circumstances might be described as your advice, with an initially promising reaction from Lil, that she would try to be as she once was.

I must say that she really has tried, without making it visible, and that these past two weeks have been the best farthur back that I can remember without retreat into antiquity. Only twice that I can remember did I have cause to say something about non-responsivleness when I spoke. I recall nothing I can interpret as an affront to me.

While I have not been away much when I return I receive a decent greeting. Imagine this being worthy of comment! Neither this nor anything else seems awkward. In 2 weeks.

Right now, having decided that she wanted to discontinue a tax case for a while, on her initiative, not my request, she is copying some records for Jim. Meaning for us. Small a thing as this is to me it is meaningful because it does represent a welcome and a constructive change.

If I am not reading tomes into this I am saying that it is a decided and more than welcome improvement.

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Lane's ripoff/commercialization of the King assassination is now out. Code-Name Zorro, Prentice-Hall. It was on sale in Miami yesterday. A Miami friend who'd bought it phoned me last night. I have and have been reading the proofs. I've not finished. I will soon.

It is vicious if not defamatory of Jim. I have not come to the reference(s) to me. I'm not in any special rush-yet. I do plan to try to complete it tonight. Phone willing, as on a Sunday it should be.

I mention this because I think that this time we tangle. To the degree your life permits please be ready to record the promos. And to offer an expert opinion. Lane is to me, if not to you, a psycho, a sick man. I have no complaint against him because he is sick. I have complaint because of what he does, even though I am certain his sickness drives him to these obscenities. To me he is an incompetent (except in self-promotion) despite being more than average in brightness, shaprness and glibness. I have the distinct belief that never in his life has he formed a meaningful and lasting relationship, with the possible exception of those who have been separated from him by considerable distances, those he did not see often.

There is a six-figure advance, which means much more for Prentice-Hall, so I do believe that once Lane stops telling the Palm Beach authorities how to investigate deM's suicide he'll be on the raod with his type-set drek.

If you want to know how really vacuous it is, the National Enquirer would not get interested in any ancillary rights.

Lane does not deal in fact. In sensation it has this little value.

Best,