

8/19/67

Dear Gordon,

Do not be misled by the sensation-seeking headline, this is a very considerable legal victory for Garrison and quite an important one for me for from my non-legal understanding it seems that everything I have in my books, just about, is pertinent and admissible in evidence! I refer to the nine points on the second sheet.

And I tell you this for your information, not Dewey's. It will be two weeks after you get this before he gets his papers, and he may or may not understand the significance of the decision. If he thinks as Joesten does, he will not. I see nothing wrong with your telling him that there has been a decision that makes everything in my writing pertinent, but I think possibly for the moment I'd prefer not to assist Joesten.

It also makes me more convinced that prospects should be better this time, that I will be right in waiting and chancing.

I am really confident now that Joesten does not have (if he does, it is worse) the 26 volumes and has nothing but an irresponsible, unbridled imagination to add to second-hand materials that he only partly comprehends. In glancing at the book this morning in the proper environment I found he quoted Kenny O'Donnell's testimony from Time magazine, not his testimony! And I have found nothing to in any way change the appraisal I have given you and Horne.

Tuesday I go to New York to confer with John and Gellen of Arallax and seek a lawyer for a possible suit against Dell. I have yet to get an accounting, to get a cent for the 8,000 copies of the original edition of WHITEWASH they ordered, or any performance on their contract save publication. I return in time for a meeting with Fred Horne and his board of directors of Horne of England to see if they are interested in non-exclusive distribution of my first three books, probably largely by mail solicitation. I understand that some of the top Hearst personnel are interested in meeting me and I shall give them the chance.

Otherwise, there is nothing new.

Sincerely,

John, this is my British agent. I sent him a copy of the N.O. States-Item that I enclose for you. On the two points on which Garrison lost, I suspect the city is San Francisco, the date 11/22/63, and that I know the Baton Rouge thing (I left it out of my book because I am not impressed by it or the source). I did write Deems. My trip to New York comes too fast to write him in time to reach him, so I'll phone him if there is time. I may have to go without John if he wants to see me, for John stays pretty well booked up and this is short notice. If John is free when Deems is, I'll ask him to go.

I have not heard from Wes. If you don't I'll be available again beginning Thursday night.

Also enclosed is a Thermofax of page 2 of part 4 of the CBS series, with another reference to my discovery, copyrighted by me in 1965 and known to CBS and to the executive producer, as my copyrighted discovery, marked in red. May I add that Alvarez's students, who first interested him, were also familiar with my work. It is also true, as I understand it, that Alvarez got in touch with CBS on this, not the other way around. Could you lawyer friends indicate if this is actionable, plagiarism, etc.