

6/12/69

Dear John,

I'd assumed school accounted for your silence. Sorry it looks like you won't be coming here.

I've heard nothing from Pevsner, nothing from Starr, and only what I've sent you from others.

From what you now ^{have} what is clear that Bair set a deal of his own creation, where the costs of the suit would be divided in accordance with the work done for each of the defendants, if that is the right word when there never is any legal service. There was no work for me at all in the second suit, therefore it seems that there should be no charge against me. In the first one, I have no way of knowing. However, there was little if any that related to me alone.

The Gross letter is disturbing, for it looks to me as though he gave Saga an inflated bill, charging them for work he didn't do or didn't have to do or both. Those things he itemizes are precisely what Lucas did, those things for which Dell paid with my money. I've written Bair and sent you a copy. I've not responded to Gross to give Bair a chance to keep it clean and avoid embarrassing Gross. This is not in Gross' interest but to keep a friendly, decent solution possible. What he has done is contemptible. One result is to make me determined to get back a fair compensation for what I've put into it. And I did a lot of costly work for Dell and Saga in the event the case did go to trial. Lucas also knew as he went along, so he had no fears. When I was in NY and you were near me when I spoke to Bair, he indicated his belief a fair sharing was in order. I agree. My seeming change in the letters was an effort at leverage because he was doing nothing. And it is possible I misunderstood him when he phoned and said they'd take care of it. But I also know their special interpretations, so I'm not sure either way.

I tried to phone Marty Singer Friday but he wasn't in. I left my name but do not know if he knows I called. I tried earlier today and was told to call back at 3. I won't be home then, but I'll try later. If you can, please call him and ask him to get in touch with me not for anything he can do but so I can bring him up to date and let him know what I think is afoot behind his boss' back. Also, I think I have a story for him, one I will not take the time to do (and I cannot afford any association with Saga after the one experience).

I've sent ~~P~~ everything except this current stuff and CBS. I've not heard from the agent, who is about to leave the country for 10 weeks. He was supposed to phone me yesterday. Instead (after I called him) I got a call-back with the message he'd call me today. It is going on 2 and I have to leave at 2 and no word. I know he is busy. I also like him (as I do and did John, who did nothing but cost me money and trouble, so I have learned it means nothing). I'll keep you posted.

If you want swimming and sun, this is the place. The entire roof is an unnecessary sundeck, for we also have several acres of that and the large apron on a 40-foot pool. I think you are right to go to summer school. Do it well and intensively when you can. It gets too late too soon. Best,

June 9, 1969

Dear Harold:

Excuse me for not replying to your letters sooner but I have only now finished my final examinations and term papers. Furthermore, having nothing new to report I thought that it was not essential that I write.

No, I did not hear from that black literary agent, nor have I heard from Pavsner. What is happening with Pavsner and what are you doing now?

I thought that Sonia and I might have been down to visit last weekend but we decided that we both needed some swimming and sun and didn't feel like making the long drive. We hope to see you another weekend. The main difficulty is that I dislike driving on weekends on these parkways---I think that they are dangerous.

I start summer school a week from today. Plans had originally been suggested for a trip to Israel to study Hebrew but I could not find any place that starts its courses the beginning of August; when I finish N.Y.U. I have ~~been~~ been trying to write but not having had any time lately to attend to errands and chores that are essential, I have found little time.

The Ray case has disappeared from the papers here, nor has there been even a smidgen on the Kennedy murders.

My parents have been away in Europe for the past few weeks so I have been enjoying the privacy and the luxury.

Please give my regards to Lil and let me know what is happening. If you want me to do anything for you here, you know I will gladly oblige.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the name 'John' written in a cursive style.