

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701  
1/31/74

Dear Elmer,

This will appear to be a challenge to your integrity and without doubt it is.

However, this is not my intention.

Often I have suggested that your integrity does hang in the balance because of some of the things to which your emotions rather than your mind have driven you. Please keep this in mind as a possibility, whether or not you believe it, as you read what follows and do try to remember that when you first wrote me I offered you any help I could give and you then told me you were Ruby's counsel.

I have in mind your "review" of my Frame-Up, which I regarded as both vicious and a personal attack that was without foundation. Now you should understand that the book is no longer in the bookstores. I have all the remaining copies and no way of advertising them, so I don't sell one to 50 of my JFK books (which are again selling well, by the way). There is no prospect of personal benefit to me.

The sixth-circuit court of appeals has just passed judgement on both of us. I know only the perfunctory press accounts. I will be getting a copy and if you would like I will send it to you.

From these accounts it is inevitable that the court agreed in detail with exactly what I wrote and addressed itself strongly to that particular issue whether or not it did to others. I would guess that in taking this as the easy way the court made some reference to other factors in the petition all of which comes from my work.

If I am even close to correct in what are presumptions, and I am confident I am, the court not having your emotional involvement, then I would ask you to consider if you do not owe yourself and me some rectification of what you have done and some recognition of what I then told you, that a partisan ought never pose as a reviewer.

I doubt two things: that you will recall a book that has as much impact on a judicial determination in any major case or crime; that the paper would even consider any article in which you might say this or anything else by way of rectification.

Assuming there is a means of rectifying a corpse, which is what the book is.

Frankly, because I believe it is your emotions rather than your mind that dominates on this, I doubt you'll consider it.

But it is, as I have said often enough, your integrity, not mine or my work, that is in issue and at stake.

It is against your nature to be on the side you are on!

Best regards,

Im autographing his latest book to me  
Gertz said, "My best wishes to Harold  
Weisberg, who never lets go."

Harold Weisberg