

5/13/72

Dear Pearl,

I've so much new to do I can only acknowledge your 5/8, which awaited me on yesterday evening's return from an intensive trip. I have hours of tapes to dub and transcribe, they are important, I have extensive notes to type while fresh (mine is the world's most illegible handwriting), and I'm supposed to draft affidavits for the Ray habeas corpus proceeding.

Having been so intensively on other things, my mind is far from that of which you write. Future Shock, for example. Title?

I asked Jerry to phone Levine, but he was busy and considered it the wrong approach. I haven't had time but I've been intending to. That he has not responded to you is not explained by the fact that the book is not yet out, for one of the more obvious legal determinations that should at least suggest itself to him, whether or not he considers it proper or whether or not you want to do it is to seek an injunction. That means pre-pub. (I am not suggesting or encouraging this, but it has to occur to a lawyer.) Perhaps the best approach would be to ask his close personal friend to ask him why he has not responded to either of us.

I still must get to NYC soon, but haven't time or \$\$\$\$. It would be helpful if you could give me a brief precis of the things we discussed for me to take, so I won't forget. I can make a couple of efforts. When I get there.

Whether or not RD is pushing you, encourage completion and collection and freedom.

I know only too well the intrusion of thoughts of work into sleep. In fact, I dreamed the topic sentences of the 6th chapter of WHITWASH and, sleeping naked, got out of bed and started writing that chapter that way. When I had enough on paper I put some clothes on and then wrote more. When I wanted to stop to think, I made a pot of coffee. I kept working until I had the whole chapter written, non-stop. And I began at 2 a.m.

Jerry was well when he was here two weekends ago. School should be about ending for the semester, which should give him more time that summer and its attractions will take. Nothing new on his piece of which I know.

In haste,

Alpes 966  
Mexico 10, DF  
May 8, 1972

Dear Harold,

Wondering what happened to you and had a letter ready to mail when yours arrived. You really keep things straight for me which I appreciate no end. As I once explained to you the pressures of motherhood and money sometimes keep one's mind from functioning correctly. Besides, I've started Future Shock and the awful word futility creeps in. However, whatever is to be, a steady course until then is still the best.

*Something*

Your remarks about the author of Kaplan very lucid. And it's also odd that I never heard from the attorney I recommended you to. I saw a friend of mine the other day who knows him for years - personal basis - and said really reliable and can't understand why he hasn't answered you - said might be hasn't answered me because the book isn't out yet and there's nothing to do. After speaking with you when you said you thought I had ~~something~~, I spoke with Bob. Incidentally, I found a letter in my files to the effect that the day something is printed about Kaplan, not only would I be rewarded as being named one of the most competent researchers, but money would be forthcoming too. This is from a former editor of Raparts. Since they sold the files, I wonder what this means now. Also interesting is the fact the one really seemingly nice guy still on Ramparts, Peter Collier, has not answered my letter either in which I asked why the book is being rewritten by someone else - and also, where does ~~xxxx~~ this leave me. He is the one who said it was only fair for Hinckle to let me do a few chapters of the book, but Hinckle said no - whole thing ~~wxxxx~~ wierd. The AP article came out about 2 months ago and my friend here doesn't even have a copy. I think the NY office might be able to help you more. As for Kaplan's speaking at this point, I wonder if it's advance publicity for the book - or, since it was about the time the AP article came out, the results of another AP reporter interviewing him in New Mexico which he did. He has no reason to be hiding from anything legally involved. He doesn't seem to be hiding from syndicates, either - I really wish to hell I never met him, but since I have, and have suffered the thing out this long I might as well try to cash in on it. Interesting too, Reader's Digest is not pushing me for the article, but I do think this is for financial reasons. They've just moved to cheaper quarters, got rid of the high-priced local editor and are in a bad financial situation all over. Nevertheless I will do the article, and send you some copies - although I'd like anyone you show it to to know this is RD style, not at all a possible book I can do for a possible movie. And really, if it goes, you're my agent and will collect whatever percentage ~~is~~ owing. I still think a first person humorous essay at this point would be the thing.

*Letter*

2.

I haven't been in touch with Velasquez since he informed me of events, even though he asked me to. I think I'll feel like I've been healthfully purged when it's all over - which probably won't be until the end of this year - and get some of the writing done that bothers me in my sleep like Fishbine's *Emax Folly*. Now - all I need is an advance and would I be a happy, well-directed gal!

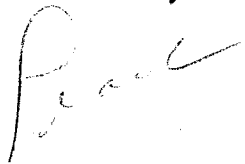
Thought of you immediately upon reading of EJK's long-delayed demise. The eulogies are nauseating. Do you think there will be any serious ~~changes~~ changes in the bureau?

How's Jerry? Is he still with the news service and going to school? What has happened to his article? The rewrite seemed quite good to me, although I suggested an analytical ending as to why the NY Times follows the policy he goes in to - or at least leaving the reader to directly do some contemplating. He answered saying it would be another kind of an article - I don't remember exactly as I haven't the letter with me (I escape from the house and work in a small office used by the Mexican Columnist Club) - nevertheless, I do remember his answer seemed to justify his position. I intend to end my Kaplan article with a nice note of sarcasm like interesting this can happen here and why is it alright?

Just returned from a week's trip from El Paso and down, doing business stories for the local mag I earn my instant bread from. Market panorama on the border, cheese industry in Chihuahua, movie industry in Durango - like that. Interesting trip without having any excitement, took along Susy my little daughter and we sang Fiddler on the Roof much to the consternation of eagle-nosed Mexicans who don't look too unlike Tevya! Hours and hours of buses, taco stops and cactus. I missed Cortes! - bug then he took another route, and much too long ago.

Thank you again for your guidance, it's what it is, and your efforts in my behalf.

Best to Lil,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred".