

Mr. Don Hauptman  
111 Third Ave.,  
New York, N.Y. 10003

5/12/76

Dear Mr. Hauptman,

Your undated form letter on private printing is addressed to a number that is no longer ours. They renumbered the rural routes. We are not on Rt. 12 without having moved.

There are no answers to some of your questions because of the unique nature of our "operation." I can't take the time for written explanations of this or in answer to the questions to which I can respond. At 63 I still work more than 18 hours every day, sometimes longer, and can't keep up. I'm also recovering from a heavy phlebitis.

I am willing to make what time you require some evening after 7:30 but not until after the 18th, when I'll be in court on one of my many Freedom of Information suits against the government.

In the sense you use the word my "story" as a publisher has never been told.

You refer to the first of five books I've published myself, all except Frame-Up on the enclosed list.

In 1966 the Wall Street Journal had a sort of story on self-publishing. It mentioned me. I do not recall the details. A Fellow named Oswald wrote it. However, I think it is no longer precisely accurate to refer to me as a self-publisher, even if I have published my own works only. I am a publisher, recognized as one by the standard indices and publications. It is not in any sense vanity publishing.

For me and in my opinion it has been successful. But the subject is, in many ways, unique, as is my work. I don't think it would be a typical example. But I also don't think that all self-publishing is as I distinguish it from vanity presses.

My phone is 301/473-8186.

I have no 8x10 glossy of any of the covers. I have smaller ones the printer has for my book wrappers. It is not convenient for me to go for them now. I'm limited in the time I can drive with my legs pendant.

Sorry about the typos.

Best wishes,

If your story has been told before, of the role and activities of my Harold Weisberg

Sincerely,

C  
O  
P  
Y

# Don Hauptman

111 Third Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10003  
(212) 673-2808

MEMO TO: *Mr. Harold Weisberg*  
RE: *Whitewash*

I'm a freelance writer, working on assignment for Free Enterprise magazine. My editors have asked me to prepare a feature article about writers who have successfully published their own work.

Would you please provide me with the following information about your own experience with self-publication:

- 1) What made you decide to publish your book yourself?
- 2) How was it produced and sold? I'm interested in your problems and solutions regarding printing, promotion, distribution, etc.
- 3) What was your investment, and your return on that investment? Did you realize a net profit? How many copies were printed, and how many sold? Any other interesting results, such as offers from major publishers?
- 4) What advice would you give to someone who was contemplating self-publication?

If your story has been told before, simply send me copies of the relevant articles. I would also appreciate a review copy of the book, or an 8x10 glossy photo of the cover. I may have a few further questions, so I would like to have your phone number, preferably one where I can reach you evenings or weekends.

Free Enterprise (formerly The Capitalist Reporter) is a national business-opportunity magazine with 400,000 readers. Your assistance might well prove to be of benefit to both of us. Many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

*Don Hauptman*

*— Your address was given  
to me by Bob Kephart.*