

Ms. Maisha James
Hood College
Frederick, Md. 21701

10/30/95

Dear Maisha,

Your behavior is not only incomprehensible it is unconscionable. I regret very much that ~~you~~^{YOU} have eliminated all my options other than what will be hurtful to your interest.

About two months ago, at the beginning of the semester, you were more than interested, you were excited by the offer of work you accepted. I took you at your word and you have not kept it in any way. If you have done anything in all this time you have kept that secret from me. You have not responded to any one of the many messages I left for you on your answering machine or with your roommate. You ~~have~~ have through Michelle given me several messages all of which were not honest and at no time have you done what you said you would do. Each time I had to keep myself clear and I did so, you wasted that much more time for me. When I am at 82 and in impaired health do not have all that time.

To begin with you did not give Michelle what I gave you after you said you would give it to her. You did not respond to her messages on your machine. When she went to your room for it you ~~were~~ were on the phone and kept on speaking until she had to leave. That not only delayed her work and reduced her income, in the end to be able to work she had to skip that and work past it and in the end that will mean more work you have wasted because it will have to be inserted.

When I did not hear from you for about two weeks and Michelle told me she had not been able to get from you the parts of that manuscript you were to have give her I phoned, left a message to which for a while there was no response. You then phoned to say you had been ill and said that you would have transportation that Wednesday and would come here. As you know, when you offered to take cabs, I told you not to, that I would drive into Hood.

Came that Wednesday and you were not here and you did not phone to say you would not or could not be. Then someone called for you and said you'd be here the coming Saturday. You were not and again no word from you or from another for you.

After there was no response to a number of additional messages I left ~~in~~ on your machine I decided to phone early in the morning and perhaps wake you. I did wake your roommate, who had not seen you for a day, and the second time she was awake and again you were not in your room that night. But she said she would give you the message - gave her and that I had left for you ^{so} often, I wanted the immediate return of everything of mine you have. I told her to tell you that I want to avoid doing what can be hurtful to you if I am forced to do that.

In this you have not only interfered with my work, all of which will be Hood's, you have denied the student who wants that work that income.

Not only is this incredible and unconscionable behavior the exact opposite of the impression I had of you, it makes no sense at all. That is the reason I phoned the dean's office, in the belief you need some kind of help.

What you have done would be unpardonable in a child. It is an outrage for anyone older than a child. Irrational, too.

I want the immediate return of everything of mine you have. No excuse for having no transportation - I'll drive in for it.

This time if you do not do what I ask and do it immediately I have no practical steps to take other than to go downtown and either file charges or file suit. And I will!

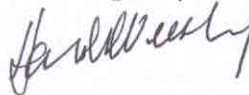
One way or another that will cost you and it will make a public record that will do you no good if it does you no real harm, which is a possibility.

I am sorely disappointed that you turn out to be other than the fine person I thought you are and that you are capable of such wretchedly bad behavior.

If it turns out that when you could you were working, that not only does not excuse this wretchedly bad behavior, it violated what I told you, that I wanted to see your first work to be sure it was done the way I wanted it done. So, if you have done any of it any other way, that means it will have to be done over.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the dean's office.

With regrets,



Harold Weisberg