

12/28/70

Dear Penn,

This is the time of the year when man's heart is supposed to be brimming with joy and good wishes. When I look back on the manifestations of "friendship" from some of my "friends", I can only lament the shortage of enemies, from whom, if unwittingly, I sometimes get help.

I've been meaning to write you since reading Jim's book. He had an afterthought and sent me a nicely inscribed copy of the second printing. I am surprised that when he has a clear formula of seeming to find some way of managing a credit to all the critics, he omitted you, despite his emphasis on the mysterious deaths. I presume you are aware that not having seen him since before the Shaw trial, I was not able to slip him another of those funny pills of which you so foolishly wrote. Some are rather strange credits, and where they were do they are absent, but he did contrive them in what he may believe is wholehearted generosity.

Reading the book fortifies an early suspicion (despite your nonsense, I've never considered Boxley an agent and tried to prevent that press release) that Boxley was delivering what was asked, whether or not valid. I still have no proof either way, but I was aware of this possibility.

Although it is not the purpose of this facility, my book on the "ing/Ray case (which even you will not consider the product of some kind of ganet) will be coming out some time in 1971. I did it long ago and recently added a new final chapter covering my successful suit against Justice (or do you regard this, too, as some kind of deviousness on my part to hide what you seem to think and say is my agency?). Since finishing it up, I've not thought about it, so I've not even tried to learn what the scheduled schedule is. My experience is that except with major productions, schedules are deceptions anyway.

Once again the interest on my indebtedness is coming due, so once again I ask that you pay me what you owe me. You know, I am not only out this money, but I have to meet the interest on it quarterly? This time I am also asking that you pay interest on it, as I must. Frankly, I can find no rational explanation for your unconscionable behavior. If this is no way to encourage you to repay what you owe, I also have too much regard for the man I thought you are to bullshit or cajole you. Why you have said and done these things, I cannot begin to guess. They surely are out of character. Or, at least I hope they are.

If this puzzles, really baffles me, + none theless, sincerely, hope you all have a good year and that you snap out of whatever is holding you captive.

I've not heard from May for a while. If you know, ~~are~~ are they okay?

Sincerely,