

Dear Jim,

6/23/76

If Ed Kabak phoned you as irrationally as he did me, I'm sorry. I think that in one of his three calls before 8 I think he did. I tried to make clear to him that I want nothing to do with him, want no more of this kind of personal abuse and emotional strain, to believe what he wants to believe, not to believe what he does but just to forget about me and make no contact.

Here you called. I'm sorry he bothered you. I was sure he would. He needs reassurance that it is right ~~to~~ to be selfish, inconsiderate, boorish, greedy and Midas-like, just grabbing everything there is up. He needs reassurance that running over people is perfectly correct because he runs over. I would not give it to him. I grew angrier and angrier on the first call when he insisted on the incredible, like how unreasonable it was of me to ask him - as I did repeatedly - to do one file at a time, to copy what he wanted from it before going on ~~to~~ to the next. For asking that my files be kept in order I'm a tyrant. Ed didn't offer them any food, etc. And he didn't even throw a dirty sock under the chest of drawers, either. Joanne just forgot to pick both up. They had done this before so before they left, not for this but so he'd not lose clothing, I asked them to check.

When he called the second time I had had a chance to become worried. He really is psycho. I didn't know what to do. I was calm, I kept trying to break it off. My spot opinion was that letting him not face himself was the worst thing I could do.

The third time, not expecting the call was from him but wanting to try to do some work - I remained deeply disturbed over the whole thing and especially his attitude - I went into my office. O first refused to talk to him three or four times when Ed answered the phone and told him I didn't want to talk to him. More to get her off the spot I did. (I've told you about the work I read and I'll do the rest in the morning and mail it.) Not knowing what is his unhidden desperation he might say and say about what I say I taped it this third time. Probably all.

As I told you he wanted, he said, to know how to mail some copyright data to me! He doesn't know? I told him again I want nothing to do with him or anything from him except that of which I have asked the return. I had told him he could ~~xxxx~~ deal with you if you and he want on legal matters, that if it means dealing with him I'll do without it (as haven't we all these years?). He actually said he doesn't want to send it to you. I told him then keep it. He even tried to bribe me to change by telling me how well he expected to write about my work. I told him that mine and everyone's work has to stand on its own, that the world's worst bastard may do fine work and fine people poor work.

I don't want the tape. I don't think it is worth your time. But I'll have it for a little while if you have any doubt. This is all very unreal. I suspect he has some knowledge of pre-existing emotional/psychological problems and is frightened. He is offended by what I wrote but refuses to get factual. I urged him to try to consider it. He even complained about my complaining about his needless making us late for the dinner reservations. This made me stand as I should not. "Everybody is later in New York," he protested. "Nobody is ever on time and nobody is expected to be. How would I know we'd have to wait," for all the world as though a busy restaurant could keep people standing and waiting until King Edward decided to grace it with his august presence. I reminded him several times that we had to leave. And he wasn't even working then.

This time we are from different cultural worlds, mine the unreal one; and I'm a "tyrant" about my files simply because I asked that they be kept in order and not defaced.

I'm sorry about this because of the strain it put on us, because of what it means about him and because he without reason involved you. But I'm going to have nothing to do with him at all...I've done a broadcast to Pittsburgh and I'm due to do one to Chicago...On the draft affidavit for Robinson I deliberately omitted any attachments. I'm sure he'll regard the dates as specific enough and the papers already filed confirms that the initial withholding was under 10504. Means less for the judge to have to read. Best