

May 21, 1968

Mrs. Wm. C. Meginnis
502 A - Town and Country Blvd.
Ellicott City, Md. 21043

Dear Mrs. Meginnis:

In my husband's absence, I am acknowledging receipt of your letter.

Since you have read in WHITEWASH of his experience with publishers, you know why we were forced to the expedient of private publication of the WHITEWASH series in the form they were presented. There are various "vanity houses" which will publish books for which you pay the costs; they don't risk their money.

We used Merkle Press, in Washington, which is a large company but not in the "vanity" category. They will reproduce either the typed manuscript by offset or will set the book in type. With them you are your own publisher, they are the printer and you pay their normal charges for the work they perform. If you are interested in contacting them, the person with whom we most often have contact is Merhl DeLancey. The address is 810 Rhode Island Avenue, NE, Washington, D. C.

Having your manuscript edited by a professional is not necessarily bad, particularly if you are able to work with the editor and make sure that the final revision is in keeping with your philosophy and the facts. A good editor is able to make very worthwhile contributions to any literary offering.

From your letter, it would seem that your story might very well be an important contribution to public understanding in the field of mental health and its treatment, so I would hope that you would persevere in your efforts to attain publication.

As for any help my husband might be able to give you, I doubt if that would be possible since he is already keeping a schedule which would have floored a less hardy soul. He is away from home approximately half the time, and when he is home he works an eighteen-to-twenty-hour day. When he gets home, however, he will read your letter and this reply; if there is anything he can add to what I have told you, he will write you himself.

In the meantime, don't give up! Dr. Unger's contribution to the work should be helpful.

Sincerely,

Lillian Weisberg

May 15th, 1968

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattsville P.O.
Hyattsville, Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I have been reading your books with continuous admiration. Of course, for the content, but then again for your determination in getting the facts before the public against such discouraging odds.

C.B.S. Television presented a documentary, L.S.D. THE SPRING GROVE STORY, twice during last year's season. The other side of the use of L.S.D. was shown through the treatment of two patients who experienced this truly miraculous therapy under the guidance of Dr. Sanford Unger.

I was the "49 year old - artist - ex-teacher", one of the patients whose treatment under only one session of the controversial drug resulted in complete and immediate recovery. I left the hospital the following day and I have been 'better than well' since.

The manuscript which I completed since my recovery, fully illustrated because of the advantages of my profession has been received with the most beautiful rejections in the history of man. I felt such empathy for what you endured before you finally went into publishing yourself to lick the establishment - so to speak!

To present the picture briefly, may I mention a few of the results of my efforts toward having my work published?

Doubleday - Ken McCormick's enthusiastic response to my work and illustrations subsided when I refused to have an editor sent to Balto. to supervise the rewriting of my story.

E.F.Dutton - Peter Prescott - "The story is both exceptional and dramatic- and I do think an important book will come with our rewriting--"

McGraw-Hill - Peter Kemeny - Your book, and the illustrations, are most moving, as one is reading the manuscript the sincerity and depth of this harrowing account is undeniable. If revised----"

MacMillan - Richard Marek - "This is a remarkable document. If you do change your mind and decide that a collaborator is worthwhile by all means let me know ---"

Simon and Schuster - We find your writing style interesting and the illustrations most effective -- "

J.B.Lippincott Co. - "The intense and very personal story of your illness makes the reader feel very much a part of the experience as you have written it, but -- "

University Books - Felix Morrow - "I find this a remarkably written book, unusual and moving ---"

And so the story is going. Having traveled the road I hope you understand when I have determined that the worth of my writing is the truth of mental illness, as recalled in honest agony. The value, the educational value cannot be watered down by some insensitive editor with only 'sell' in his motive.

May 15th, 1968

Mr. Harold Weisberg
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The reason for my writing to you is for your advice as to what step to take so that I may pursue my dedication to the truth.

The doctors working with the experimental program at Spring Grove are most interested in my work. Dr. Unger is preparing the epilog to my manuscript and yet it is an established fact that the racketeers are profiting in the distribution of L.S.D. and are powerful in preventing any interest toward legalizing even the therapeutic use of the drug.

If you do not find time to offer your suggestions, I do understand. The work you are doing is dedicated and magnificent.

If you are interested in helping a fellow in writing and conviction for facts, I will be more than happy to send or bring my manuscript over to you, so that you may decide if your experience in publishing controversial truths, may be of help to me.

One way or another, I do appreciate your attention in this matter.

Sincerely

Margaret A. Meginnis

Margaret A. Meginnis (Mrs. Wm. C.)
501 A - Town and Country Blvd.
Ellicott City Maryland
21043

Margaret A. Meginnis
501 A - Town and Country Blvd.
Ellicott City 21043 Maryland

Mr. Harold Weisberg

Hyattsville P.O.

HYATTSTOWN

Hyattsville, Maryland

REGISTERED

No. 2945

Return Receipt Requested

*Rt 8, Frederick, Md
21701*

Please

Advise your correspondents or
publishers of your correct
mailing address.

Thank you