

Mr. Les Payne
Newsroom
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Dear Les,

My gratefulness is tinged with embarrassment and regret.

I understood you to be asking me if \$60 would hold me after my wallet was lost or stolen. I knew it would and thanked you for it, then put it in my pocket. However, on getting another wallet and putting the money I had left in it it became apparent that whether or not you realized it you must have given me \$80. I did not count the money at any time and was unaware of this until making the insertion in the new wallet. So, here is my check for the other \$20.00. I'm sorry. I certainly was not intended to cheat you after succoring me!

I don't know if you can realize how informative our conversation to the airport and in the bar was to me. I hope there is a chance in the future for you to explain more of this to me. Some of what you said I'd heard, saw no reason for it (like black self-hate) and discounted it. When you say this I don't have to understand it, good as it would be to understand. I can without question take it as true. It never occurred to me that, there being no reason for self-hate visible to me, it was real.

When I got down to Braniff I learned that plane went to New York from Washington and that American was making transfers other than mine by first class. So, when it left an hour earlier than the one to which you switched and had these side benefits and I wanted to hear more of what you were saying I rushed back to the bar, the newsstands and the American counter and nearby areas looking for you to see if you wanted to switch to the Braniff flight. Sorry I didn't find you. It might have gotten you to New York a little sooner and I'd have welcomed it.

I did meet some interesting people. Two lawyers from the DJ Civil Rights Division and a medical researcher from St. Jude Hospital in Memphis (who say next to me). This research might have a story, about the official campaign to reduce or eliminate peer commentaries and criticisms of drug and health claims. I'm sorry I didn't write his name down. He never gave it to me until I was getting off the plane. Then I could not write. By the time I met my transportation it was out of my mind. His first name is David. If I hear from him I'll let you know. Perhaps Newsday may have some interest. Because his problem seem to be one that can be helped by use of FOIA/PA I told him how to get in touch with me if ~~he~~ he decided to take that approach.

From the DJ types, one of whom I needled pleasantly by telling him I'm always glad to meet a law-breaker I'm suing (he laughed and enjoyed it) I learned that a former lawyer from that division is now practising in Memphis and according to him handled some of King's legal work there or that related to it. Name Lou Lucas, form Rattner, Sugarman and Lucas.

When I have time I'll type up the few notes I made and incoude those of meaning from the tape with Wayne. When you have time I'd appreciate Lawson's address. I think that with both Wayne and Jay saying essentially the same thing I'd like to have an account from Lawson to include with the Invader parts of the book. I'll try to remember to write Jay and see if he can send me copies of anything, including the transcript pages dealing with McCulloch.

If you think to ask Radditt about seeing me it won't be possible this coming week. Two friends from the Enquirer are supposed to come. Messages when I got home. However, when he is in the area again I would like to be able to meet with him, if this reaches you in time to mention it, and under whatever conditions he wants to stipulate. My interest now is not in him but in what he knows, believes or suspects about the crime itself....Hope you had the best anniversary with only the well.

Again thanks,