

3/16/97

Dear Clay,

Dave says that Seven Stories Press, 140 Watts St., NYC 10013, quotes it as saying they "need a letter of inquiry plus a couple of chapters" and to "include a self-addressed envelope for return or they ^{say} ~~say~~ they will answer only if interested."

While Lil's situation keeps me uneasy despite a possible sign of good change yesterday it keeps me uneasy and not confident of my thinking. Subject to your agreement and Dave's, I suggest that because you can get the copy of the whole thing faster than I can now that you send it, if you agree, but all of it, with a letter calling attention to the chapters you think might interest them most, that "couple" of chapters. In the letter say that you are doing this at my request because my wife, who is 86, is hospitalized, and I'm spending all the time I can with her. ~~Despite~~ Despite the one-page summary tradition I think it might help if you and Dave sent whatever kind of letter you think would be appropriate under the circumstances I think are a bit unusual.

As soon as I can I'll write them separately and it will not be the usual one-pager. We'll see if the unusual will mean anything with these people.

I've not yet looked at the two last chapters of Whoring, and the title I think I intended was Whoring with History, but as soon as my mind has eased off a bit I will.

Separately I'll ask Neichter ~~for~~ to get from Webb, with whom he has been in contact, the address of his agent, who placed his book with Seven Stories, Flip Brophy (a woman) ^(Webb thanks) that his "fearless publisher, Dan Simon" (page xii). In case Seven does not get for it and for placing Whoring, if what Dave mentioned was Faking, ~~or~~ of the other way around, and for more. I think that from what Dave says about these people ^{it} they might, in the end, go for Waketh.

May I suggest that in sending the entire ms. that in the letter in which you call their attention to the "couple" of chapters you say that because I am 85 and because it is two years ~~since~~ since the third time the doctors gave me up ~~for~~ are doing that in the event they are interested.

Thanks and best,

Harold