

Dear Clay,

9/2/98

Thanks for your 8/26 and the letter to Seven Stories. And the good wishes. When I feel up to it I'll send them a supplement. Reminds me, Dave said you were going to send them a diskette. Did you? *On his this not yet been sent?*

With regard to how we are, that is a variable that I suppose is a constant at our age. Neither has gotten back to where we were and although Fil is again in physical therapy, and it clearly is doing her some good, she finally told me to get a barber. For years, going back to when we farmed, she cut my hair. Over those <sup>years</sup> days that meant she saved me weeks of time I could use for other things, and did. But she now is not stable enough on her feet and for some weeks I've felt that it was too dangerous for her to apply the medication required by my back. Itching I had been told was from the medications that keep me alive but I've since learned <sup>also</sup> can come from kidney failure. Which I have.

Jerry has not had the time to do any real moving. He is deep into his own project, rather into perhaps one of the two begun manuscripts I turned over to him because it required use of the basement files and that had become impossible for me. He has done most if not all of his copying from those files and is getting read to start writing. He plans another trip to the Archives on the Rankin deposit. I've lost track of which he is doing first. ExSess started, on the executive sessions, and Honorable Men, in the Marc Antony sense, about the Commission's lawyers. One time I think he might have found time to do some of the moving but I was not up to getting down to those bottom drawers that day. But as soon as I go over the retyped Whoring I can get the rough draft and the backstopping of some chapters off the table and I'll have room to stack pending his having the time to move those boxes down to the cellar *and finding space there.*

After working here and at the Archives he said it will not be possible to do effective research for the best writing without using what I have done. Takes forever at the Archives and there is no way of really zeroing in on the proper files there. In recent months they've denied having what I know they have and did use.

Our neighbors at the end of the lane are a fine couple. They have two wonderful children who regard us more or less as extra grandparents. The woman is a nurse. With school started she'll be looking for part-time work. But until then, once she knew of the potential danger to Fil, she has been and will be coming each evening to do the simple things that have become potentially hazardous for Fil. With the kids we love to have around. We have not found someone interested in that little amount of work, the agencies charge for a minimum of three hours when most of this is for 15-20 minutes and we can't swine the agency charge. <sup>It</sup> would be for each day of the week. Thanks and best,  
*more than \$10,000.00 a year!*

*JKC col U*