

Dear Clay,

1/28/99.

As I'll explain, I am so upset that I felt I'd best suspend reading and correcting Baldy Reasoned at page 340, when I'm close~~d~~ to finished with it.

Lil had brain surgery two weeks ago today. She then had an MRI and spinal surgery three days ago, this past Monday. And at lunch time I got a call from the hospital that they are prepared to discharge her, for her to come home. Because she walked, with difficulty and protection, less than a hundred feet (I was watching) that the hospital said was 150 feet, ~~It~~ exhausted her. She ~~had~~ ^{had} help getting out of and into bed then, too. I think I've prevented what they had in mind and I'll add to that when I'm there ^a again in the morning. If I can sooner, with the surgeon. I'd anticipated something like this and made an appointment with the family doctor but his first ¹ opening was Monday morning.

It was also upsetting after that to get the two well-protected Mailer batches after the corrections were made but without the corrected copy to check them against.

That the corrected Baldy Reasoned has many corrections to be made because I failed to catch them does not make me want to reread all the manuscripts I've written. On the Wedge chapters that Dennis sent you you also did not include the corrections to be made that I use in checking what has been retyped.

The conditions under which I did the work are conducive to my making mistakes in the corrections and while in not rereading all of it I can miss much, I know that the corrections I posted are not always good or warranted and I want another chance to look at them

I had hope to get Baldy Reasoned done by this evening and to be able to get it xeroxed first thing in the morning but the shape I'm in tells me I'd best not trust myself to be sharp and accurate, especially not in a manuscript on which to begin with I did so badly.

I'll have no real choice now. I'll read all of the Wedge chapter, particularly because they can, some of them, be useful to Jerry who I think made a copy of the unretyped rough draft.

With the Mailer ms. I want to be particularly careful. I will appreciate it if you'd please send me what was retyped. The before-Dennis corrections were retyped by a high school boy and I want to be certain of them.

Thanks and best wishes,

Harold