

7/24/69

Dear Russ,

Hasty answer to your 7/20 to tell you I've checked the closets and you did not leave your jacket here. I had to look because I haven't worn a jacket since before you were here, save for your happy day.

I have forgotten to take the roll of color film to be developed. I'd been waiting for the camera shop to phone with word my projector is repaired. They haven't. I'll remember in the next few days. There are a few pictures of you two on it.

You are right about using the ground-glass view finder. I do it when I'm not in a hurry or when there is no glare from it.

I don't really know what is bothering me, but I do not believe it is cause for great concern (I appreciate yours). I had another and more severe spell of it, got a different doctor at the hospital and a different diagnosis. Unpleasant as it was, it was a considerable relief because the nurse in the emergency room was treating me for a stroke or a heart attack. He thinks it is anxiety with hyper-ventilation and the symptoms so frightening he says are typical of it. Previously, dissatisfied with the first diagnosis, I had written our medical coop and asked that it be checked thoroughly and they set an appointment for today with a doctor who will decide. I'll be leaving after breakfast.

All the time I thought my nerves were of iron, except when I lost my cool (sometimes too easily). I rarely lose my temper (and I have one), never have trouble falling asleep and while I have worries, I didn't think they had such subconscious influence on me.

However, if this is the case, it does not trouble me. I have found I can take care of anything I understand. I've had a bad back for 30 years. I've been supposed to wear a brace, etc., and during my military service I even slept with it on. I don't know where it is now and once I deeply understood that either the back or I would be master it never kept me from doing a single thing - even on crutches. So, if this is a nervous disorder, and I am willing to believe it can be, I'll handle it.

I've had experience with a few agents, so when you have the name of the one of whom you write, tell me and I'll tell you if I know anything. I went through quite a few, but this subject is unique.

Keep us posted on your draft situation.

Your analysis of the NY left makes sense.

Best to you both.

Sincerely,

255 Avenue of the Americas  
Apartment 4-C  
New York, N.Y. 10014  
July 20, 1969

Dear Harold,

We got the roll of pictures developed. All of them turned out -- we'll have extra copies made of a couple of them and send to you next week. One suggestion -- when you use that camera it's better to use the ground glass finder, not the sportfinder, because the sportfinder isn't totally accurate on what you have in the frame, and using the ground glass finder also enables you to focus better.

We were both saddened and upset to hear that you'd been sick, although I must admit it came as no surprise. I don't think you slept more than three hours a night the whole time we were there -- and although that's very good, makes it possible to get a lot of work done, I think in the long run it's self-defeating, because sooner or later that exhaustion catches up with you, as it did with me last winter. ~~IX~~ So here's hoping you'll take the warning and slow down a little.

Everything is up and down here. I've got several possibilities of lawyers to represent me here, but it's been impossible to get everything sorted out. Several people have expressed interest in my U.N. plan, but nothing concrete. I supplied some unique information to a guy here who's writing a book about Bob Dylan and has an agent, and he said he'd talk to his agent about my writings and see if he could get me an interview, but nothing there, either, just yet. It's one of those periods of time when everything is about to break through, might at any minute, but on the other hand might just fizzle out. I guess we'll know in about a month.

How are the negotiations with the baddie going?

Did I leave a jacket at your house? Somewhere in the trip East I let a jacket. I know I had it when we got to Pittsburgh, ~~and~~ but I don't know what happened to it after that.

I think I've figured out why the so-called radicals in New York are so disorganized as compared to Chicago. I really think that Mayor Daley has helped the so-called movement. Here the permissive city administration has not put so much pressure on them, and they've ~~been~~ gotten the feeling that the world is never going to end. In Chicago everyone knows that the whole thing could end tomorrow.

Well, that's all for now. Write soon. Give our love to Lillian.

