

11/24/77

Dear Walter,

Thanks for the copy of Jerry's 22 Fires and the much more gratifying collection of stories on you and your dictionary. I've read the latter and the first chapter of the novel.

If you were not a pro at promotions when you began you were at the end of your tour. The stories indicate you soon perceived what the print press would go for and kept using it. Thus keeping the good reviews and interviews coming. Very good. As is the dictionary.

From the blurbing I can't imagine that Jerry has done other than a bad book. On the same basis I say there can be no non-fiction version. There are no records outside a dishonest selection that can possibly support such a line as non-fiction.

I fear our friend Jerry Agel has become his own medium of the message,

Having always like Jerry and appreciated his help I'm sorry for him.

Meanwhile, the blurbing reads like a plagiarizing of the promos for the Priscilla Johnson McMillan outhouse shrinkery titled Marina and Lee. It required more than a decade and what was taken to be a promising market for Harpers to vomit that one out.

Wish you and Agnes were here to share the promise of the tantalizing aromas coming from the 25 1/2 pounds of turkey Idi has in the oven.

Put best to you both.

Sincerely,