

NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701::301/472-6186

1/18/67

Dear Norman,

I have been told of Thompson's broadcast, of the things he said and inferred about me and my work and writing.

I am writing to ask for a sound tape and then for an opportunity for response.

Beginning the first of the month I will be in California for two weeks. If the Shaw trial comes off as scheduled, I may be in New Orleans for it. There have been several feelers for me to cover it. Today I do not know.

Because this wretched man Thompson, hiding behind the robes of a scholar, has literally lifted my work and pretended it is his own-including a mistake-it galls me that he is not content to get away with merely theft but adds defamation to it.

What surprises me is that you did not know enough about my work to spot this.

In any event, I hope you will find it possible to extend me the opportunity for reply and with the advance fanfare accorded him, and time.

Until I hear the tape, I cannot say how appropriate it would be. However, from what I have been told one possibly exciting format would be my responding to the rebroadcast of the tape.

I know that any such program can be at the mercy of the guest and that a guest who is less than honest, less than fair, can take advantage of his position. What I do not understand is why you or Susan did not let me know in advance so I could see and hear the show.

I will try and phone you in the morning, but I want you to have this letter as a record.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg