

Dear JB, there is no important new fact in Julia Cameron's "Life Without Father," her Rolling Stone interview with St. John and Lisa Hunt (1/31/74) but I think you will want to read it. When I was half-way through it had reached me to where I poured a drink from the fifth of Cutty Sark I have been nursing since it was given to me Thanksgiving (so frugally half is left!). It is one of the more human pieces. It paints Hunt exactly as we viewed him but unlike our opinions, reasoned out, it comes in the voices of his abandoned young, abandoned because they were not cast in his image. It makes these two and Dorothy out very human, perhaps more so because Hunt remains a parody of a Victorian pater familias. (He seems to have cooked up a whole scheme to evict them, believe it or not.) If you can't get a copy now, I'll make one for you. Well worth the eight sheets the four pages will take.... There are interesting if trivial facts: they did live in Tokyo the years he was supposed to be there and often wasn't. They did know their mother was a bagwoman and why because she went into it with them, with explanation. ... The self-portrait of Bill Buckley, few words saying much, is papal. Great... I also now have but have not read Daibolus and The Sorcerers. Each is the precisely same length, 160 pp., meaning only 80 to copy if you want and Lesar can't get. These are original paperbacks, not re-issues.... I don't intend to be arm-twisting, but I do think this is the best single piece of WG writing I have seen and it did get me to emote and to empathize with those two innocent, victimized and honest young people. And to regard their father as even less human than I had.

HW 1/28/74