

FEB 16 1973

The friend who told me of the Times story is bringing me a copy day after tomorrow. I'll send it to you. If you see anything, I'd like to know. If I had time I'd go to the Library of Congress and consult such things as Variety and the Hollywood trade press, but I can't. If my information is correct, that Dell is bringing out a novel by Lane and Freed, with an initial print of 500,000 copies, in April, then there is the possibility of a link. But not much of a decent product. If there is the Dell book, it is a closely-held trade secret, for I've made some inquiries. But for truth there seems no prospect in all of this. Another possibility is Jonn Christian. When last I heard, he was still in the LA area. The subject is one for which Trumbo could go, but he, like almost anyone, is not in a position to evaluate. If you know or without much trouble can get his address, I'd like to have it. The time may come when I'll want it. He has no listed phone, so I could not get his address from the phone company. I tried long before asking Kevin to forward my letter.

How depressing it is to feel that only the nuts and the cruddy can get attention, that solid work is unwanted, and that the irresponsible usually get the audience and attention.

Even good fiction, by commercial and literary standards, can be very bad when it deals with a non-fiction subject. HW 2/15/73