

Oct. 3, 1950

Dear Patty,

Your letter came several days ago and this is the first opportunity I have had to answer it. And yesterday I had a talk with a friend of ours here who in the course of conversation told me that she had heard that you were coming back to be my assistant. This has concerned me somewhat but I put it down to the usual way things get twisted in casual talk. I shall be delighted to give you some lessons, but I sincerely hope that you understood this in the first place. My dark room is not big enough for two to work in, and a lot of the work I do would benefit you but little after a first work out. There may very well be times when I could require help, but the small amount of help I do get in the dark room Miss Forster does for me right here.

What I have had in mind is to outline a course of work for you and work with you one or two mornings a week giving you problems to work on inbetween. It may also be that I shall get a small class underway as one or two others have approached me as you have. So I hasten to clear up any mis-understanding if there is one, which I sincerely hope there is not, for my recollection of our conversation is only that I should be very willing to give you some instruction if you were to come back.

As you know, I am deep in another book, and a good part of the winter will be spent tearing my hair over the typewriter. There may be times when I could let you use my dark room, but I should prefer both for your sake and for my cramped space, to have you have a working place elsewhere. Lessons would be \$7.50 each. I used to give them for \$5. but the present increase in everything makes it imperative for me to go up a little at any rate. I am very anxious to see some of your prints so that I can have an idea of what you have done. I shall give you sufficient problems to work on to keep you busy in between lessons. And I must tell you that there may be occasions during the winter when I shall be away for a short time, maybe a week or ten days, as I want winter things for the book.

Please be certain that I am looking forward to some work with you. I only hope it will prove worth your while and I shall give you the benefit of my years of work and try to bring you up to modern times where you can carry on from there.

Most sincerely