

1959

MARGARET WENTWORTH OWINGS

BIG SUR
CALIFORNIA

... Sunday,

Dear Laura,

...What a wonderful treasure arrived in yesterday's mail ! River of Destiny. What a superb job you did knitting all the curves and bends, the high mountain meadows and the flat fertile plains into the one unit...so complete. The big view of a gracious river. So many thanks for giving this very special copy to us. (You probably have no idea how much I shall pour over it again and again)....for as you noticed, finding your "Canyon de Chelly" beside my pillow....I find great peace as well as invitation in returning again and again to your photographs.

We loved every minute of your visit with us and feel specially honored to have captured you for those days. We shall await the results of your camera with eagerness.

What heat you had to drive through! 122 degrees.....sounds like the interior of Persia! If you had been bringing home a roast of beef, it would have adequately roasted ~~it~~ in the car! Well... (we have been having several days of 94 degrees and Nat and I have stood up to our necks in the little pool...very comfortable.)

After you left two more Killer Whales paid us a visit...and...had you been here....you could have photographed them throwing themselves out of the water and rolling onto their sides so that one saw all the brilliant white under vests that shine like wet polished marble.

Nat and I have just heard about Dr. Hausner's death. I believe he must have died the day I spoke to you about him. I consider this a great personal loss. He meant everything to me....from the day I went to him in Santa Fe, ill with the diabetes (I didn't know I had) depressed from my divorce and feeling utterly lost... and in tears...he laid a hand on mine and said "You are not alone"....and I have carried that memory with me and the knowledge that he was there ...until this sudden news of his death. It was a privilege to know this man. A great person.

I'm looking forward to seeing you again this Fall. But in the meantime, so many many thanks for doing so much for US. We both love you very much,

Margaret.

P.S. Forgot to mention your Wilder report which has arrived and which we shall study with interest before returning it to you. I feel so indignant about the loss of opportunity here illustrated.