

March 6, 1969

Dear Laura:

Often during the past 3 months, when unable to endure my deep anguish over the tragic events in my family, I would open and look at your handsome book: the Enduring Words. Looking at those wonderful faces, scanning their isolated habitat fill me with an immense sense of peace.

The Book was sent to Frances and me for Christmas from our mutual dear friends Carol and Seth. I remember that when I first opened it we were moved both by its poetical beauty and by the warm words in it you wrote for us. We treasure it with the same aesthetic pleasure we treasure that superb series of portrait photographs you made of Frances, Nina, Denise, and me that wondrous year in Colorado, in 1938.

The Book arrived in Cornwall 2 days before Frances was rushed to our nearest Hospital for major surgery. At the same time Nina was bed-ridden at home: victim of Multiple Sclerosis. Early in January Frances was taken to the Presbyterian Medical Center in N.Y. for Chemol treatments - and Nina taken to the Neurological Institute (across the street from Frances Hospital) to be experimented on with a new MS drug. She is still there.

During January and February I lived in New York so that I could be near Frances and Nina whom I visited everyday - often bringing, first to Frances, then to Nina your beautiful book. I know that it brought many moments of solace to them when contemplating what seems like eternal serenity.

in the faces and postures of the "Enduring Navaho".
Laura, I think this book is your best work of art.
Your writing is clear, human and scholarly - a work of love.

Frances is now out of the hospital - miraculously
enough - but still under pathological therapy.

Nothing more can be done for Nina's condition.
She has given up hope of going back to work - to
her distinguished position at the State Department.
Thus ends a brilliant career. Nina is 40. Her
Doctors and Social Workers are looking for a private
nursing home for her in N.Y.C. (Hard to find it)
so that she, too, can be near expert therapy.

I am writing to Carol and Seth today to
tell them that "Betsy's Book" and Yours
has brought us much joy. If I am
tardy in venturing my appreciation, I am sure
you ^{all} understand.

Frances and Nina join me in sending
you our affectionate and congratulations for a
superb photographic essay - and best
wishes for its success.

Yours
Eino