

from: Patty Gurule
727 East 200 South
Provo, Utah 84601
March 16, 1974

To: Laura Gilpin
(author of: THE ENDURING NAVAHO (1968)
c/o Univ. of Texas Press
Austin, Texas 78700

Dear Miss Gilpin,

I am writing a poem entitled: THE PINON AND THE NAVAJO. The setting of the poem is in the Utah foothills where an old Indian talks to a wandering stranger about the past.

It is a long poem. Already it is 350 lines long. I started writing it for inclusion in the book: UTAH SINGS, published by the Utah State Poetry Society, but it kept getting longer and longer, and I realized it could not be used for the purpose I had originally written it for. I am hoping that when I get it finished I will be able to have it published in some form, and that is why I am writing to you.

I would like very much for you to tell me if it is all right for me to acknowledge you and your book in the publication (if and when it is published).

You see, I have used some of the language from your book, and in three reference pages have copied word for word from your book in places, like the explanation of where the word Navaho comes from, for instance.

I call the people the diné, and I got this idea after reading parts of your book.

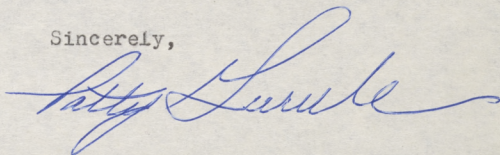
These are just examples of how I've used words and ideas from your book in the writing of my poem. It may not be necessary, but I feel I should ask you if it is all right for me to do this. Will you please let me know? I'm sending you a stamped, self-addressed envelope with this letter so you may answer me.

I have questions about parts of my poem. I wonder if you might give me an answer to this one question... am I doing the proper thing by spelling Navajo with a j? I have not seen it spelt that way very often, and, even though it may be spelt that way by the government, is it spelt that way by the Navajo people? What would you do if you were me? I hope you can help me on this question.

I will be looking for your letter.

I do want to say how much I enjoyed the parts of your book I did read. And the pictures were beautiful. It was the most informative book on the Navajo people in the whole library, and so interesting.

Sincerely,



Patty Gurule (Mrs.)