

April 16,
1964.

Mr. Frank Wardlaw,
University of Texas Press,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Mr. Wardlaw:-

A procession of circumstances has persued me for some months, and I am sure that you must be wondering what has happened to me.

Unfortunately I am not sufficiently independent to be able to refuse other work when it comes along. Consequently, I am beset with interruptions.

Much work has been done on the Navaho Book and it is approaching the end. I have been out on the reservation twice in the last six months, securing missing links and making a lot of notes from a number of Navaho people. Much research has gone into it all, also. It is surprising how much for what will seem to be a comparatively simple text. Yet I found myself asking the question "Do I really know this to be true?" The result has been digging in to many volumes by a score of authorities. And to my amazement I find several authorities wrong on certain points. So I have learned all I could from books, then with my own experience to guide me, I have sought out several Navaho people for conformation.

Then I am in the process of rewriting the Creation story. In this connection I have something I feel to be very important and is now unique as I have the only photographic negative.

I hesitate to say how much longer I will be, but I assure you I am making every possible effort to have everything finished by June 1st.

This delay has doubtless upset your plans and I realize only too well, that publication by this coming Christmas is now impossible. But I do have to have everything right in this book.

This brings my kind regards, and I do hope that you can understand my delay.