

JOHN H. GRIFFIN

3816 West Biddison  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Saturday, Oct. 23, 1966

Dear Nell,

What a marvelous note from you. I am down again, under heavy sedation, but I need to know a couple of things - no, I really do not need to know them, but perhaps I ~~should~~ have found out before.

- 1) Do you speak French?
- 2) Do you have a tape recorder?

The reason I asked is because I wanted to send you a little tape we made while Jacques Maritain was here. He made it for Amanda's future: reading some of the poems of Raissa plus singing two of the Canticles of Raissa and then reading some of the poems of Pierre Reverdy. Raissa was his wife, a famous poet and Reverdy, perhaps the greatest poet of his age, was a close friend of both Maritain and me. Also on the "Godfathers' tape" are some Scarlatti Sonatas played by the godfather of my son, Robert Casadesus. I am this afternoon too drugged to do anything else, making some copies of this tape for close friends, and am making one for Penn to bring to you. I have left the conversational bits in the very informal recording.

Jacques looks younger than you thought? He is 85.

Later I will send you my portrait of Reverdy and a little piece I wrote about him. We were neighbors at Solesmes when I was a youngster and remained devoted until his death in 1961 two months before the death of Raissa.

How I love everything you say in your letters. I feel I know you profoundly through your work, even if I had never had a word from you.

*John*