



Mandy and companion, Christmas eve, 1969

Dearest Nell,

I hope you had a good "retreat" with Erica. We thought about you the whole time, and especially when we enjoyed your gifts of food and love.

We had the loveliest Christmas ever, and not too many guests or intrusive activities.

I am really sorry you read THE CHURCH AND THE BLACK MAN. You did not need to, and I knew it would sadden you tremendously, as it did me.

I face now a busy few weeks.. I will come to NY on the 19th to ~~the~~ do the Today Show on the morning of the 20th (January), return here immediately afterward and leave for Europe around the 25th.

All for the moment. God love you, Nell. We don't like to see you get so tired or to have your serenity diffused as you have this past year.

*John*