

Dear Dorn,

Snowy Monday

Yesterday morning while doing chores I had an idea, Cuz thought it was a good one and suggested I telephone you immediately, however you must have been out in that beautiful day listening to the world.

To my knowledge, there are no sensitive or beautiful books dealing with a very important child's problem; the pregnant mother, her going to the hospital and returning with a new baby. There is a perfectly horrible Golden Book with sickening illustrations (If one even dignifies the blobs by such a word) and perhaps others that I have not seen. What is needed is a beautiful picture book of real people; pregnant mother, her children and the father, with simple text, directed to help young children understand their own feelings of rivalry, anger at mother for going away and bringing home competition etc.

For instance; My little Lissy has a fantasy that Mummy is going to die in the hospital. I daresay this is not unusual. In such a book we could show by photograph that Mummy is really being well taken care of. Let us scrap the unrealistic notion that every baby gets all the privileges of new crib, bathinette etc. and show photograph of father bringin g up the old crib from the basement. In other words deal realistically with real problems that the child has and feels from the moment Mummy becomes "Fat". Were it well done I truly think it would be a real help to both parents and children. We might consider getting a Wild Psychiatrist to give advice on text and attitudes etc.

Now, you may not feel this is in your line but I do. It would, because of your quality, have a gentleness and warmth and clarity of perception needed to reach the young child.



14 REMSEN STREET

Don't, please, feel that I want you to photograph me and mine just because I feel the need of such a book. There are Mothers and children unto eternity. I think the idea is good and I would like to see it done in the most creative way.

Do please give it some thought. We will be in Conn in a few weeks but you can always reach me here in Brooklyn.

Affectionately

Joan

P.S. Am enclosing a little outline I made a few years ago for a Child's book. It might work out with illustrations or photographs.

(The work of the 2 to 3 yr. old is strenuous but oh so imaginative)