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Oct. 31, 1972

Dear Nell,

We should all try to keep separate the joys that Mother and Child have brought us from the Mitchells' own difficulties in decision-making. The book in no way has caused us grief. It did cause problems in manufacture, as any book can, but we accept that and love the book for its strengths and try to do better next time. Please be assured of this.

As for Greta and me, we've had several months of misunderstandings and angers, but our love, too, is going to prevail. No one book, no one project, even Mother and Child, could have done for us what we needed when we needed it. What we need is a new home and some greenery and a renewed sense of purpose for Greta and some financial underpinnings under the Press. And those are real problems that can be solved. And having done Mother and Child helps considerably our minds and hearts. Please believe this and draw pleasure, now, from the book, as we do.

Our great love,
Mitchell

Another (pleasant) subject:

Helen Johnson, the very pleasant lady who runs the Focus Gallery here in town (specializing in photography), has a sudden opening for a small showing around Christmas time and she wonders if she could display some prints from Mother and Child, and of course sell books as well. I've told her that it would probably meet with your approval. Greta could make the selection and help with the hanging so that your own moods might be best represented. We think that it's a fine idea and hope that you will agree with us . . .