

24 May 1970

Dear Marcelle,

When I learned that Joe had died I felt deprived, but my personal loss was, I knew, only part of a realization that a sudden vacancy had been created in the lives and affairs of all Joe's friends and acquaintances; and beyond that of all whoswere familiar with his thoughts and writing.

Although the word had gone out that Joe was fatally sick, the news of his death was not thereby made easier to accept. The irretrievability - the finality of it - is what hits the most tender, vulnerable, unsuspected crevice of our emotional armor.

Recent and occasional though my association with Joe has been he profoundly influenced my point of view, my appreciation of nature, and my professional style. And moreover his writing was the force that directed the course of my commitment and dedication to an exposition of the wonders and beauties of the natural world which I shall never forget, and for which I shall forever be grateful to him.

With sorry and affection,

Elton R. R. R.