

7 April 1974

Mr. Jon Beckmann, Editor in Chief
Sierra Club Books
Mills Tower
San Francisco, Calif. 94104

Dear Mr. Beckmann:

Thank you for your letter of February 28th.
I did not answer it sooner because I have been away from
home since January 16th.

The question of reprinting in the Scribners
paper back series SUMMER ISLAND and THE PLACE NO ONE KNEW
depends not alone on Ballantine's willingness to renegotiate
revised contracts but also on the Sierra Club's agreement
to keep these books in print in the hard back format. I
understand the Club's reluctance to release to me the rights
in these books in the hope that someday it may be able to
reprint them. This is not a reasonable proposal. Moth balling
these volumes is not fair to me when I have prospects for
reissuing in revised form by another publisher.

As you are probably aware I am in the process though
my agent Timothy Seldes of renegotiating the Ballantine
contract on IN WILDNESS which is currently being reprinted
in the quality paperback series. I urge that this matter
be given expeditious consideration by all concerned.

Thank you too for the copy of SLICKROCK. The
reproductions seem very well done and the binding high quality.
There are certain aspects of the design, however, which I
dislike and would resist being used for my books. For instance,
I do not like the way the photographs are incorporated into
the text which diminishes their importance. The small size
reproductions gives the impression that they were introduced as
after thoughts.

I am very weary of the constant foot-dragging by
the Sierra Club. May we not settle these matters quickly?

Yours sincerely,

C.C. Mr. Timothy Seldes