

ELLEN AUERBACH
321 EAST 85TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10028

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(212) 737-0988

Dear Eliot

a bad lumbago prevent^{ed} me from replying to your divestiture letter. One meaning of "divesting" says Webster, is to divest one of his rights. The first meaning: "to unclothe" seems not to be what you wish to convey. But even the other one doesn't quite fit. We never had any legal agreement of our handling this photo-adventure in Mexico. We made an informal, friendly unwritten contract. And if you wish to change the conditions I shall not obstruct your wishes.

I understand your letter as follows: you will not any longer preserve the anonymity of the taker of any one picture. If you exhibit or sell or make a contribution in a book you will omit any unnumbered prints. You will bequeath your Iffimaterial to Carter but not mine. Is this rightly understood by me?

I wish I could leave it at that, but a few questions are in my mind and I want you to answer them, please. There are the doublesigned prints in my possession, and there will be Sanders' "shoddy" ones too. Suppose any of them could be sold, how do you feel about the doublesignature? Or if I had a chance to exhibit them, must I keep yours out?

If you get the Pantheon book printed and only your numbered prints are in it, will you then not acknowledge in a curriculum or description, that this was part of a collaboration?

I do not mind that you will no longer preserve the anonymity but I would be very sad, if you (and then, of course, I too) did not acknowledge, that this has been a project of both of us.

I am almost sorry, that you offer to send
all my old prints back. It means to me, that
you feel this collection to be complete without
them. Is it vanity, that I think a few of the
few unnumbered ones enrich the collection?
But I will be glad to have them and the
matrixes too, as they might make the divestiture
easier. If there really should ever be a book,
I (or Goggi) will have them. But I don't
"feel better" to have my contribution in my
possession. Especially the precious matrixes.
in this unsafe place of mine.

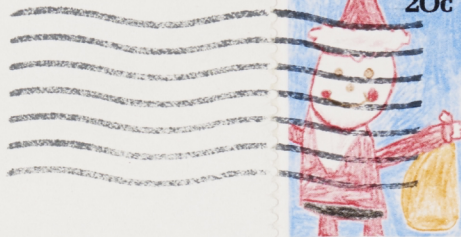
Please, try to answer my questions. They
weigh on my mind.

We have ghastly weather and it seems
almost worldwide.

Take care of yourself.

Much love E.

Ellen Auerbach
321 East 85th Street
New York, NY 10028



Season's Greetings

Eliot Porter
Rt 4 Box 33
Santa Fe, N.M. 87501