

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

ALLEN A. GENTLING, M.D.
WILLIAM W. ABBOTT, M.D.
NOLAN F. BEVERLY, M.D.
JOE H. BUMPAS, M.D.

ST. VINCENT INFIRMARY
MARKHAM AT UNIVERSITY
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

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Dear Stuart:

I wouldn't believe it myself if it weren't true, but I just discovered the reply to your last letter unmailed and stapled to one I wrote you Sept. 26th. So I'm not such a bad correspondent; I just don't have common sense enough to get it into the mail.

No, I shan't forget that writing each other is a two way street! I appreciated your note greatly just as always and have the disturbing feeling that we are the only ones in the family corresponding on a "friendly" basis.

Peter and Scott are keeping their plans to themselves as far as they concern me, and Mother and Suzie are making their's known through Mother's lawyer friends as you no doubt know. Occasionally Grandma J will pass some unclassified information on to Aunt Bess who relays it to Grandma G who sends it on to me. I wonder if this chain of reaction isn't a reflection of their financial independence.

Be that as it may, business first. I have cancelled all credit cards finally as Mother steadfastly refuses to return them to me. You may be embarrassed a time or two attempting to charge at the gas station if the notice of this cancellation reaches the Southern stations before this letter reaches you. You'll just have to forgive me for this. In lieu of this, however, I am taking the risk of sending you another Phillips card, the only one which I can give you. I am doing this before I extract a promise from you that it will be used only by you while you are in school and only for necessary transportation privileges. Altho my attorney has advised against it, feel free to use it and only for the privileges outlined. Now this gives you a modicum of leeway inasmuch as so many of your past "trips" have been what one might designate as "field trips" in your desire as a classicist to obtain "background" for the work you must do. I am quoting these terms to emphasize the fact that I not only know the deeds are a necessary part of your education, but to point out that I also am aware of the fact that such privileges can be fraudulently abused, not that I suspect that you would do such a thing. Therefor if you find it necessary to make pleasure journeys with your friends occasionally, ~~you must, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ in order to be perfectly honest with me, arrange to finance them in some other way than by the use of my credit cards. At any rate, we can see how it works out.~~

In case you haven't been informed, your Mother's lawsuit against me is for in excess of the sum of \$13,000 which she claims I owe you. It was hard for me to imagine I had accumulated that much indebtedness to you in such a short length of time. And since it is even more difficult for me to withstand the torrential verbal onslaughts of Mother, I finally sought the advice of an attorney who is going to do his best to help me out. Altho Mother has had a real complaint inasmuch as I paid her fifty dollars a month less than the agreement stated ~~I must~~ (quite by mistake I assure you), she apparently demands that all monies paid to you, Scott, Suzie and herself be paid directly to her. The manner in which she has managed the two hundred dollars a month that I have sent to her for Suzanne all these months has led to my dissent. At any rate, the court is now going to decide for all of us and what we feel is equitable will no longer be important.

For one thing, I am forced to pay you \$250.00 a month for your education. The decree fails to state just when you will be educated. Further, my receipts indicate you have recieved considerably more than that while

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Scott has received considerably less. Peter is not even mentioned, obviously for legal reasons.

But the BIG DEAL still is as I attempted to describe to you on our last "visit." The internal revenue service of the United States of America may prohibit me from sending any of you any of this. This fact is the matter of greatest concern to me. Rest assured, that even if you don't get the amount of money prescribed by your mother's court suit, I am going to make every attempt in my power to keep you in school at least for your so-called "education." In short what I am trying to say is simply that altho it may be clumsy and perhaps demand a short interruption, you are going to get the training that you must have to pursue your chosen profession and we all are interested in guaranteeing it.

Enclosed is a snap of the prize I took alive -- and barehanded alone -- on my latest juncta deep in the jugulars. As you can see from the background I almost -- and also singlehandedly -- have her kitchen-trained. Incidentally the reason for so many errors in this contra-epitome is that in the act of training her to speak for her dinner, I lost the index finger of my left hand and since this is a left-handed typewriter, you can see that I am at a decided disadvantage.

Well, enough for now -- it's already been too much. I assume you sent Scott's check on to him per my innuendo of sending it thru you since he has thoroly, completely and finally disowned me. Such certainty as his is an admirable trait exhibited by Gentlings and non-Gentlings alike until disaster strikes in some form or another and then ensues a lawsuit stating that the obligations of someone to him have not been met.

Best of everything to you, son and you might do one thing: you might inquire about some school for writers in Connecticut that is supposed to be very superior in training writers along the lines of pursuit you have chosen to follow.

Love,

Dad.

*I guess auto- for a prefix would
be better than the contra about*

*Also Encl is type fraser which you
may like. If you wish, will send
more.*

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Mr. Stuart Gentling
Box 1110
31 McAlister Drive,
New Orleans 18, Louisiana.