

Wednesday

April 1965?
Early Spring

Dear Stu,

I guess you're in the middle of exams and can't write, but I'll entertain you free then and anyway this letter is not a reminder. I'm just in a writing mood today.

You'll be elated to know that so far I've completed three paintings and am about $\frac{2}{3}$ ds finished with a big drybrush of that tree at Antietam. Despite the fact that I'm having considerable trouble with certain sections and that I periodically fall in and out of love with it, it just might be one of my best works. The color is very rich (unlike me) and pleasantly lyrical. It says something to me and I like what it says. It should be finished in a week or so, as I spend most of the daylight hours on it.

Also I've done three other paintings - one of a bucket on the back porch - which is pure crap.

Last Saturday it snowed like hell up here so much that our concert was cancelled, but I seized the opportunity to paint it and I completed two very quick ones. One is a house in the storm - much like that one of Wyeth's that we saw and another wholly my own of the next day when the sun was out. It's a picture of the shadows cast by Mrs McCandell's willow tree. There are broken branches on the snow - evidence of the previous storm and over in the right hand corner is ~~a spot~~ the tree trunk, not much of which is showing. It looks pretty nice and has a good feeling to it. I call it the first day of spring.

I hope to enter the one of the tree at Antietam in the student show at the end of the year - that is if it turns out as I wish. I'd like to surprise some

of my fellow students and let them know that Gentling
hasnt been sitting on his rear end all the time (just most of it).
Also if a time things right I'd like to enter a painting
in the Tarrant County show. That's about a month away.

I was surprised as hell when I received a letter
from Don Toffland yesterday. He said very little - I
could tell he was bored with his sedate life in ITW.
His letter had a little persnickity ness about it which
I liked and he told me that he'd hidden the cannon
back in the garage and is waiting till I get home to go
shoot it.

Stu, has anything happened about the car yet.
and if not what are we going to do about it?
Don't forget to answer this question.

Although the weather is miserable here I can
still feel that spring is coming and with it, summer
and I can feel the painter in me waking from his
winter hibernation. The sap is running again and
I hope to have a fat portfolio when I see you again.
That is all the news I have for now. Study hard
and write if you get time (and even if you don't get time)

Your friend and herman
Scott