



JOHNSON BOOKS

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April 15, 2003

Scott and Stuart Gentling
Gentling Publications
4801 Harley Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Dear Scott and Stuart Gentling,

All of us at Johnson Books are still in happy shock as a result of your phone call and kind offer to allow us to use your painting, "Black-Crowned Night-Heron," on the cover of the book we are publishing titled *Rivers and Birds* by Merrill Gilfillan. Merrill, in fact, is over the moon about it.

I am enclosing a laser print of our proposed cover layout. I would like to be sure you are satisfied with the design and cropping, etc. (We think it is remarkably elegant, but you are, of course, entitled to your own opinion. However, we are all in love with this cover, so we really hope you like it, too.) Note that we plan to move up the type just a bit to create a little more "breathing room" between it and the elements of the painting. Also, we will move the image a bit to the left so that the end of the wing is not quite so close to the edge of the cover.

I contacted the University of Texas Press to request permission to use the painting. I sent an e-mail to Peggy Gough, who was described by their website as director of permissions, in which I described our conversation and the circumstances of my request. I have not yet heard a reply.

I would like to take you up on two of your offers during our telephone conversation. The first is the offer to supply a transparency of the painting, which we would love to have. (We picked up the image in our design from your beautiful book.) Also, you offered to fax a note confirming your offer to waive a fee for the use of the image. Perhaps if I did have that fax, I could send a copy to Peggy at the University of Texas Press, which might make my original message more credible. If you have time to do this, our fax number is 303-998-7594.

Again, I want to thank you for your generosity. It will help us make a really fine book.

Sincerely,

Stephen Topping

JOHNSON BOOKS

Stephen Topping
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR



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Rivers & Birds

MERRILL GILFILLAN

