08 August 2001

Stuart Gentling 4801 Harley Avenue Ft. Worth, TX 76107

Re: Of Birds and Texas



Dear Stuart:

Sorry to be out of touch with you so long after your letter of 23 June. We're thrilled, of course, that you like the book.

I've finally got (at least in preliminary form) most of the information that you need. I'll try to answer your questions in the order you asked them.

We hope to have an advance copy of the book in late August. Just be sure, if Ms. Forguson approaches the *Times* reviewer, that our publicist, Beth Wilson, is in the loop. I know you've already talked with her, so there shouldn't be any problem.

Ellen needs to hold on to your transparencies until we get the printed proofs (soon, we hope). That is her only gauge for color match and quality control in the printing. She'll return them to you as soon as we have approved the work.

The sewn, folded-and-gathered sheets will come in late September (cross your fingers!) with the bulk shipment of the books. We'll inventory them here and then ship them to you by motor freight, probably Central. Please note that we need a shipping address, since we're assuming you want the freight company to take the sheets directly to the binder. After we know what the freight charges are, we'll send you an invoice for payment.

October 8 is the projected date for us to receive books. The official publication date is about a month later. That's so that we have time to get books in the stores before ads and preliminary reviews run and before we begin in earnest on our publicity and promotion.

No problem with duplicating our catalog copy in your publicity for the Artists' Edition.

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Again, I'm sorry to have been out of touch. Everyone here, including me, has been in and out of the office for the last couple of months. However, we're back in full swing now and ready for the fall season. Over the next couple of weeks, I'll be working on a preliminary contract, or at least a draft of such, for the next book. Meanwhile, I hope what's left of this fleeting summer will be fun for you!

Theresa J. May

Best

Assistant Director and Editor-in-Chief

Enclosures

TJ May

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