

May 16 63

Dear Jack:

It's not work but an hysterical series of events. Work would be useful. Everything in the world came down on us at once. Our daughter's husband came down with tuberculosis and is hospitalized for three months and two children and a new baby. Then I got tagged by U.S. Information to do some work on a film, and it looks as though I go back to Paris in the autumn and that takes some preparation.

I'm afraid I have let you down. By now I had thought to be at Sag Harbor with my boat in the water and that we could do some lazy inspection of the tide flats. But hell, the lumber house where you were to stay isn't finished and my boat is still pulled up and won't be out by the 25th. Beyond that time is an influx of relatives.

I write instead of telephoning because I have never been able to communicate over the phone.

And I am running in circles trying to get clear so that I can get to the country. Then to top it all my British publisher lunged in and I have to do something about him. But what?

So, if you are going on the 25th, you won't be able to come out to Sag Harbor because we won't be equipped to house you.

So we'll have to put it off. But I am not letting you down about the other things. Let me have your book list when you get it made and I will do what I can.

I think in spite of all this, your trip up here has been rewarding. For one thing I think some of the sleep has come off your shoulders about schedules. They aren't bad, usually just a little limited in some directions. And they are just as shy and vain and uncertain as anyone else. Let me know if there is anything I can do about introductions.

From the way it looks now the only time we will have any quiet and peaceful time will be in Florida. You still hoping to be able to do that?

Please keep in touch. Box 1017 in Sag Harbor.

And forgive me about your coming out there. It wouldn't be any fun just now.

As for the books - don't worry if I am slow. Some things take some time to get. But I do have a man who is quite good at digging things out but it's a slow business. Also I always have to arrange for tax deductions for educational material. Unhappily this is so. And if I don't have the leisure to do some work pretty soon, there won't be any income from returns to deduct.

Sorry to be so frantic. I am not used to do things fast. My pace is much slower.

Let me hear from you

Yours

JH

May 16, 63

Dear Jack:

It's not work but an hysterical series of events. Work would be restful. Everything in the world comes down on us at once. Our daughter's husband came down with tuberculosis and is hospitalized for three months and two children, one a new baby. Then I got tagged by U.S. Information to do some work on a film, and it looks as though I go back to Russia in the autumn and that takes some preparation.

I'm afraid I have let you down. By now I had thought to be at Sag Harbor with my boat in the water and that we could do some lazy inspection of the tide flats. But hell, the beach house where you were to stay isn't finished and my boat is still pulled up and won't be out by the 25th. Beyond that there is an influx of relatives.

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