

We're sorry, but Mr. Doig cannot:

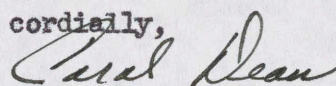
accept your speaking invitation.

sign copies of his books except those featured
at regularly scheduled bookstore appearances.

read manuscripts, provide blurbs or write reviews.

meet with you as requested.

cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol Dean".

Carol Dean
secretary to Ivan Doig

Mr. Doig wishes that he could honor all the requests made of him, but in order to write his books he must guard his time. "I pray that your writing will be sufficiently successful that I will have access to it, but not so successful that your life will be hampered by fame," one of his readers wrote to him, and he's aiming for that.

Regretfully, he cannot accommodate your request.

cordially,

Carol Dean
secretary to Ivan Doig

TOM MAHONEY

31 SUNRISE LANE,
PO BOX 3289

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. 12603
914 - 471 - 4365

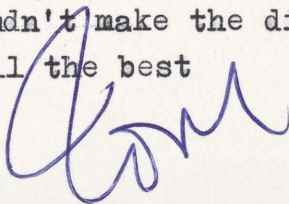
13 Nov 1978

Dear Ivan:

Pls do me the honor of inscribing
your great book for me.

Thanks for your note on the murder
and sorry you didn't make the dinner.

All the best



1349-A Dickinson
Mason 59801

Nov 2, '78

Joan —

I've been trying to write this note for days & can't seem to get with it —

Read SKY the day after meeting you, but let it "rest" in my mind before taking up this pen to see if it set as well after awhile as it did coming off the page — And I believe it has. The story is still very much with me.

First of all, and probably most important, I cared about your people. They were very real to me, and I liked them.

Next, your sharing them with me was an experience. I was able to live a little beyond myself.

And I enjoyed the reading.

You are, I think, a very controlled writer. You show overall quite a lot of restraint — Don't you? And I wondered sometimes if you weren't being a little too civil and holding back a little too much — But that is a fleeting impression against the general admiration I have for the book as a whole...
I enjoyed meeting

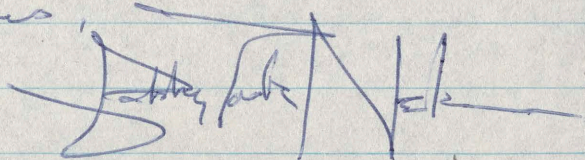
III

you and wish you the best
with Sey and the rest
to come.

If you're over this
way again, let's get
together and become
better acquainted —

My warmest personal
regards to Carol.

Yrs,



(Nelson)

P.S. I should say, memoirs
are probably the most
difficult type of thing to
write, and yours is
one of the best I believe
I've ever read.

13 Nov. '78

Dear Bob--Much appreciated your note about SKY. You're right, I'm somewhat too reticent at places in it--though surprisingly, hardly any reviewers have noticed--but it comes of the privacy I need for both personal and professional equilibrium, it seems to me. Anyway...am just back from NY, negotiated the contract for the next book. SKY has sold 11,000 of its 15,000 first printing, and there's some chance the BOMC will take it as an alternate selection, though they seem somewhat baffled by its western-ness. Am still doing some huckstering for the book here in town--tomorrow is a 10 a.m.-7 p.m. signing party (with a bunch of other writers), which ought to be some new world record. Will be in touch whenever Carol and I are next through Missoula...best,

292 Clermont Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11205
20 October 1978

Dear Mr. Doig.

Thanks very much for This House of Sky. I enjoyed it very much. I was just a couple steps behind you all the way through it, looking over your shoulder, and you got just about all of it down with a grace and ease that seems simple but must have been tenderly difficult to produce. I was lonely when I finished it.

My father and grandfather grew apples near Wenatchee. A mere accident of geography, a different choice of routes to the coast, and it might have been Grandad who told your dad and Clifford not to shake the goddamn limbs. In June, 1955, my older brother and I, barely old enough to possess driver's licenses, drove a red Ford pickup through Montana: cowboy tourists. We took 89 south of Browning -- the prairies were green; I loved it. I thought Choteau was a gorgeous place, and later even more so when I found out Guthrie lived around there. I don't remember Dupuyer, anymore than Bynum, but we did have to stop for sheep drovers. Maybe you were one of them, and maybe I saw Tip or Spot running around the edges of the herd.

I hope so. I'll look forward to anything you write.

Sincerely,

William Price

William Price

28 Oct. '78

Dear Mr. Price--

My appreciation to you, for troubling to write. I'm pleased that SKY loosed some memories for you. The next book, which I'll be on this winter, will be set here in the Pacific NW, and maybe it can loose some more. Incidentally, I once wrote an entire article--NY Times Sunday travel section, July 17, '77--on Highway 89. Was in Montana about 10 days ago for the sake of SKY, and was bowled over anew by the landscape. Again, thanks for the kind words on the book--it's even actually beginning to sell some copies.

regards



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1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108

RAY A. BILLINGTON
Senior Research Associate

September 22, 1978

Mr. Stuart Harris
Promotion and Publicity
Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
New York, New York

Carol: FYI

Dear Mr. Harris:

I am most grateful for that advance copy of Ivan Doig's *THIS HOUSE OF SKY*, not only because it adds another handsome book to my collections, but because I found the reminiscences utterly fascinating. Doig is a remarkable writer, with an ability to transmit the feel of a country through sparkling prose.

More than this, he tells an unusual tale of life among the sheep on a Montana range, a phase of western life too little emphasised, but as important to the economy as the more publicised cattle trade. I learned much of the habits of woolies as I read -- and developed a strong instinct never to have to do with the stubborn beasts. He also tells a warm story of a memorable family relationship that is touching as well as captivating.

Perhaps I was unusually drawn to the book, not only because of my interest in the West, but because I taught at Northwestern for twenty years, including the period when he was there. Some of the landmarks that he mentions brought back memories -- the Hut and Latham hall. I even searched through my old grade books to see if he had taken my course of the frontier, but alas he did not. I would like to claim a shred of credit for such a talented young man.

May the volume have the spectacular sale that it deserves.

Sincerely,

Ray A. Billington

Ray A. Billington