

M E M O
from the desk of
LUCILE McDONALD

Nov. 22

Dear Ivan Doig,

Thank you for the autographed copy of your new book, I enjoyed reading and reviewing it. As you know, Swan is one of my weaknesses. I wrote two other manuscripts about him after completing the biography, but never found a good market for them. Ye Galleon Press took the one about his visit to the Queen Charlotte Islands but has done nothing with it. The other was children's fiction based on his teaching years at the Neah Bay school. Editors liked it but said it wouldn't sell sufficient copies.

I imagine I'll be seeing you at a book fair one of these days. With best wishes,

Lucile McDonald

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Telephone 454-6753

3 Dec. '80

Dear Lucile--

I much appreciated your review in the S. Times; a generous and understanding job.

I do hope your further manuscripts on Swan find a home; perhaps there'll be a bit of resurgence of interest in him now with my book, your book and NW Coast all in the stores. The juvenile book about his teaching years at Neah sounds especially interesting; those were remarkable years, which I felt I didn't manage to give their full due in my version.

I hear once in a while from Western Writers friends, Bob McCaig and Wayne Overholser. Doubt that I'll make it to the Santa Rosa convention; Carol and I are going through that country this Christmas.

All best wishes for a fine '81.

Dear Ivan -

I have the Kennisott stuff from
U Washington but thanks for thinking of
me. Looking forward to James Swan.
Hello to Sam if you see him, or to
any old rums you might run into on
the P-I: Jon Hahn, Borlik, Sellers,
O'Connor. Best - Don Lockart 16 June
1980.

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Salt Lake Temple USA 10c



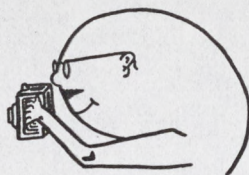
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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Ivan Gory

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7 April 1980

Dear Ivan:

Few things do people in our trade as much good as seeing a favorable review from a newspaper published far from home. A review in a local paper always seems to have that somewhat condescending "hometown boy makes good" flavor, but a review from a paper far distant - ah, kudos!

Hope THIS HOUSE OF SKY does well in hardcover and brings in fat royalty checks. Somewhat to my chagrin, I'll admit I haven't yet read it, though it's one of the two books we ordered after Boulder. If you're curious, the other was Spike Van Cleve's, which I haven't yet read either. My reading for the past couple of years has been confined to galley proofs and research. The "to be read" shelf is groaning and one of these days I'm going to take a month off and catch up.

Not trade-lasting, but could you ask your reviewer friend on the P-I (or is there another Seattle daily now?) to send me a copy of the review you mentioned during the chat we had in Boulder? Somehow, the publisher failed to receive a copy, and I'm curious. Would appreciate it, if it's not too much trouble.

Will you be coming to the WWA bash at Casper in June? We'll be a more relaxed crowd this year, with four days instead of three, and there should be a bit more time to visit. In Boulder the time-pressure was so intense that all anyone could squeeze in was the occasional three-minute chat or the early breakfast bit.

Best regards from both of us,

April 19, '80

Dear Mel--

Sorry for the delay in answering, but Archie Satterfield, the Post-Intelligencer reviewer in question, has been out of town, and I didn't get him on the phone until today. Archie's rave review of Sierra Summer, I regret to report, was purely oral: he read the book just before he quit the P-I last summer, and none of his enthusiasm made it into print. So, this is one you'll have to put simply in the "admiration of one's peers" column, I'm afraid.

Thanks much for passing along the review of the Sky paperback; my publisher evidently hadn't caught up with that one. I'm never going to be a rich man from Sky; hardback sales have stopped at about 16½ thousand--and 15,000 of those were in its first 3 months; for a little giddy time we were selling a thousand copies a week--and the paperback printing is 15,000, of which about half have promptly moved out of the stores. But the book has freed me to negotiate future projects much more easily; the book I have coming out this fall is an odd one I never could have got a contract for without Sky's reputation behind it. So, life is okay.

Won't be making it to Casper; my wife and I are making a Montana-Wyoming swing next month, and that'll have to be our mountain west travel for the summer. I have fond memories of the time spent with you in Boulder, and with Gulick and the Overholsters and a few others; maybe a repeat in '81. Anyway, all the best, Mel; I appreciate the copy of the review, and am sorry as hell I can't reciprocate.