Juan & Carol -
Hope all is well with

Happy Holidays
you — My novel
due is 149
days! About
love —
Gutel &
Press
Loved the version. And, loved your quote! And, your title is terrific. But use "savage" instead of "savage." Much, much. That doesn’t have to be "grope." "Throb" and "grope" are a lot like "throb" and "grope." "Throb" and "grope." Why? That doesn’t make sense. Maybe I’ll do a litigation novel some day!

Wishing you a very merrie olde-fashioned Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Love, Mary, Bob, Kath + Maggie

Dabein
WOMAN ATTACKED IN BUSHES

Assault occurs in own backyard

A Queen Anne Hill housewife was brutally attacked April 6 when a forsythia branch on a bush she was pruning lashed out and struck her in the left eye. "Ripe!" cried the unidentified 48-year-old, brown-haired, faintly chubby mother of three. While the woman managed to carry out her duties the next day by taking her daughters and herself to the dentist—Dr. R. J. "Laughing Gas" Stark, she was forced to seek medical treatment the following morning, having her left eye (luckily for her, the same one which had been injured) patched for the rest of the week and was unable to do ANYTHING until the following Saturday. "Rats!" exclaimed her husband and three daughters who asked to be identified but were refused under the First and Fifth Amendments to avoid incriminating themselves.

PROF TEACHES CLASS LESSON THEY’LL NEVER REMEMBER

An unidentified Shoreline Community College Humanities professor faced a classroom Winter Quarter of 1986 composed entirely of students so bland that they acquired the designation of "The Cabbage Patch Kids." The relentlessly pleasant but utterly unresponsive group of alleged students sat each day without any spark of intelligence or sign of comprehension. "Those 'kids certainly are...nice," the Prof said to anyone who was interested, none of whom were in the class, of course.

DWELLING DAUBED DAHEIMS DECKED

Property values soared on Queen Anne Hill this summer when an 80-year old single residence dwelling received a badly-needed facelift. 'The owners could have used one, too," said Tony the House Painter at some time during the seven long weeks it took him to complete the job. The excitement didn't stop there, however, as the family also had a new deck put on at the back of the house for summer entertaining. The biggest social event of the season occurred when the contractor who was building the deck invited his family down for his daughter's birthday party. Noting the crowd which had gathered outside, a visitor inside asked, "Do you know there are 15 people out in the back yard who appear to be having a birthday party?" Her hostess did not know that. "Well," said she, observing melting ice cream, crumpled paper plates, and puddles of Tutti-Frutti punch, "that's what I call a REAL surprise party."

TERRORISTS ATTACK QA HILL HOME

--Khadafi refuses blame; 'Even I wouldn't make a mess like that," says Libyan leader

In a Holy Week disaster recalling the destruction of Berlin by the Allies, the "scorched earth" policy of Louis XIV and the Sack of Rome, numerous persons dubbed "teen-agers" rained devastation on a modest but livable Queen Anne Hill residence over the course of seven consecutive nights. While some observers termed the week-long rampage as "religiously and politically motivated," one of the participants—said to be the ringleader—called the unstoppable debauchery and pillage "a party." The unidentified blonde college coed assumed a disarming manner in dismissing the nocturnal marauders as "just a few of my friends. Or whatever."

However, another young blonde teenager, rumored to be the ringleader's sister and a noted Blanchet High School clarinetist, was more critical, having been heard to use the phrase, "Donkey derrieres." Or something like that. The owners of the house, who had been vacating in Reno, could not be reached for comment. In fact, they could not be reached at all until the following Monday when garbage men came to haul away the huge pile of empty beer bottles, aluminum cans and other debris.
It was the year of the Safe and Sane Vacation for a local family when they decided to play down play-time with a low-key, stressless getaway. Rebounding Canada and all points north due to Expo crowds, crossing off the Oregon Coast because of Vancouver and traffic out of California, dismissing anywhere south of Mt. Shasta after major earthquake warnings were issued, and nixing the northern Idaho and Montana area to avoid the Nazi convention, the Seattle quintet opted for San Valley and Lake Tahoe.

After coughing and sputtering their way through the forest fires of Eastern Oregon and southern Idaho, they were appalled by the pall of smoke which hung over the famous ski resort. The view from their plush hillside condo revealed that the adjacent ridge was on fire. Quite a sight by day, the family agreed, but at night, it was quite a fright. Buddled by the TV set for word of imminent evacuation, the two adults and three children were baffled by the lack of emergency preparations. Finding themselves still alive in the morning, they consulted a Ketchum local who, with typical Hemingway courage and bravado, shrugged off the conflagration: "The fire is not a bad thing and we fear no danger for we are all rich and Clint Eastwood lives here."

There was no fire at Lake Tahoe, but somebody said Clint Eastwood lived there too.

**MILESTONES**

**JANUARY 3:** Mary visits eye doctor who tells her that she can't see because there is something wrong with her eyes.

**JANUARY 29:** Mary's mother has hip replacement which must have been a perfect match with the original because she still can't walk worth beans.

**FEBRUARY 1:** Dave copes with high-tech on campus newspaper, fails to trade students for robots.

**FEBRUARY 13:** Mary decides to take a few weeks off from PNB to rest up from work. She has time to rest, so never goes back to work.

**MARCH 7:** Dave suffers from PMS (Post-Midterm Syndrome) as the days dwindle down to a neat-precious few before spring break and a training trip to Reno.

**APRIL 14:** Barb, several Husky basketball players, and a 6-foot carrot tape public service announcements for a local radio station. As it turns out, the carrot has the best diction.

**MAY 10:** Mary receives another Sigma Delta Chi award for the college newspaper, reconsiders recruiting the robots, but might consider the carrot.

**MAY 22:** Kath solos on the clarinet in the high school spring concert to wild applause, then announces her retirement and Benny Goodman dies.

**JUNE 13:** School's out. Barb goes to work for a deli, slices her fingers in the chicken salad, and goes to work elsewhere.

**JULY 15:** Maggie begins orthodontic treatment but flees X-ray technicians, shouting, "Hey, Mom, they're trying to kill me in there!"

"In here, too," says Mom, and sends Mag back to X-ray.

**AUGUST 2:** Mary attends 30-year Lincoln High School reunion and asks in a bemused tone, "Who ARE all these old persons?"

**AUGUST 4:** Dave takes Mary to get her new glasses.

**SEPTEMBER 30:** Dave teaches his cinema course for the first time fall quarter, in addition to the popular spring offering, allows that it would be easier to show the films if the college could afford projectors.

**OCTOBER 1:** Mary's third book, "Pride's Captive," wins an award for best Civil War novel of 1986, bestowed by people who are not related to or dependent upon her in any way.

**OCTOBER 12:** Dave catches 4-10 lb. salmon off Whidbey Island.

**OCTOBER 13:** Family eats 10-lb. salmon. All at once. By themselves.

**OCTOBER 16:** Kath turns 16, paints new pictures and Barb's hair. Barb paints Kath's hair. Both now very blonde and small funny.

**NOVEMBER 5 and 7:** Dave has a birthday and wonders where his hair is; Mary also has a birthday and wonders why there is so much more of her than there used to be.

**NOVEMBER 22:** Kath rearranges room she shares with Maggie; Maggie doesn't cooperate, so Kath rearranges Maggie.

**NOVEMBER 26:** Tessie the Turtle is missing and Mozart the Frog has escaped. Who said it wasn't a zoo.

**DECEMBER 3 and 15:** Barb and Maggie celebrate their 20th and 8th birthdays respectively.

**MILDLY MEMORABLE QUOTES**

**Maggie (at the dentist):** What's a kid like me doing in a place like this?

**Kath:** But NOBODY takes the bus home from Blanchet, they all have their own cars—or chauffeurs.

(Note: So does Kath—her parents.)

**Barb (to her after-school day care kids at St. Anne's):** Never mind why there's a six-pack of Animal Beer in my book bag, bag, just shut up and play bingo like the rest of the good little Catholics.

**Dave:** I know that spend-over $400 for car maintenance is expensive, but just think—there's nothing left that could go wrong.

Except the transmission.

**Mary (one week later, calling from phone booth):** Guess what?

*then join Kath in antic-ipating the Christmas glut. December 1-31: All the Daheims wish everyone a blessed, merry Christ-mas and a happy, peaceful New Year.*
Dear Ivan, and Carol,

Forgive me typing this "friendly letter; " Miss Manners would never approve...I want to thank you for sending me The Sea Runners, with the lovely autograph: I look forward to taking it on my next jaunt, one week from now, and it looks wonderful.

As I told you, I have really enjoyed your work, it speaks of truth and the kind of experience which, in musical performance, rings irrevocably 'true.' One of my Montana fans just sent me another copy of English Creek, knowing of my admiration for you... may send one of mine to a friend in England, who is an aspiring and talented writer.

Here, all is busy and interesting: have been quickly to Europe, to play, finding cold temps, eager listeners, and hopeful hearts regarding "Geneva Thaw" and Reagan and Gorbachev....It was really nice to meet you at the Mortar Board party following the concert: actually, things got rather "ripping" after you left, largely due to ever-present champagne, and the histrionics of the eel in the fish tank!

Well, by now you know I can't type much--I do hope we can see each other again in the not so far-off future. I suppose it is a 'primitive' comment to make, but I want to tell you that I admire so much the cadence of your sentences, Ivan...just the length alone, the way you change it, or the clauses...it is so artful, yet so natural...I guess that is the way I like to hear music phrased, so that is that...I try to write a bit myself, and nurture the fantasy someday...of a book.

Well, take care both of you, and please, keep in touch...would like to call you some time, and have a lunch or a drink, while out in Swan's country???

Warm Regards,

Patti McIver
Sunday Afternoon on the Island of the Grande Jatte
by Georges Seurat (1859-1891).

Adaptation from the Collections of The Art Institute of Chicago;
copr. The Art Institute of Chicago, 1983.
The Donkey's Voice

Trusting the world,
I wake strange to you.
Your body,
a particular and unknown body,
warms my flesh. And the room I wake in--
no longer my room,
dark and unknown
but not frightening,
illuminated by strangeness
as by snow.

When I go out to feed the animals
it is still dark,
a new moon lost in a circle of cloud.
As though layers and layers of dark paint
had been laid down
in a 15th century painting,
the luminescence of Christ,
the light shines
just off canvas.

In the neighbor's pasture,
a donkey brays. His voice--
incongruent, laughable,
right. Sometimes,
we are permitted to see
through the strange eye of an animal,
or the stranger eye of one another.
Morning is out here,
but hidden.

Beth Ferris
Christmas, 1986
DEAR IVA

THANKS FOR THE NOTE.
I SURE HOPE YOU GET THROUGH THE EYE TROUBLE O.K.—THAT'S GOODWURF.

JUST SAW KITTREDGE AND ANNICK AND A PASSEL OF WRITERS UP IN MISSOULA. YOU WERE FONDLY REMEMBERED.

[Signature]

Peter Bowers
DEAR EVAN,

WELL, AFTER AN UNBELIEVABLE 50-ROUND WITH MY FIRST NOVEL, IT APPEARS THAT MY SECOND ONE WILL COME OUT FIRST. SOMEDAY I WILL WRITE AN EXTREMELY VICIOUS SHORT STORY ABOUT ALL THAT.

SOME TIME AGO I WROTE AND ASKED YOU IF I MIGHT SEND YOU A COPY OF MY NOVEL, IN HOPES OF A BLURB. YOU SAID YES, BUT MAYBE IT HAS CHANGED YOUR MIND. YOU MAY HATE THE YELLOWSTONE KELLY NOVEL. WHO KNOWS?

ANYWAY, I'M GOING BACK TO SCHOOLS AT MISSOURI TO GET AN MF OF THE ARTS IN WRITING. SAW KITTEDGE, ANNIE, CRUMP, AND ALL MANNER OF ODOS AND ODOS A BIT OVER A WEEK AGO — ‘Twas A FINE PARTY, I'VE BEEN UP AT MOISEE DOING A PIECE ON THE GATHER OF THE BISON WITH BILL QUARD (THE VANISHING BREED) FOR ESQUIRE.

MIGHT I HAVE A "HARD" COPY OF THE KELLY NOVEL SENT TO YOU? IT WOULD BE IN THE SET — IT IS NOT IN THE SET. AWESOME AMBITIOUS WORK, JUST A GOOD READ.

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

[Signature]

1204 N. 15th
BOISE, ID 83702
(208) 344-7961
25 Oct. '86

Dear Peter--

Regret to say, but yeah, I have changed my mind about reading your book and trying to provide a blurb. Rather, my eyes have changed it for me--a not-serious but nagging eye problem since a year ago last Labor Day; I've simply had to cut down on all extra reading. You're joining Ralph Beer, Russell Martin and I don't know who the hell all else, in my list of blurb turndowns. As I say, regrets, but...

I'm just now exerting to finish up a thumpingly long novel. Soon as I'm done, I start the next one.

regards
Dear Carol & Ivan,

This is the good stuff—the kind Liz likes. It is unheated & will crystallize in a couple of months. It is best kept in the freezer if you don't eat much of it. The flavor deteriorates at room temperature. I don't know if you people eat much honey, but if you do, please let me be your lifetime supplier.

Do you go to NY much? I suppose you fly if you do, but if you are ever motoring across country, please stop by for bed & board.

Best,

[Signature]
29 Sept. '86

Dear Sue--

Carol and I came home from a trip to Alaska and found amid the accumulated bills and magazines that terrific jug of honey. It's lovely stuff, and we thank you mightily. As Carol begins her college teaching year and I trudge along at the typewriter to finish my next book, I think that honey will do a lot of duty as energizer for both of us.

We'll indeed keep your place in mind if anything brings us to your part of the country, and you should keep ours to. Any chance you might be at the American Booksellers convention in Washington, DC, next Memorial Day? If Liz and I can dragoon my editor into bringing us, Carol and I may make that; drop us a line if you do too. And in the meantime, keep at the words and the bees; okay?

all best

[signatures]

best
Sept. 22 '86

Ivan, this piece was in the Denver Post yesterday and of course anything that reads THE SEA RUNNERS is going to get my undivided, since I still consider it one of the 10 finest books I've read. But I was curious, the paperback seeming to come so much later than the hard cover — or did Jack Kisling, the reviewer, just discover it? I know Jack and he seems more current than that. If it did come much later, who did it, Stewart? Your agent? Is it a second paperback by chance? Pls drop a note if you can, I'm every bit as curious as I sound.

I am doing second draft of a new novel, a comedy (I hope). Are you still with Atheneum? I am terribly disenchanted with that place. Terribly. They published my fourth, THE CACTUS GARDEN in June, and I haven't heard from them since I don't believe.

My daughter and her husband (Marine Captain) have been transfered from North Carolina to Whidby Island, or are in the process. Back in the 60s we lived in the Lynnwood/Edmonds area, so for Dee it's kind of a homecoming. Maybe when we visit her at some future time we can get together with you and your lady for dinner. What are you working on, II of English Creek?

Best to you, Ivan. You're a marvelous writer so don't ever stop, okay?
Dear Bill—

Much appreciate the clip about SEA RUNNERS, though I'm as mystified as you. Penguin brought out the p'back in '83, I think it was. What may have happened—and as soon as I run this through the typewriter to you, I'm damn sure going to fire off to Penguin to find out—is a re-issue, to get the book back into their Contemporary American Fiction series, as somebody there once told me they'd eventually like to do. Surprises me there, though, because Penguin early on intimated to me that the original p'back didn't do as red-hot as they'd hoped, so I haven't known whether they'd really keep nurturing it along in print.

The original deal—it's been this way with both SEA RUNNERS and ENGLISH CREEK—was struck by Atheneum with Penguin, with the agreement of my agent and me. Tom, and/or his rights person Liv Blumberg, was quick off the mark in seeking p'back sales in both cases. (By my contracts, Atheneum and I split p'back 50-50, though my agent got a better split on this next novel I'm doing) He in fact got a floor bid from Penguin, good and early, on 500 crk, and nobody topped it. By and large, I've been happy with the Penguin p'backs (except the customary gripe, the cover art) and with how Ath'm has handled the rights. The major drawback I can cite is that with Ath'm striking the deal, I never see Penguin's sales figures or royalty statements—any dough there is just eventually trickles out in my Ath'm royalty payments.

Hey, yeah, maybe we can meet to munch, sometime when you're visiting Oak Harbor. It'll depend on Carol's teaching schedule, how I'm faring at the moment (and at this moment, I'm writing pretty good but coping with a persistent minor eye ailment), and such, but if you remember from your Edmonds days the little town of Laconner, about an hour north toward Bellingham, there's a terrific eating place there called the Black Swan. Also, if Dee (and you) should be apprised of a real good bookstore in Oak Harbor, the Wind and Tide, run by dedicated book folks, friends of mine, name of Norman and Patti.

Yup, it's Son of English Creek in the typewriter now; aim to finish it by the end of this year. I hope your own ms is thriving beyond your wildest dreams...which maybe be the ultimate "beyond," huh? Best to Bets, and thanks a jillion for spotting this SEA RUNNERS conundrum.
Here's the first part of the Manning: memories, hikes, complaints—all of it. Much, much thanks for making the time. I'll talk to you Monday, while you're packing up your hiking boots.

"What an exhilarating stride Harvey " Manning hits in this remarkable hike along our inland sea—a journey across time as well as his beloved Puget Sound shoreland."

—phoned to Sara, 29 Aug. '86
8.25

Dear Ivan,

Many thanks for your kind notes to Morris and to me. Under the circumstances, the last thing you probably needed to do was to wade your way (painfully) through a book about medical horrors and misfortunes. Glad to hear, however, that in your case the prognosis looks positive.

Best of luck with the new novel. (It's another McCook book, isn't it?) I look forward to seeing it, and I still hope we can cross paths someday.

Sincerely,

Russell
Dear Sue—

As threatened, a book to be signed, if you'd be so kind. Dab in a "to Carol and Ivan" and you'll have gratitude in this corner of the country.

I wonder if you have fireweed in the Ozarks. Our patch behind this suburban house grows 6-8' tall, and the bees come and go up there amid the purple blossoms, gentle aerial traffic I stand under and watch a lot. I wasn't like this before A COUNTRY YEAR.

I hope your words are thriving.

all best
August 4, 1986  
3950 Tudor Ave.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8N 4L6

Dear Ivan Doig:

This letter has taken a round-about route to reach you since on a clear day I can look across the Strait to the area where I presume you still live, somewhere within sight of Mount Rainier. But then my subject is delayed too, since I want to offer praise and thanks for Winter Brothers, which I have just discovered. Perhaps you have received enough by now to make my gesture superflous, but I suspect that most writers can always stand a bit more from any source.

I first came across your byline while researching a book on William Duncan and was impressed with the accuracy and perception of the piece you wrote for The American West. After that was done I began work on the west coast fur seal story and bumped into James G. Swan, whose minor role I dismissed too harshly. My rush to judgement was based on the erroneous research which you mention (which, incidentally, was presented to an August Arbitration Tribunal in Paris in 1892) and his general reputation as a Port Townsend tosspot and eccentric. Fortunately I read your book before the manuscript was completed and have been able to soften my brief portrait of the man. I realized that he was just one of many, more highly trained men who got it wrong about the fur seal, and that he was a man who deserved respect.

In any case, I wanted to say that anyone who pokes around archives for a bit of a living especially appreciates the magnitude of your accomplishment in bringing such a man to such wonderful life. For me it was one of those rare books you come across in a lifetime, not numbering more than a dozen or so, that one truly does not want to end. So for what it's worth, I salute you and wish you well in the future.

Yours truly,

Peter Murray
Dear Peter Murray--

14 Sept. '36

It's pleasant to hear that those old Am. West articles of mine, done when I was a hard-pressed freelance (excuse the redundancy), still look okay to somebody besides me. As to Swan and Winter Bros., I was drawn to him entirely because of his prodigious diary habit—I know colossally little about the fur seals myself—and again it's pleasing to have a fellow archive-digger see something in my result. As I'm now writing a fictional trilogy set in Montana, I haven't been to Victoria in an eon; but maybe our paths will cross whenever Carol and I next get up to your side of the water. In the meantime, best wishes for your own work; I always thought Duncan was worth some big rousing book.

regards & thanks
Dear Sue--

I've delayed in dropping you a note because I wanted to send along my copy of *A Country Year* for signing; but my 83-year-old father-in-law, native of the New Jersey shore and an urban being whose idea of nature is a lawn, has borrowed the book and shows no sign of relinquishing it until he's done every word. You might ought to use him as a blurb for your next one.

So if you don't mind, I'll pass along the book whenever I get it back from him. In the meantime I want to report that I had an appreciative letter about my Post review from Sam Vaughan at Random House; if I'm reading the tea leaves and mastheads right, he's head of all trade books there, which means your career is being followed in High Places. And well it should be. I was serious in the review, incidentally, about hoping you'll do a novel. I wouldn't even care if it's about a librarian who turns into a beekeeper...

If anything brings you to Seattle, give us a call—(206)542-6658. My wife Carol was your original fan in this household; she picked up the galley of *ACY* while the flu had her as sick as a poisoned pup, read the whole thing in an afternoon, and told me I'd better get on the job for the book. I'm really pleased the book has done as well as it has; keep up the good work and the good words.

all best
Dear Ivan,

I asked Liz if she'd forward a letter to you but she gave me your address instead, saying that you wouldn't mind if I wrote directly.

Just wanted to let you know that I was tickled pink with your review of my book in the Post. I am still in a state of shock about the way it is being received; I had begun writing it as an exercise to find the right words to explain to myself why I decided to stay here after Paul & I split up rather than go back & do something sensible like becoming a librarian again. I was astounded when Liz & Random House thought it was a book & continue to be astounded that people are interested in what I think of spiders.

Your review was so perceptive & you saw what I was doing with words. It pleased me enormously. It is gratifying to make a connection with another mind. But I guess that is what writing is all about, isn't it?

Of course I am sure that the review sent people out to buy the book & I am grateful to you for that, of course, but mostly it just delights me that you understood what I was up to.

Kind regards,

[Signature]
August 9, 1986

Ivan Doig,
17021 Tenth Ave. N.W.
Seattle, Washington
98177

Dear Ivan,

Rather belatedly, I want to thank you for responding to my plea back in 1984 when I was doing the research for my thesis on the Lindsay-Schaub editorial policies. It took longer than I had anticipated to polish that one off. In fact, I didn't do my defense until early May this year. I have been making a few sporadic and feeble attempts to see if there might be any interest in publishing it, perhaps "as amended". At any rate, I do appreciate your response and that of others who came to my assistance.

Currently I am working on what I am pleased to think of as a novel. It is based on my wife's early life as a young black girl in Mississippi and, later, in Murphysboro, Illinois. I became interested in this project after many years of getting the story from her in bits and pieces of conversation. Her story was both fascinating and shocking—among her earliest memories being the sight of white men on horseback grabbing up her eleven-year-old cousin and taking her off to rape her. At any rate, I am about two-thirds of the way through my first draft. Mark Wyman was kind enough to give the work-to-date a reading. He told me he had not expected to like it, partly because he is not fond of fiction; but that, once he began reading, he couldn't put it down. He said it was fascinating.

I have begun to wonder about how to contact editors and literary agents, trying to figure out the best way to bring this book to their attention. Naturally, I have done a certain amount of reading on the subject, but I would certainly appreciate any advice you could give me. Do you have an agent? If you would be so kind, I would appreciate hearing from you. If you would like to call, call me collect at 217/428-8725. I am out some, but home most of the time as I am, to use the show biz phrase, "at liberty".

Sincerely,

Martin Fitzpatrick
Dear Martin--

About agents: I only ever know to recommend a couple of things--I think mainly a person has to work out his own logic of trying to place a book. First, the best published source I know of is the book HOW TO GET HAPPILY PUBLISHED, Judith Appelbaum and Nancy Evans. Beyond the common sense in that, I'd suggest studying back issues of Publishers Weekly, especially the weekly Rights & Permission column to see which agents are handling which deals; I guess I'd try to figure out from that some agents who might handle a book such as yours. The New York City yellow pages ought to give you phone numbers and addresses, and I think Literary Market Place does too. Then, whatever you're most comfortable with--phoning some chosen agents, mailing them 30-50 pp. of the manuscript as a sample (it needn't be the first 30-50 pp., but the part of the ms you yourself feel best about), or going to NY to call on them in person. I definitely recommend meeting the agent in person before signing with him or her.

Good luck with it all.

regards

p.s. If you can readily lay hands on it, would you send me a photocopy of the material I provided you about Lindsay-Schaub?--it'd save me a lot of digging through files around here if I ever want it. While you're at it, I'd be curious to see any part of the thesis that my stuff to you has any bearing on.
Dear Juan & Carol -
It was lovely to meet you & thanks for the dinner -
you'll have to stop by here sometime for an elk roast.
I'm sure our paths will cross again.

Warm wishes,

Gretel
Jean & Carol Doig
17021 10th Ave. N.W.
Seattle, Wa.
98177
Dear Mr. Doig,

I was so pleased to get your note—I'm still at Northwestern but now in a new position and at a new address. Fortunately, your note found me anyway. I've thought of writing you on several occasions but never did—call it inertia, busyness and, perhaps, a degree of shyness as well. Obviously I'm a fan of yours, or I wouldn't have chosen your book to lead off the "Family" theme I designed for the "Let's Talk About It" program.

That project has been the most fun and rewarding thing I've been involved with in a long time—because I believe in the audience it reaches (generally adults who might like to go to school but probably can't afford either the time or the money) and because through being on the Advisory Committee I've met some marvelous and dedicated people. The other fallout of the project was that it enabled me to indulge in an orgy of reading contemporary fiction and drama. It also fuelled a long (very long) overdue desire to begin writing my own fiction. So you can see that my involvement with the project has had some special ramifications for my own life.

You may be interested to know how I chose your book. It was the last one I found and, to my mind, the most important since it was to begin the list of readings. I had read so many things that just didn't seem to fit with the other books. Finally This House of Sky was suggested to me in a chance conversation by a person who had loved it. I was specifically looking for a big family saga, and I wanted it to be from a male viewpoint (since I already had Joan Chase's book as a finale), and I also wanted it to grab the reader all the way through. It goes without saying that the book is beautifully written. It perfectly expressed what I was looking for, plus it was a contemporary, western autobiography about a very special childhood and family. Imagine my surprise, when midway through the book I discovered you were going to Northwestern! The book was a gift and, to me, made the theme hang together in the way I wanted.

By the way, I recently learned that your publisher reprinted the book because it was being used in so many libraries. I'm told that the "Family" theme is the most popular one in the whole series, and I'm quite proud of that. How wonderful to think that, however indirectly, I have contributed to a writer's income. Life is strange.

Well, as for the Orrington and the El, both are still intact. The Orrington has been "redone" so that now it looks somewhat like an elegant bordello instead of a shabby one. The El, as you may know, has now been declared a national architectural treasure—can you believe it? But to those of us who still ride it it only matters that it rattles along in its capable way.

I hope that, if you ever return to Evanston, you will give me a call. It would be a treat to meet someone whose writing has given me so much pleasure. Good luck with the English Creek project. I very much enjoyed the first volume.

All the best,

[Signature]
Dear Ivan,

I'd love to have dinner or whatever works out - I'm arriving at 7:45 Sunday night for a late dinner Sunday night or Monday night is fine too - or the next day - in other words anytime I'll be at the Burns - 623-3795 - on 1st Ave.

Best,

Gretel
3 June '86

Dear Gretel--

Our best shot at getting together with you would be dinner on Monday--there's a place called Mitchell's a couple of blocks from the Elliott Bay bookstore where you'll be speaking, or maybe the Burnses know of some other Pioneer Square place? In any case, Carol and I can get to wherever by 6, or a bit earlier. If none of that works, I can try meet you for lunch on Tues., though I think Carol is giving an exam. I'll check all this out with you by phone during the day on Monday or you can reach me, if you need to clarify before I get to it, here at home at 522-6658. We're looking forward to seeing you.

best
Dear Jim,

Wanted to write a tardy note of thanks for your card and forwarded you "Words bear natures wisdom." I think you might enjoy it; Every writer knows what a mysterious "wife" language is.

As to the "leader" it is from notes I made after my first wife and I sought consultation for our childless marriage. It's basically reporting a curious witness to the effect the doctors words precipitated.

Perhaps I am overstepping the bounds of our brief acquaintance but I have a favour I would like you to consider. I understand you are a busy man with many commitments and will understand if you can't grant the favour. Would you consider reviewing "Worship the Words,"
Worhip the sea? I don't think we could pay you except with another copy of the book, but a review by you would certainly help outside. It might meet an audience we don't normally reach. Well, maybe you don't even like the book that much, and I'll understand that too, literature is quirky nourishment.

Whatever your decision, I look forward to future occasions with you ever wordsfully,

11 June '36

Dear Tom--

A real quickie, to pass along what you likely already know, that you're famous at Elliott Bay Bookstore. Not a bad place to be famous.

And I wanted to say that I thought about whether and how I might review WORKING, but I can see it ain't gonna happen. I'm so strapped for time on my homesteader novel that I do damn few reviews--to do the kind of job a book deserves takes between 3 full days and a week. I owe the Wash. Post my next couple of reviews, and they can't or won't take regional stuff from out here, I've fought that battle before. And the next time I do a Seattle Times review will probably be next fall, late fall. So convergence is not with us, here. Sorry to say. I hope you guys did send a xxx review copy to somebody who might handle the book, either where he works or in the Seattle Times--Tim Appelo, senior editor, Pacific Northwest Magazine, 222 Dexter A.e. N., Seattle 98109? Also Paul Pintarich, Book Editor, The Oregonian, 1320 SW Broadway, Portland OR 97201?

see you, and best wishes
May 16, 1986

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 Tenth Avenue, NW
Seattle, Washington 98177

Dear Ivan Doig:

A wonderful book. I read it in two sittings, literally enthralled all the way. Many thanks for sending it, and for your kind words.

Best,

Frank Conroy
Director, Literature
Dear Ivan Doig--

I was thrilled to a receive a review copy of English Creek today and can’t wait to get into it. I loved This House of Sky and think of it as a model for what I would like to do with my own growing up on the BC Coast. Your work shores up my faith there is still a great job to be done opening up the west in literature. We have been fumbling around trying to do something with Raincoast Chronicle for over ten years now but there is precious little interest from the Canadian critical establishment or among the writing community here on the west coast, which is still trying hoping to recreate 1920’s Paris, or Faulkner’s Mississippi, or Marquez’ Colombia—anything to avoid coming to terms with this actual place.

I would like to talk to you sometime. Have you ever run across the trail of Bertrand W. Sinclair? He was one of one of your predecessors, writing about Montana’s ranch life at the turn of the century, with his wife BM Bower, who immortalized him as Chip in Chip of the Flying U. Ring any bells? Well, after he got to be a big success there he moved here, to my home town, Pender Harbour, in the 20’s, and began trying to do for the wet west what he’d done for the dry part. Wrote a string of books about logging and fishing, but the subject never took and he had to churn out a western whenever he needed money. He was our neighbour til he died in 1970, one of my childhood heroes. I’d like to have something from you for Raincoast Chronicles, if you ever write about the coast again. I would like to get your article about Metlakatla, which I’ve seen cited in Peter Murray’s book. In the meantime, thanks for writing what you have.

Regards,

Howard White 6 May ’86

Dear Howard--

Thanks, greatly, for the pair of Chronicles. I think I got much the best of the deal, 2 books to your one. If you manage to review English Creek, I’d be interested in a copy. I’ve heard of B.W. Sinclair because a Montana professor buddy wrote about B.M. Bower in the Mont. Mag of Western History in spring, ‘73; very little on Sinclair in there, though. As to my Metlakatla piece, it’s a free-lance job I did out of some federal archive papers here—I tend to think of those free-lance pieces as being before I got to be me. I’ll keep you in mind if I get back to coastal writing, though there’s none in sight soon. All good luck with the Chronicles, and I think you ought to bang away on your own coastal House of Sky. Hurriedly (I’ve still got some words to do on the day’s work on the next novel), best regards
View of Cowichan Bay by E. J. Hughes, 1975. Oil, 60 × 90 cm.
Dear Ivan,

Thank you for the copy of Gathered Waters. I like the variety of others from Robert Sand to Ted Hughes. I wanted to thank you in hopes that the Dalmoor I work arrive. It finally did after a serious delay (not bad for publishing deadlines等行业...

Empty Bowl is a publishing co-op in Port Townsend. We have been publishing poetry books and "special" issues of Dalmoor for 15 years. It is a struggle; co-ops are notorious for hassle. Still in all we have done some good work. This is our best effort to date. My salmon of Poe would piece is there as well as some "color" that many Northwest readers miss. "The Blood Beneath the Boards" so to speak. Sincerely,

Jan 12
6 May '86

Gezz, Tom—I came out way ahead on the swap of books between us; I'll have to come over sometime and trade you my jackknife for your car. Anyway, many thanks for the Dhalma and I indeed liked your salmon piece. Is the "Leaper" paragraph yours or a quote? Either way, a helluva bit of writing.

My Missoula novelist buddy Jim Welch may be at Cantrum this summer, and if so, we may actually get to Port Townsend. Will let you know if we wander by. Right now, we're awaiting The Return of Tony, with Tales of Talsea.

best
Dear Bob—

A very nifty job in your WAL review of English Creek. I think it's the first time since Dick Etulain got hold of This House of Sky that I've had a review that looked at the book for itself, and savvied it from a western viewpoint. A multitude of thanks for your care and delineation.

It's been flu season here—my ears are still buzzing a bit with it—but next week is that bonus of being married to a prof, her spring break, and we're heading for the Oregon coast.

best regards
Dear Ivan and Carol:

I was just about to throw out that rag, the Washington Times, when I saw your phiz big as life and just as compelling as any Mail Pouch Tobacco ad on the side of a Midwestern barn. Then I lost the darn thing, and was about to throw out my copy of Insight, what comes free, and there again was that familiar face illustrating what seemed to be essentially the same article.

Fame has arrived with a capital F. Or, given the source, is it infamy? No, all kidding aside, I think that publication has been trying to live down its origins as the organ of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon (or whatever), and the most interesting aspects have been its arts coverage and its foreign coverage.

Anyway, congratulations. You're making a bigger splash than the world's most famous fuzzball, Halley's Comet. I saw something that might have been it one wintry day last December. If TWA is flying, we are going to Tucson this afternoon, and I may be able to get out and see it once down there. I hate to wait until 2061, especially since I have been waiting since about 1938 or 1939 (when I first heard about the comet) to see this year's appearance.

We all wonder about Bob Hartley, but I haven't had the courage or energy to write so far. My daughter was here yesterday interviewing for a summer intern job at the Blade. It pays well, and would enable her to spend three months at home and thus save most of the dough for a car or whatever it is that 21-year-olds want these days. I encourage her present journalism ambitions, but have also said that she might want to consider it a stepping stone to some other line of work. I doubt newspapering will be as much fun in the next 40 years as in the last 40. I have pictures of Gannetteers wearing blue blazers and red, white, and blue ties, writing investigative paragraphs to put in among the graphics. But as Zora said about Reagan before the last election, "What's he done to hurt me?" Long story, too.
long to go into. Well, I guess I had better get busy
inasmuch as I want to blast out of here at 3:30 p.m. today.

I'd be interesting in hearing whether the sendoff from
the Moon publications has caused your literary sun to
ascend even further in the publications firmament.
Do you know anyone who wants to publish my book about the
Tucson antitrust case? Dissertations, I fear, don't market
well. Is there another book beyond that? Well, time is
rapidly telling.

Hope our paths cross in the next year or two.

Cheers,

Ralph
Dear Ralph--

Aha! So you're a secret reader of the Moonington Times, huh? As I was telling Rev. Noon the other day as we shared a rice ball, Toledo looks like fertile ground for whatever it is the Moonie philosophy is, if RHJ is the indicator he almost always is. The Rev. gave me a moonfaced look—funny, it's the only kind he's ever given me—and said he'd do what needs to be done. So, Ralph, you'll be thrilled to know that Moonchildren have been diverted from every airport terminal in the Midwest, and tomorrow morning they'll all be outside the Blade office to greet you with daffodils and appropriate literature.

You wondered about Fame, Wash. Times style. Well, I dunno, do you want to count yourself? If so, I've had two letters. The other one was from a Washington DC friend whose hubby looked up, whilst going home on the subway, to see that pic of me looming in on him. You probably wonder (I sure did) how all this came about. It seems to be the crosstown response to all the ink I've been getting in the Wash. Post—I'm doing a few book reviews for them, etc.—and more to the point, I made a handy topic for the enterprising Wash. Times feature writer when she thought up a Seattle trip. She did pieces out here on Sen. Henry Jackson's widow, and me. The poor lady also arrived in the midst of the peapod fog we had in Nov., and so never saw anything more than 30 feet away all the while she was here. But to back up a bit: when she called a proposed the interview, I blanched so white you could have seen me from your office window. My wife the media prof then pointed out that refusing to talk to the Wash. Times is a kind of reverse censorship, and so I told the feature writer, okay, come on out. As you noticed, the story is not the greatest literature ever, but it is maybe the most accurate job of quoting me I've ever experienced, in the fewer-than-a-million times I've been interviewed. The writer, incidentally, was no perceptible kind of a Moonie, but a DC professional woman, business-suited to her teeth.

So what are we to make of all this, fellow denizen of de press? I sure do hate their politics, but otherwise they did all right by me, is more or less where I come out.

Why don't you try that dissertation of yours on the U. of Oklahoma Press, which seems to regard itself as a kind of culture vulture of the Southwest? And why don't you write another book, about the goddamn Gamesteering tendency and how we pretty soon ain't gonna have no words in newspapers, just goddamn graphics? Great to hear from you, and to know my fame is transportable across the border into Ohio.
February 25, 1986

Dear Ivan,

Herewith the materials promised on the telephone. I think you'll enjoy Davis's proposal for the homesteader's memorial. (I find his understated humor enormously endearing--and enduring.) Your "puff" could be one, two, or three sentences. The Waters are token payment; we will send you some Davis' books when they are printed. Sure hope your eye problem is on the mend; we don't need any more ill literates.

Cheers,

Cort

4 March '86

Dear Cort--

In re Davis:

"As a chronicler of life in our corner of this American land, H.L. Davis was colorful (how he would have snorted at being called that), ornery (he'd have loved that), opinionated (that went without saying) and splendid in several other civically purifying ways. The Northwest misses him more than it knows."--Ivan Doig

I don't have a dictionary here big enough to show whether "civically" or "civicly" is right, but I took the example of "chronically" and hereby trust the editor, namely you. Thanks greatly for the Waters copies, I'll expend them beneficially. Will look forward to the Davis anthology.

all best
February 23rd

Hi Juan & Carol—

You've awfully nice to send me your English Creek. I'm enjoying it often, having been over in that country last fall on route back to the Black Hills and the beginnings of Louis' ranger days. Indeed, the USFS and NPS are very different, I have a somewhat nostalgic feeling occasionally forming your McCauley family. Louis, too, took the boys along with him on patrol (me too) and certainly feelings for our Regional Office are not much for theirs towards Mazoela.

It was super having you here. See you again soon I hope. We're heading for Death Valley.
now, our home sweet home thru the 1950s. Love it!

Cheers -

Renee & Louis
Feb. 10

Dear Ivan & Carol,

I came home to find my letter to you returned to me. This time I'll try the correct address. I wanted you to have this so you would know how much I appreciate your "blurb" about Contrary Warriors, Ivan. And Carol, if your school really does want to purchase a cassette, I will send proper press materials to the proper person.

Thank you both so much for the delightful evening. It was inspiring to meet you and talk to you both. I'm back home in the snow and cold, with not a robin sight, thinking that you guys made the right decision to live in other weather. I hope, when you finally do come back to Montana, I will get a chance to cook you dinner.

Thanks so much—
Beth
Dear Bob--

Greetings for '86. Ever since that Feb. visit of mine to Laramie, what, two years ago?, I think of you guys wintering out there on the bald top of the world. I hope your weather has been better than Montana's '85 version, which included the hottest summer ever (Carol and I were there for some of it), the wettest fall ever, and then the coldest November ever.

Couple of quick things on my mind. The first is that I've lost track of whether your review of English Creek has appeared yet; in the next couple of weeks I'll be breaking writing hibernation to visit the U. of Washington library, so if it's on hand yet, I'll eagerly look it up then. The other topic, you may be less than startled to hear, is sheep. I'm thinking seriously of putting a shearing time--early 1890's, with blades--into this next novel, the homesteader one. I have a bit of lore on that "handpower" era from what my dad told me--he did a bit of handblade shearing before power clippers came in--but could stand a lot more. Ever stumbled across any, in your reading? The scene in Far from the Madding Crowd is about all I can think of, and after looking that over, I still think Hardy's barn is the best thing in that. (Did it really take the Wessex guys half an hour on each sheep? Did the fleeces really only weigh 3½ pounds?) Anyway, ready ideas would be welcome, but don't strain if you don't have any, okay?

Here's hoping you're thriving.

best,
Two New Films For Montana

CONTRARY WARRIORS
A STORY ABOUT THE CROW TRIBE
By Connie Poten, Pam Roberts, and Beth Ferris, Writer and Co-Producer of

HEARTLAND
"What a gallant and powerful film" — Ivan Doig

Playing With
COWGIRLS
The Award-Winning Film About Women Who Love the West; by Nancy Kelly

Jan. 16
Gala Opening at the Wilma

7 and 9pm. Reception, 7:30 in the Wilma Ballroom; Films and Party, $10 per person; Films only, $5 adult, $3.50 children and seniors.

Advance Tickets: Rockin’ Rudy’s, Freddy’s Feed and Read, Magic in the Mall, Worden’s, The Little Professor Bookstore, Wilma Gift Shop.
Sponsored by the Northern Lights Institute.
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| Sesame Street | Pinwheel            | Carl Perkins       |
| Jacques Cousteau | ""                     | Movie: "The Third"
| Body Buddies S. Previews | Special Belle       | Man"
| Mystery! | Black Beauty Lassie | Movie: "Honeysuckle"
| Elvis Memories | You Can’t Do Turkey | Rose"
| Here’s Health Old House | Television Dennis     | Movie: "Sheena"
| Animals Mister Rogers | Mr. Wizard Video To Go | ""
| Sesame Street | You Can’t Do Dangermouse | Movie: "Comfort And"
| Lassie MacNeil / | Movie: "Forgive Our Joy" | ""
| Lehrer Business Rpt. | Foolish Ways ""    | Movie: "The Third"
| Wash. Week Wall St. Wk. | Shortstories "" | Man"
| McLaughlin Journal | Mike Mainieri Quintet | Movie: "Honeysuckle"
| Great Performances | Movie: "Forgive Our Rose" | ""
| "On the Razzle" | Foolish Ways "" | Carl Perkins       |
| SCTV | Shortstories | Movie: "Christina"

Hemmings, Michael York. A ninth-century warrior king must choose between his longing for a simple life and the pressures of leading his people in their struggle against the Danes.

12:00 (2) ★★ ½ “Seven Sinners” (1940, Mystery) Marlene Dietrich, John Wayne. A Navy man is forced to choose between his career and the woman he loves.

(USA) ★★ ½ “Urgh! A Music War” (1981, Documentary) Concert footage filmed in London, New York, California and France spotlights the performances of 34 New Wave groups, including The Police, Devo, Joan Jett and The Go-Gos.

1:00 (CBN) ★★ “Hideout” (1948, Western) Adrian Booth, Lloyd Bridges. A mayoral candidate’s bid for office in a small town results in attempted murder.

2:00 (WGN) ★★ “Gunfight At Comanche Creek” (1963, Western) Audie Murphy, Colleen Miller. A detective infiltrates a gang of outlaws for the purpose of exposing their notorious leader.

2:30 (CBN) ★★ “Young And Dangerous” (1957, Drama) Mark Daman, Connie Stevens.
**Movies**

‘Contrary Warriors’: clues to a culture

BY MIKE McINALLY
of the Missoulian

In 1982, Missoula residents Connie Poten and Pamela Roberts set out with 60,000 and a desire to make a film about the Crow Tribe.

Nearly four years later, the movie — “Contrary Warriors: A Film of the Crow Tribe” — is finished. Its final cost: $75,000, which gives you a clue as to why so few good documentaries are being made these days.

The additional money, which came from a variety of sources, was well-spent. “Contrary Warriors” is a fine documentary, an impressive and often moving film about a proud people in the midst of what seems to be a never-ending string of battles.

At the movie’s center is Robert Yellowtail, the astounding 97-year-old leader of the tribe. In fact, “Contrary Warriors” began as a profile of Yellowtail. But in part because Yellowtail’s century of life dovetails with a century of Crow history, the movie quickly became much more than that profile. Without preaching, without becoming heavy-handed, it examines Crow history and the tribe’s reservation in southeastern Montana.

“We had an amazing man, an amazing culture,” Poten says. “We were filming a breakthrough film.”

Poten and Roberts — who later were joined on the project by Missoula’s Beth Ferris — spent three years on the reservation. “I went to a lot of meetings,” Roberts recalls.

But the homework paid off. The filmmakers were granted access to remote areas of the reservation. They got permission to film Crow ceremonies.

As the project grew, the budget grew, Poten, Roberts and Ferris recruited top professionals to photograph, score and edit the film. The photographer, Stephen Lightbigh, filmed the critically acclaimed “Seeing Red” and worked on “The Day After Trinity.”

The editor, Jennifer Chinnland, won awards for her work on the film “Quilts in Women’s Lives.” Composer Todd Bockelbeke won an Oscar for his sound work in “Amadeus.”

Peter Coyote — who was sensational as the slimy prosecutor in “Jagged Edge” — narrates the movie.

According to Roberts, that talent saw “Contrary Warriors” as “a really rare opportunity to get into another culture.” That meant putting up with some hardships and long, difficult days. The hand-held sequence in the movie — a fascinating few minutes of film — required 12 hours of shooting.

When the time came to edit the movie, the filmmakers had 40 hours of material. The terms of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant required that “Contrary Warriors” run 60 minutes. Working with Chinnland, the three made six rough cuts of the film.

“Each cut said something different,” Ferris says. “We had some depressing versions. But there was a real philosophical feeling on all of our parts that we wanted a positive film.”

They have succeeded in that goal. “Contrary Warriors” spends a good deal of its time examining the hope that the Crow find in family. One woman notes onscreen that the Crow measure wealth in terms of family. Being without family, the woman says, “would be abject poverty to the Crow.”

But the film doesn’t ignore the reservation’s 70 percent unemployment rate, the key force pushing the Crow off the reservation. Those two factors — family and unemployment — are constant themes throughout “Contrary Warriors.”

And the film’s sure focus on Robert Yellowtail gives it a center of gravity.

But the film never seems preachy or worse yet — slips into the dry tone of a textbook. “Contrary Warriors” contains plenty of information about the Crow, but Chinnland’s slick editing and the assured narration impart that information painlessly.

For Roberts, who spent her years growing up on the Crow reservation, the movie achieves another goal: “More than one person said to me, ‘boy, you have a lot of guts. I didn’t feel that way then. I do now.’ I think it takes a lot of courage to go back home. This film has allowed me to go back home in a way I never could have.”

And Ferris notes: “I think this is a political film in the way I think films should be political.” She adds that “Contrary Warriors” is not what would be called a hard-hitting political movie. It has its points to make. But it has enough faith in the intelligence of its audience to make those points without shouting, without unnecessary manipulation.

If “Contrary Warriors” only pleased Robert Yellowtail, it would still be an important movie merely for bringing his achievements and extraordinary life into the spotlight.

The movie, however, achieves much more than that. It is required viewing for anyone concerned about the future of Native Americans or, for that matter, the future of Montana.

**Film to play Jan. 16**

“Contrary Warriors,” which has been selected as a finalist in the documentary competition at the year’s U.S. Film Festival in Park City, Utah, will be shown in Missoula on Thursday Jan. 16, at the Wilma Theater.

The film will show at 7 and 9 p.m. in the Wilma.

In addition, a reception is scheduled for that night in the Wilma 3 at 7:30. Tickets to see the film and attend the reception are $10. Admission to the film only is $5. $30 for seniors and students. The movie will be showing with “Cowgirls,” an often-dilapidated short film about women who live and work on ranches in the West.

Tickets are available at Worden’s Market, Little Professor Bookstore, Rockin’ Rudy’s, Freddy’s Feed and Read and Magic.

Oscar contest gets boost from late contenders

BY BOB THOMAS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The 1985 Academy Awards, which some critics had suggested canceling because of artistic deficiency in the year’s crop of movies, recently acquired credibility with a late-season surge of prestige entries.

Until December, the list of potential Oscar nominations seemed painfully thin. However, as usually happens, the major companies brought forth their best product for the holiday — and Academy — season.

Among late contenders are “The Color Purple,” “Out of Africa,” “Revolution,” “Murphy’s Romance” and “A Chorus Line.”

The late arrivals are likely to dominate the Oscar competition, to the detriment of worthy, though not overwhelming, films released earlier in the year. Academy voters with short memories might overlook such movies as “The Purple Rose of Cairo,” “Mask,” “The Breakfast Club” and “Witness.”

One June release, “Prizzi’s Honor,” is not likely to be ignored.

It contained powerhouse performances and tour de force direction by John Huston, still at the peak of his powers at 79.

Publicity cannons for all potential candidates began firing in November with trade-paper ads and free screenings for Academy members. Campaigning will continue until the Feb. 5 nominations and then resume for the final drive.

The awards ceremony will be held March 24, again in the Los Angeles Music Center. Stanley Donen (“Singin’ in the Rain,” “Charade”) will produce the presentation and Marty Pasetta will return as director.

Here’s how the major races are shaping up:

* Best picture: “The Color Purple” may well provide the Oscar that has eluded Steven Spielberg.

(Turn to OSCAR, page A-4)

IF YOU WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT PERMANENTLY, DIETING ALONE MAY NOT DO IT

Permanently changing your eating habits is a better way to lose weight. St. Patrick Hospital’s new 10-week program includes seminars, exercises and a personal nutrition plan.

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Classes begin January 20. Call for your free consultation before classes start.

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Hello, Ivan:
And thanks for the note — hope your eyes get better soon.
Snow to my knees here at the ranch, probably a lot deeper up on Grassy Mountain.

Best,

Ralph Beer

To: Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 Tenth Ave N.W.
Seattle, Washington
98177
December 27, 1985

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Avenue, N.W.
Seattle, Washington 98177

Dear Ivan Doig,

It is my pleasure to tell you that PEN American Center would like to invite you as a Special Guest to the 48th International Congress which will take place in New York from January 12-18, 1986. To this gathering will come PEN delegates, and distinguished authors from more than forty countries. It will be the first PEN Congress held in New York since 1966, and we expect an exceptional week of round table literary sessions on our theme—The Writer’s Imagination and the Imagination of the State—as well as a series of public readings in auditoriums throughout New York City each day of the Congress. There will also be formal opening events, festivities, receptions, and a final banquet. Enclosed is a detailed schedule of these events.

As a Special Guest there will be no registration fee and you are freely invited to all round tables, receptions and readings. If it is your desire to write about one of the subjects of our theme, we would be delighted to print it in the final proceedings of the Congress. Naturally, you would be free to publish first in a magazine or newspaper. I believe 3200 words is the requested length.

In the interim, let me say personally that I hope you will come, and look forward to the opportunity to say hello and, with luck, have a drink together.

Cheers,

[Signature]

Norman Mailer

THE 48th INTERNATIONAL PEN CONGRESS
NEW YORK CITY
JANUARY 12 to 18, 1986

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Floyd Abrams

Executive Director
Karen Kennerly

6 Jan. '86

Dear Norman Mailer—

I greatly appreciate the "special guest" invitation to the PEN Congress. But exigencies here at home and the width of travel between this coast and yours are against my coming. All good luck with the event; the sheer fact that it's happening is your first triumph, and the others will duly follow, next week.

sincerely

International PEN:
an association of writers
-poets, playwrights, essayists,
editors, novelists—with centers
in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia
and the Americas.
CONGRESS SCHEDULE

Saturday January 11
Arrival of Foreign Delegates and Guests of Honor
3:00-9:00 Registration, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz (Registration is open throughout the week. After Sunday, Registration will move to the PEN Office in the Terrace Penthouse, 32nd floor, St. Moritz.)

Sunday January 12
9:00-4:00 Registration, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
4:30 Buses leave for the New York Public Library
5:00-6:00 Opening Ceremony, South Reading Room, New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street
6:00-8:00 Welcoming Reception, Astor Hall, New York Public Library

Monday January 13
9:00-11:30 General Literary Session I, "How Does the State Imagine?" (part 1), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
9:00-11:30 Special Literary Session, "Translation: Translating Whitman," Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
12:30-2:00 Public Readings, Saint Peter's Church, Lexington Avenue and 54th Street
1:30-3:45 General Literary Session II, "How Does the State Imagine?" (part 2), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
1:30-3:45 Special Literary Session, "Problems of the Theatre" (part 1), Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
1:30-3:45 Special Literary Session, "Criticism," Sky Garden, 31st floor, St. Moritz
4:00-5:00 Readings, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
5:10 Buses leave for Gracie Mansion
5:30-7:00 Reception for foreign guests, Gracie Mansion, East End Avenue and 88th Street

Tuesday January 14
9:00-12:00 Assembly 1, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
9:00-11:30 General Literary Session III, "Alienation and the State" (part 1), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
9:00-11:30 Special Literary Session, "Children's Literature and the Imagination of the Child," Sky Garden, 31st floor, St. Moritz
12:30-2:00 Public Readings, Saint Peter's Church
1:00-4:00 Assembly 2, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
1:30-3:45 General Literary Session IV, "Alienation and the State" (part 2), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
4:00-5:30 Readings, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
8:00- Public Poetry Reading, Cooper Union, 7 East 7th Street (at Third Avenue)

Wednesday January 15
9:00-12:00 Assembly 3, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
9:00-11:30 General Literary Session V, "Problems of National Identity" (part 1), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
9:00-11:30 Special Literary Session, "Science Fiction," Sky Garden, 31st floor, St. Moritz
12:30-2:00 Public Readings, Saint Peter's Church
1:00-4:00  Assembly 4, Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
1:30-3:45  General Literary Session VI, "Problems of National Identity" (part 2), Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
1:30-3:45  Special Literary Session, "Censorship in the U.S.A.," Sky Garden, 31st floor, St. Moritz
4:00-5:30  Readings, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
6:00  Buses leave for Metropolitan Museum of Art
6:30-8:30  Reception, Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Temple of Dendur, Sackler Wing, Fifth Avenue and 82nd Street

Thursday January 16

9:00-11:30  General Literary Session VII, "In Opposition," Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
9:00-11:30  Special Literary Session, "American Fiction and Poetry," Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
9:00-11:30  Special Literary Session, "Translation: The National and the International," Sky Garden, 31st floor, St. Moritz
12:30-2:00  Public Readings, Saint Peter's Church
1:30-3:45  General Literary Session VIII, "The Utopian Imagination," Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
1:30-3:45  Special Literary Session, "Problems of the Theatre" (part 2), Quadrille Ballroom, lower lobby, St. Moritz
4:00-5:30  Readings, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
9:00-  Readings, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House

Friday January 17

9:00-11:30  General Literary Session IX, "The Statesman's View of the Imagination of the State," Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
12:30-2:00  Public Readings, Saint Peter's Church
1:30-3:45  General Literary Session X, Summation, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
4:00-5:30  Closing Session, Casino on the Park, main floor, Essex House
8:00-  Farewell Banquet, all public rooms, St. Moritz

RSVP

Please RSVP, by letter or telephone, to Helen Graves at PEN American Center. If you are a PEN member, you will soon receive (if you have not already) a general PEN mailing containing Congress information and registration forms. Since as a Special Guest you need not pay to attend the congress, please ignore the registration forms.

GUIDE TO CONGRESS EVENTS

The Assembly Meetings of the Delegates conduct the business of International PEN, and are customarily attended only by the two official delegates from each PEN Center.

Ten General Literary Sessions will address the theme of the Congress, The Writer's Imagination and the Imagination of the State. In the PEN tradition, our foreign guests of honor will be the main participants in this series of discussions.

Special Literary Sessions will address issues not directly related to the Congress theme but of interest to participants. Sessions scheduled to date are: "Translation: National and International," "Translating Whitman," "American Fiction and Poetry," "Children's Literature and the Imagination of the State," as well as panels on the theatre, science fiction, Hispanic-American literature, and censorship in the U.S.A.

Readings featuring our foreign guests of honor and delegates will be scheduled throughout the Congress week.

Please note that all events will be attended only by PEN members and Special Guests, with the exception of the public readings. Special Guests may bring a spouse or date to the Welcoming Reception on Monday, and the Reception at the Metropolitan Museum on Wednesday. Please let us know if you plan to do so.
December 15, 1985

Dear Carol and Ivan,

It was wonderful to hear from you. We have not forgotten you for a minute. Just very busy here, and not writing too many letters! I finished my doctorate in March and started a new job in August as Editor of Alaska Fish & Game, the state conservation magazine. Since all state funding has been removed effective July 1, it's a particularly challenging job— and great fun. I have a poem in the new Pushcart Prize (#10), and am plugging along, trying to get some new work out. Your news is wonderful— The N.E. A. & Cowboy Hall of Fame! I just saw English Creek in its lovely new paperback edition and will be looking forward eagerly to its Trilogy mates. Are you coming to Alaska? Let me
know if so. Our son will be starting Berkeley in January, so we will be making some more trips down that way. Here, it's very dark, as you can imagine, and we had the coldest November ever—a really cruel month—but now it is back to rain.

We hope you have a blessed Christmas and increasing success in the year to come—

With love,

Sheila + Martin
July 10, 1986

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98177

Dear Ivan,

Much enjoyed your review of A COUNTRY YEAR in the Washington Post. It not only did well by a book we published but it did well by your ever-deepening and expanding reputation for writing beautifully whatever you put your hand to. You were even knowledgeable and sensible about the press run and nice to give a nod to the designer.

Hope your own writing is going well. Let me know if you are coming to New York, please.

We have just completed a four-day splendid orgy of celebration having something to do with the Statue of Liberty, independence, liberty itself, and it has left us with statues of Iacocca, Reagan and Sinatra in the harbor. But it was a moment of splendid unity and fine fireworks.

Best,

SV/ah