

20 June '98

Dear Bradley Garrett--

Sorry about the delay in responding, but some travel and a finishing sprint on my next book got in the way of correspondence.

I'm not able to take up the speaking invitation you offer for this fall. As to next spring, I will have a new book out and be traveling on behalf of that, in the "author's tour" that my publisher (Scribner) will arrange. So if that tour, when it's planned, would bring me within range of Fremont, say perhaps to Ann Arbor or Chicago, I could certainly consider your invitation for then. I do warn you that it can be excruciatingly tricky to slot something like this into a tour planned by a publisher's publicity department, but we could try if all other terms are mutually agreeable. On the matter of fee, I'll simply cite you the most recent three fees offered to me, to give you an idea of the range: \$3500, Ashland, Oregon, Chautauqua series; \$4500, Idaho Humanities Commission; \$7500, Portland State U. Please feel free to give me a call, after the 4th of July, if you'd like to proceed with this. Many thanks for thinking of me for your speakers' series.

sincerely,

Nora Drey

Brad Garrett, Librarian Assistant
Fremont Area District Library
104 East Main Street
Fremont, Michigan 49412

June 1, 1998

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

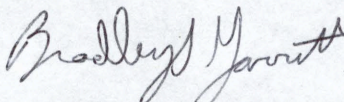
Dear Mr. Doig:

The Fremont Area District Library is in the planning stages of its autumn 1998 Writers Live Program. Each fall and each spring, our library tries to bring in authors that are both renowned and that write on themes of interest to our patrons.

I am contacting you with the hope that you have some availability this fall and would be willing to give a presentation at our library. We have many dates of availability, and we provide travel and lodging expenses. In addition, we provide a negotiable honorarium.

If you are interested and would be able to give a presentation at our library in the fall of 1998, please contact me with your dates of availability and any needs you have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bradley S. Garrett".

Bradley S Garrett
Librarian Assistant

11 April '98

Baldwin
Dear Ben and Jeanne--

I wanted to make sure you got one of these, now that I'm in Medill's Olympian hall of gods with Ben. For an event I didn't ~~gotto~~, this has been a bit of fun: "Absentia is the way to get me there," as I told the Medill External Relations person.

And yesterday, lo, Carol and I lunched with Henry and Leigh Bienen, First Couple of some university along Lake Michigan. Montana was the ostensible connection there, the Bienens summering some each year near Bozeman and having had "This House of Sky" pressed on them by somebody. They have a daughter here and a considerable NU Alum bunch as well, so I gather that they manage to come to Puget Sound 3 or 4 times a year. Anyway, once Prez Bienen's invitation to lunch was finally achieved (I turned that down a couple of times, too, on the necessary basis that if I'm going to be a writer I can't be a professional luncher; I now nearly have the full draft of my next novel, so this time I said okay), he and Leigh proved to be pleasant people. The only bit of Medill tittle-tattle I gleaned to pass along was that Bienen thinks well of Ken Bode, believes he'll be more accessible to the world than Janeway was, which I gathered wouldn't be hard. I did swipe your point about Bode staying on with "Washington Week in Review" and nothing better go wrong at school that night of the week, to see if Bienen would blink; so far, he thinks it's worth it to have Bode out there in a "working journalist" mode.

We're both hale and hearty--Carol is having a good time with retirement--and as you know, the 33rd anniversary of April 17 is coming up. I hereby alert you two and your phone bill that we'll be out of town the 17th and the weekend after, going off to the Olympic Peninsula to celebrate: this will spare you having to congratulate our phone machine! Thanks again for calling when you did about the Medill honor; we hoist toasts to the two of you with each day of lives together, and will do so with a wee dram on the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca on the 17th.

love and fishes,

Alan

RON AND ANN FRANSCCELL

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Gillette WY 82718

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January 26, 1998

Dear Ivan:

A couple years ago, after finishing my first novel, I wrote to you seeking an introduction to your agent, and you politely declined, saying you didn't read writers' works in manuscript form. I found an agent not long after that and embarked on a seemingly endless search for a willing publisher.

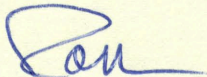
Now that book, ANGEL FIRE, is to be published later this year. I am both excited and humbled by the experience of creating a story and sending it off into the world. And I have a new appreciation for what you must have been feeling when we first met, back in 1980, as you were traveling through Sheridan, Wyo., with "This House of Sky" in the back of your car. I hope I'll soon embark on a similar journey.

ANGEL FIRE is a bit of contemporary literature set in modern-day Wyoming. I know you'll recognize some of the landscape, and perhaps some of the attitudes. The story itself has a sort of mythical rhythm, borrowing themes and patterns from Native American tales, Christian mythology, Arthurian legend and Homer's Odyssey. At its heart is the story of two brothers who leave the small Wyoming town where they grew up and discover a world more dismayingly complex than they ever imagined. As the story unfolds into today, each fights his own war -- one very real, the other internal -- then must find his way back to the Source, where there is redemption ... and the realization that pain is the price we pay for memory.

My agent is currently negotiating the contract, but it looks very good. I am trying to get ahead of the curve by asking you for a blurb early on, partly because I have admired your writing about the West since I met you and partly because I can think of no other author whose words have meant as much to my development as a writer.

Thus, my request: Would you consider writing a blurb for the book? Your reluctance to read manuscripts still rings in my ears, but if you would *consider* it, I can send a manuscript to you. If it's something you don't do as a matter of personal policy, I understand. But I truly hope this is a book you can endorse, for it would mean a lot to me to have you be among the first to read it. Many times while I was writing ANGEL FIRE, I thought about the poetic prose of "This House of Sky" and it gave me a sense of direction that perhaps only we Westerners can appreciate.

Best regards,



Ron Franscell

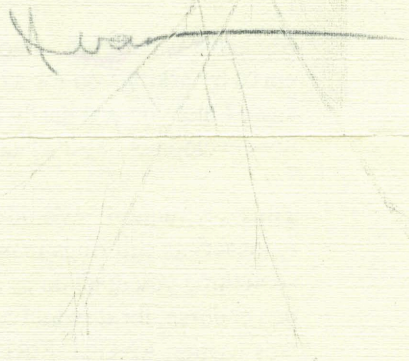
13 Feb. '98

Dear Ron--

Well, now I'm really glad I demurred on your manuscript, as I'm writing a novel of my own about how much people can go home again. Doubtless there's a Tolstoyan sub-clause in literature that all going-home-again book are the same but all good going-home books are good in their own way--but in any case, I'm glad the wires of our manuscripts didn't cross.

As to a blurb: if you're looking at publication '99, when my own stuff will be set in type, your publisher could try me when your book is in galleys, okay? If for some reason (we may be moving to a different house sometime then, for instance) I can't get to reading for a blurb then, don't despair; among other books I never got to were Lonesome Dove and Son of the Morning Star, and see what my absence did for them? Seriously, blurbs can help a little, but the book has to have its own magic...all congratulations on getting yours into the world.

regards,



February 10, 1998

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

Dear Mr. Doig:

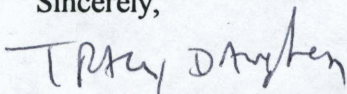
You and I met at Oregon State University when you came here for a reading, and again the night you hosted the Oregon Book Awards ceremony in 1996. I was fortunate enough to win the award in fiction that year, and I appreciated your graciousness that evening.

This fall, Southern Methodist University Press will publish my new novel, *The Boy Orator*. It is an historical novel, set in Oklahoma prior to the First World War, and it concerns the fledgling socialist movement among the farmers and coal miners there. I am writing to ask if you would do me the favor, and the great honor, of looking at the manuscript, and if you felt it worthy, providing some comments for the book jacket. I realize how valuable your time is, and if you are unable to do so, I will certainly understand. I am writing out of great respect for your own historical fiction, particularly *Bucking the Sun*. I share with you a desire to detail the lives of working men and women, and to bring to fiction an awareness of the characters of whole communities as well as individuals.

If you would be willing to look at the manuscript, I can notify my editor and she can send it along to you.

I hope your own work is going well. And I hope we will get a chance to see you again in Corvallis before too long. Thanks so much for your time.

Sincerely,



Tracy Daugherty
2807 Jackson Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 752-4493

12 Feb. '98

Tracy, hi--

Your ms sounds dandy, but I'm working up to the idea of some fiction of my own where the characters look leftward as well as homeward. Mine would probably take place farther north than yours and maybe not in the exact years, but I don't feel right about peeking at another guy's stuff if it's in the same topical neighborhood. So, regrets, but I can't help out on this one. Have you thought of a grand old name such as Tillie Olsen (I think she's still among us?) of "Hey Sailor, What Ship?"

All good luck with the book--we'll see if I get to hand you another prize. Regards to my buddy Bill Robbins if you cross his deanly path.

best,



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