

610 East Chevy Chase Drive, #1  
Glendale, California / 91205

° Monday, October 13, 1975

Dear Arthur:

You have been much in my thoughts since leaving Washington, alas before revisiting Mount Vernon. It is very odd to walk the cool green streets of DC and find oneself tooling around the baked spread of Glendale that same afternoon!

AND I found myself "laying on the horn" in AW-fashion today as I drove to Tom's office and had to laugh, but I think you've got the right idea and I intend blowing a lot more in your honor ... the time in Tom's office (1-7) went by in a wink due to the mail load, the phone calls and this latest flap: the resignation of Joel Tlumak.

Joel isn't well mentally and I'm sad that he's taken this step because of his jealousy<sup>my</sup> over me and expertise in many areas. I'm probably the only one who will care, as I know both Susan and Michael don't like him and he's been a pain-in-the-ass to me all along. Moreover, he's hardly representative on a personal level of the others on the staff -- whereas I, in my maturity and charm could not help but convey a good-to-the-last-drop impression and having a background in graphic<sup>s</sup>, journalism and publicity, should be Joel's logical successor and thus remove a dropped monkey wrench from the machinery's works.

I've felt much the better for attending the conference, even on a fringe level. I'd have taken a lot more pains to dig into facts had I known of Joel's resignation -- so again, I urge that, if you haven't the time to write a story on the convention yourself, maybe you could supply some facts here and there to whatever Tom and I conjure up, since we no doubt will be doing it.

I have no interest in converting the SLR into a Gay Seminar, but it should include topics of interest in that area to be fair -- and it is sad that we didn't mark the free copies in some way so as to learn if the FEDS CONFERENCE resulted in subscribers.

2) If you, in your travels, overhear any comments which may be of help regarding style or make-up of the paper, please let us know. Free from Joel's concepts, I am more than ever anxious to make the paper as attractive visually as it is worthwhile from a content standpoint.

It was great fun to share the time with you, though my gray hair count certainly rose, I fear, as a result of those mad leaps thru the marshlands and the dark of night.

I think your views on the early and "un-brain-washed" sexual attitudes of the Blacks, in contrast to the Whites would be just a perfect article for the SLR Supplement. Why not consider it?

The whole adventure brought out new facets in the character of Tom Coleman. Though it was love-at-first-sight more than a year ago, I've always felt him to be rather mechanized and cold, ruled by a brilliant mind far an advance of his chronological age. But in Washington, he was warm and dear and "nice" which is a word I seldom use since it hardly describes anyone alive today. And I'm more determined than ever to help him achieve his goals if I can in anyway. I happily "adopt" him as the son I've never known.

I worry about you, though envy you your esprit / my God, you do live and that's as it should be. Just be careful, and if you can't, I hope to God you get it all into a book someday!

Speaking of which, I hope you'll keep your eyes out for good books to bring to the attention of the SLR BOOK REVIEW column. Things of considered worth only you would run across perhaps and which you might want to review. Unless that column is valuable, I hardly see it taking up the space from other things.

To the VA this morning to give more blood, my 4th week of draining and this is well over a quart at this point. Five more shots in the back today, all of which hurt, but it could have been my weariness predominating. Will be visiting again tomorrow and Thursday duplicating the routine next week then the study is complete. Met a woman also in the program today.

I'd like to keep in touch with you if I may and would especially like you to read my Gay novel I spent five years writing -- it's

3) light-weight, but commercial (I hope) and I think more than ever, it's attitude is important now, since it creates a picture of charming, talented and "nice" people who just happen to be homosexuals. No wierdo pervertdstuff. It can be read in 4 to 6 hours, though David Sterling has taken days to get to page #39. Left him a copy at the office to entertain himself with between phone calls. Gives you some idea of the heavy phone traffic at Thomasino Schwartzkoff's office.

Again, my thanks for your lovely company and the mad escapades. I especially enjoy your sojourns into history and root-words and so fourth / something, considering my own interest in semantics, I wish you might seriously consider developing into a book!

A young man phoned today whose life was "at an end". He is 21, and Gay and his ex-lover has spilled the beans to everyone including the boys employer, his parents, old school friends, his doctor and so forth. He's being kicked out of his apatment, has lost an \$1100 per month job and he wants to sue the bastard.

I told him to toss aside despair, that my life had drastically altered the day I met Tom Coleman and it was highly possible that his would also. There is a flip-side to every coin, the answers are all in the back-of-the-book and it's a law of the Universe that for every negative there is a positive.

He broke down and said "Thanks, I really needed to hear that..." So we old farts aren't such bad guys after all, maybe!

Love,

*Lush, -*