

CARTON 2:39

WILD TREES PRESS

CORRESPONDENCE

1987-1990

Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, CA 95463
USA
October 29, 1990

The Women's Press, Ltd.
34 Great Sutton Street
LONDON EC1V 0DX
ENGLAND

Dear Friends;

Please be advised that henceforth royalty statements and payments for J. California Cooper and Charlotte Walker (Mendes) should be sent directly to them. As their books are now out of print with our press, all rights have reverted to the authors and we no longer represent them.

Below are their addresses:

J. California Cooper
P.O. Box 8224
Marshall, Texas 75670
USA

Charlotte Walker (Mendez)
P.O. Box 123
Wells Bridge, NY 13859
USA

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Allen
General Manager

Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, CA 95463
October 29, 1990

Ms. J. California Cooper
P.O. Box 8224
Marshall, TX 75670

Dear California;

Enclosed is the latest royalty statement from the Women's Press in London (no check was included). I have written to advise them that henceforth all royalty statements and payments should be sent directly to you.

Hope you are doing well.

WOMEN, INC.

244 Townsend Street
Dorchester, Massachusetts 02121
(617) 442-6166

January 24, 1990

Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, California 95463

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Women, Incorporated, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of books. We were thrilled to get them in the mail today.

As you now know, Women, Incorporated, is a non-profit residential drug and alcohol treatment program. For the past 17 years, we have provided a much needed service to a multi-cultural and multi-racial population of women.

The work that goes on here is so remarkable- women putting their lives back together, women reaching out to each other for support and strength, children watching their mothers get better everyday. Seeing the transformation in women as they move through the program is stunning. When clients first arrive they are usually physically weak, tired and unsteady; when they are ready to leave they are healthy, determined and focussed on working to keep their lives together.

Support from the community, both immediate and extended, is critical, not simply because it provides much needed contributions but also because it lets us know that our services are recognized and appreciate. There is no higher praise to us.

We hope through the generosity of yourself and others, to make a new set of resources available to the women who come here. Your books made a valuable addition.

Again, thank you for your generous contribution. We look forward to your continued interest in Women, Inc.

Sincerely,

Ellen M. Richard

Ellen M. Richard
Treatment Secretary

WOMEN, INC.

244 Townsend Street
Dorchester, Massachusetts 02121
(617) 442-6166

*Sent 5 books
1/16/90*

December 1, 1989

WILD TREES PRESS
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, California 95463

To Whom It May Concern:

I am presently a member of the administrative team at Women, Incorporated, a non-profit residential drug and alcohol treatment program developed by and for women. For the past 17 years we have provided a much needed service to a multi-cultural and multi-racial population of women. Founded in 1973, by a core group of Black women, Women, Inc. remains committed to addressing the particular needs and concerns of women of color and low-income women.

In our program, women learn that as important as the struggle for self-reliance, is the ability to cooperate with and learn from other women. This image of a family of women is reflected in Women, Inc.'s own commitment as an agency to the importance of creating and maintaining community. Through the years, the support of the community in and beyond Boston, has been essential to Women, Inc.'s ability to keep on with this work that will never be complete until the day when no woman is made a slave to drugs.

As part of our on-going improvements we have begun to look towards increasing our community base as well as expanding the possibilities for the women who come here. It is always a challenge to meet the growing needs of the inner-city community given the scrambling for funds that is the fast approaching hallmark of agencies such as our own.

It is my understanding, from prior contacts with your press, that it is possible to receive donated or reduced cost books for non-profit agencies such as our own. We would very much appreciate being able to make available to our clients some of the many fine books/pamphlets you publish. Please let us know if this is possible. If you've any questions, feel free to contact me Monday-Friday, 9-4 PM at the above number.

Thank you,

Ellen M. Richard

Ellen M. Richard
Treatment Secretary



BookCrafters

Let them
stay

June 29, 1989

Ms. Nancy Austin
Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, CA 95463

We would appreciate your assistance in updating the status of the negatives in storage at BookCrafters. We need your response to decide which negatives to destroy, return or hold for future reprints.

If your titles have printed or reprinted within the last three years, the negatives will be stored at no charge unless you know that a reprint is not likely and you'd like to have these negatives destroyed or returned to you. Please so indicate on the form.

For any negatives that have not been used within the last three years, the period of free storage is over. At this point, you have three choices:

1. If the negatives are no longer needed, we will dispose of them.
2. The negatives can be sent to you. The \$25 per title charge will cover removing from storage, packing for shipment and standard service UPS postage within the continental U.S. Your payment can be sent to us along with this form. Negatives will be shipped in 2-3 weeks.
3. The negatives can remain in storage at an annual storage rate of \$48 per title. This charge may be waived if a reprint is pending. Let us know on the form if you'd like reprint prices sent to you.

Please sign the form and indicate what should be done for each title. If a purchase order is required, send it with the form. All forms should be returned to us by July 28, 1989. We will be invoicing for negatives over three years old that remain here after that date.

Sincerely,

Karen Adelman

Karen Adelman
Account Executive

KA/mjm
Enclosure

Kathy

415 948-6338

06/20/89

BOOKCRAFTERS, INC
NEGATIVES - MICHIGAN DIVISION

PAGE: 1

627-142 WILD TREES PRESS
P.O. BOX 378

0341

NAVARRO, CA
415-893-7914

95463

The titles below have printed or reprinted within the last three years.
Negatives will be stored at BookCrafters unless they are no longer needed
for reprints, then indicate 'RETURN' or 'DESTROY'.

JOB #	TITLE	LAST PRINTING	LOCN	RETURN	DEST	STORE
74289	A PIECE OF MIND	02/25/88	74F49			
73694	THE SPIRIT JOURNEY	01/20/88	74-49			

Is Purchase Order needed to return your negatives Yes No
If yes, enclose a copy.

Authorized Signature _____ Dated _____

Please make any corrections to the address information. If your company name
or ownership of the title has changed, please explain fully on your letterhead.
If negatives are to be returned, please send \$25 per title, which includes
packing, handling and standard service UPS postage within the continental U.S.

Return this form to us by July 28, 1989

Street address for UPS delivery
of negatives being returned:

Send me reprint prices for the
following titles:

For Office Use Only:

Approval _____
Shipment via Prepaid UPS/Other _____

Payment Enclosed _____
Release No. _____

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mark**
AN AMERICAN GREETINGS COMPANY



© PLUS MARK, INC.
+ 14804-6A +



Merry Christmas Robert,
Have a
wonderful Christmas!

My research is going well -
on my very fertile ground.
Robin loves law school and is
doing quite well. She's setting up
appointments for interviews with law
firms in D.C. for an internship this
summer. She & her friend are on the
verge of announcing their engagement.
He's divine. Happy New Year -
Love



Robert Allen
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, Calif. 95463

June Murray Bell
2804-C Bairbridge Drive
Durham, NC 27713

October 12, 1988

Guy & Candie Carawan
RFD 3, Box 370
New Market, TN 37820

Dear Guy & Candie:

Thank you for sending us copies of your correspondence with Cynthia Brown. You certainly have our permission to include the two excerpts from Ready from Within in your book, Ain't You Got a Right to the Tree of Life? We wish you much success with the book.

Thank you also for sending us your two song books. We know the books and your work well, and under other circumstances we would have been very happy to discuss reprinting them. Unfortunately, we have decided to discontinue Wild Trees Press. The demands of running a small press are more than we can cope with, and still hope to have time for our own work. We are happy to have published the books that we did, and there are several others, including yours, that we would have liked to have published -- but we've had to be realistic about how much time is available for the projects we are pursuing. We're very sorry that this is so, for it would have been a joy to publish your songs.

We hope that you will be able to find a publisher for the song books. In any case, we thank you from our hearts for your songs and your spirits.

Best wishes,

Alice Walker

Robert Allen

October 3, 1988

Robert Allen / Alice Walker
Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, CA 95463

Dear friends,

We wrote to you recently concerning the reissue of a book we did about the South Carolina sea islands, Ain't You Got a Right to the Tree of Life? We were requesting permission to quote two short pieces from Septima Clark in Ready from Within.

This letter concerns a different project. You may be familiar with the enclosed books which we put together during the days of the civil rights movement. These books have been out of print for a number of years and we would like very much to get them back in circulation -- particularly now with the renewed interest in that period of history. Many of these songs fed into the "Eyes on the Prize" series, and just recently you may have seen the PBS special on "We Shall Overcome."

We're wondering if Wild Trees Press would consider republishing these collections. We have thought about three possibilities for bringing them out again -- a single volume containing the two books; a compilation of the best material from each; or two separate reprints. (We enclose a table of contents from a compilation we have put together.) We own the negatives from the original printing of both books. We went through a long process of letters and phone calls to obtain them from Music Sales, the company that took over Oak Publications. We do not know the condition of the negatives, but we do have them boxed up in a large cardboard tube. We also have the original photographs from the second volume.

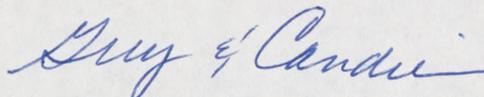
We are aware that Pete Seeger, with Robert Reiser, is bringing out a collection of freedom songs along with his own personal remembrances on Norton this Spring. He has drawn 32 of the 38 songs from our two songbooks. He will credit the books of course, but we would like for him to be able to say these books will be available again. We feel our books really give context to the songs and that this material can still be very valuable to people.

A final note: any author's royalties from a reprinting of the books will go to the "We Shall Overcome Fund" which is administered by Highlander but

controlled by a board of directors including Bernice Reagon, Faye Bellamy, and other activists from the civil rights movement. It supports community cultural projects in keeping with the spirit of the song.

Please let us know if you are interested in this project. We also welcome any suggestions you may have. Once you have considered the books, we would appreciate getting them back. We own very few copies of them ourselves -- particularly Freedom is a Constant Struggle.

many warm regards and good wishes,



Guy & Candie Carawan
RFD 3, Box 370
New Market, TN 37820

615-933-7647

p.s. I still remember sitting next to Alice at the tribute to Septima Clark and Rosa Parks in San Francisco a few years ago. We wonder if she would consider writing something about the experience of singing in the movement or the importance of music. It would be a powerful addition.

FOR COMPOSITE VERSION:

(one possibility)
This goes up through the Selma March

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preface to the new edition

introduction

SIT-INS

We Shall Overcome

I'll Be All Right

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize

We Are Soldiers

I'm Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table

I'm On My Way to the Freedom Land

They Go Wild Over Me

How Did You Feel?

Everybody Sing Freedom

You'd Better Leave Segregation Alone

Dog, Dog

I Know

Moving On

Ballad of the Student Sit-Ins

FREEDOM RIDES

Which Side Are You On?

Freedom's Coming and it Won't Be Long

Get Your Rights, Jack

If You Miss Me From the Back of the Bus

Hully Gully

Hallelujah I'm A-Travelin'

Buses are A-Comin' Oh Yes

Parchman Parodies

ALBANY, GEORGIA

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round

Come and Go With Me to that Land

Oh Pritchett, Oh Kelly

Oh Freedom

Certainly Lord

I'm So Glad

Over My Head

VOTER REGISTRATION

Come By Here

Guide My Feet

Get On Board, Little Children

We'll Never Turn Back

Ballad of Herbert Lee

Woke Up This Morning With My Mind on Freedom

Fighting for my Rights

Been Down Into the South

We Got a Thing Goin' On

I GOT ON MY TRAVELING SHOES

Traveling Shoes
Great Day for Me
Ninety-Nine and a Half Won't Do
Birmingham Sunday
We've Got a Job
We're Gonna March in St. Augustine Tonight
I Love Everybody
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Legend of Danville
Demonstrating G.I.
Oginga Odinga
The Prophecy of a SNCC Field Secretary
You Should Have Been There
Go Ahead
Nothing But a Soldier

FREEDOM IS A CONSTANT STRUGGLE

Freedom Train A 'Comin'
I Want My Freedom
I Ain't Scared O' Your Jail
Father's Grave
Carry it On
Go Tell it on the Mountain
Freedom is a Constant Struggle

OH WALLACE, YOU NEVER CAN JAIL US ALL

Do What the Spirit Say Do
Berlin Wall
Right! Right!
Another Day's Journey
Which Side Are You On?
Oh Wallace, You Never Can Jail Us All
Murder on the Road in Alabama
Way Over Yonder
Freedom Now
Up Above My Head
The Movement's Moving On

THE MOVEMENT'S MOVING ON
This Little Light of Mine



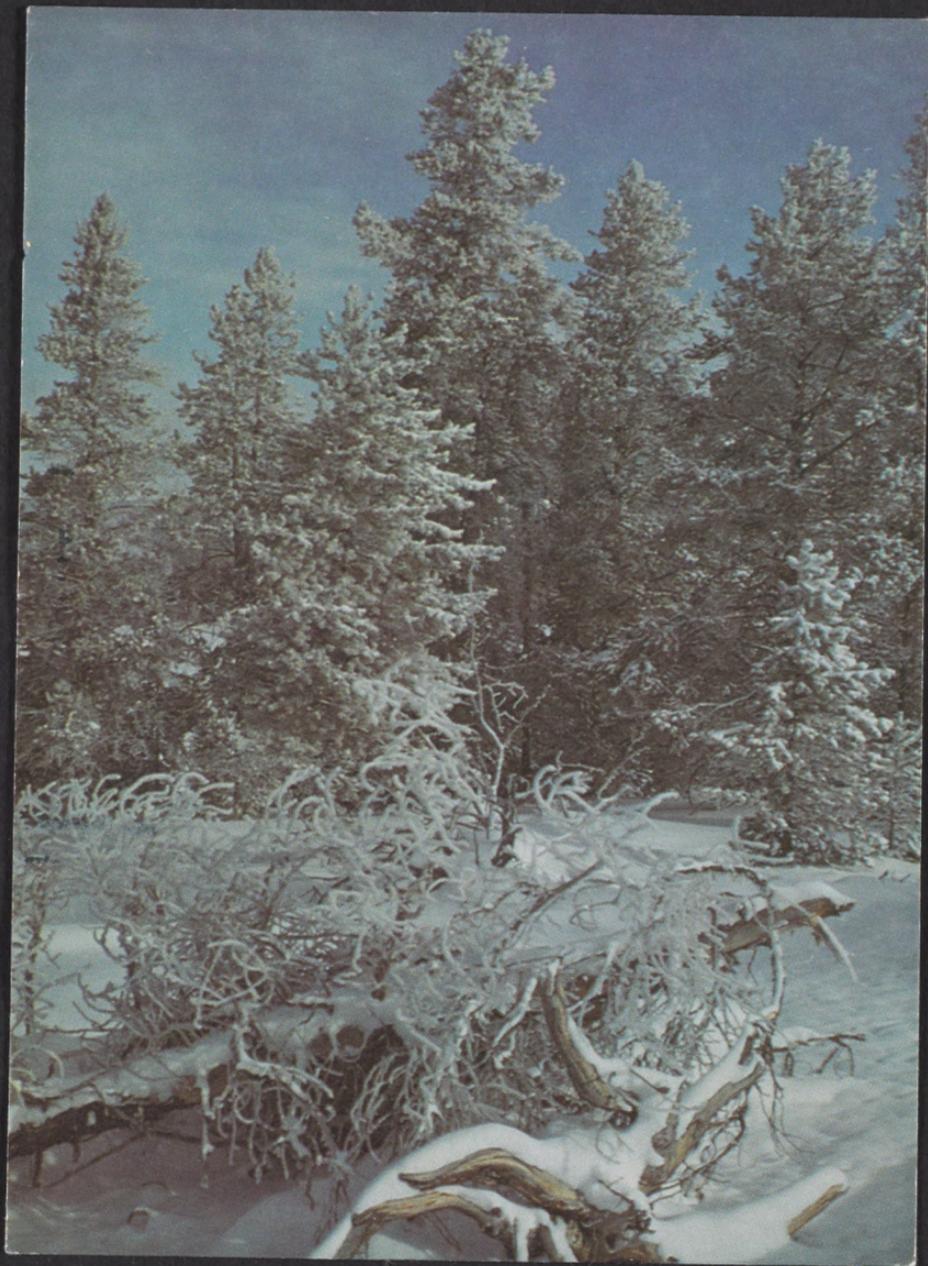
*Wild Trees Press
P.O. Box 378
Navarro, Ca*

95463



"The Great Day in Elk" was
a big success) and your
donation of four books
of your publications and
a signed 1986 Alice Walker
calendar was greatly ap-
preciated. Thank you very
much.

Prue Wilcox (for
the Greenwood Community Center)



SEIZOME Washington
2911 Arthur Kill Road
Statens ISL., NY 10309



Alice - on 6/7 I was
transferred to this place
in NYC to be "programmed"
(again) for release
later this year -
no privacy, so I'll
have to find space
to finish my new
book - will also have
two short plays staged
in the fall. I feel
better here than
behind the wall - Seizome

GIBSON GREETING CARDS, INC., CINCINNATI, OHIO 45237 • MADE IN U.S.A.



Ms Alice Walker

PO Box 378

NAVARRO, CA

95463

Box 654
Mendocino, CA 95460
July 2, 1988

Dear Alice and Robert:

I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed *READY FROM WITHIN*. Of course I had heard of Septima Clark, but had no idea the extent of her work in the civil rights movement. A very nicely done book, too, and in format it certainly reminded me of *WALK IN MY FOOTSTEPS*. Fascinating, isn't it, that we both found our way to Edwards Brothers?

I used Edwards Brothers for the first set of books we published at New Day Press back in 1970. We produced a set of what were really six pamphlets for elementary school children on pre-Civil War black history. There was simply nothing available for kids at that time, and the first set was produced for the East Cleveland school system as supplementary reading material.

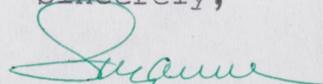
At the time, I was co-teaching a writers workshop at Karamu House with Black poet, Norman Jordan, who was then playwright in residence at Karamu. The stories which made up Series I came from that workshop. New Day published a second set of stories for children in the mid-seventies; then a book called *BLACKS IN OHIO*; a book of poetry by and for kids called *IF A POEM BOTHERS YOU*; and finally *WALK IN MY FOOTSTEPS*. The Press is really richer than it has ever been at the moment, and is now preparing another book, tentatively called *THE BLACK IMAGE MAKERS*.

I've told my New Day colleagues back in Cleveland about *Wild Trees*, and they will probably be writing to you. They may even suggest some joint marketing efforts. They work extensively through school systems and libraries.

It was a pleasure reading the beautiful *TO HELL WITH DYING*, too. I've respected your work for such a long time, Alice. I have two days off a week from the shop and have been able to get back to my own writing. We moved to Mendocino last December and are happy to be here. It's a real joy to be surrounded by all this, even though making a living takes most of our time.

Many thanks again for *READY FROM WITHIN*.

Sincerely,


Suzanne Hartman

*P.S. Was that Belvie Rooks sitting beside you, Robert?
If so, hello to her, too.*

HORSES MAKE A LANDSCAPE MORE BEAUTIFUL - Alice Walker (Harcourt, Brace...)

HORSES MAKE A LANDSCAPE MORE BEAUTIFUL reminds us that before she became known as a novelist, Walker was a great poet; HORSES reaffirms that she still is. She comes at you straight from the heart, and with poems like "Mississippi Winter V," scores heavily with non-badgering feminist themes:

My father and mother both
used to warn me
that 'a whistling woman and a crowing
hen would surely come to
no good end.' And perhaps I should
have listened to them.
But even at the time I knew
that though my end probably might
not
be good
I must whistle
like a woman undaunted
until I reached it.

FIELDS - Harry Brody (Raccoon)

This is another stunningly gorgeous book, the results of David Spicer and Diana Taylor. Truthfully, for me, the contents don't live up to the packaging, though Brody has skill, plus a balanced amount of humor to make him interesting. Occasionally, he's brilliant. "Fathers-1945":

The Jews board the train,
become faces in a window,
black beards full of nostrils.
...There is no city
for the gold of their teeth.
Fathers carry what is flammable
of their children to the furnace.
How does one say,
A pillar of smoke is rising
in Hebrew?

BODIES OF WATER - Sarah Lindsay (Unicorn Press)

BODIES OF WATER was discussed in detail by my wife and I, the basic agreement being Lindsay is a poet to watch, but for now, is bogged down in her imagism and lack of subject material. From "The Study Of Fossils":

Coelacanth
...They are too ugly to arc from polished board
over a whiskygold hearth,
too strangely named to slap in batter,
awkward celebrities -
breastless, untalkative, unlikely
to piss on Carson's desk.
Pets should not have such teeth.

-over-

MISCELLANEOUS
Volume 1, Number 3
JULY 1957
HOMER MADE A LANGUAGE MORE BEAUTIFUL - Alice Walker (excerpt, 1957)

My father and mother both
used to warn me
that a whistling woman and a crowing
hen would surely come to
no good end. And perhaps I should
have listened to them.
But even at the time I knew
that though my and probably also
not
to go
I must whistle
like a woman undressed
until I reached it.

WILSON - Betty Brady (excerpt)

This is another strikingly different book - the results of David Solov and
Klaus Taylor. Frankly, for me, the concepts don't live up to the
packaging, though Brady has skill, plus a balanced amount of humor to make
his interesting. Occasionally, he's brilliant. (1957-1958)

A.W. -

Heard you were on hand for
the Willson tragedy - - - how sad
FOR EVERYONE! Willson used to
live in Chelsea, Vt, about 15 miles
from here. Vermont suffers for
him. He's got guts.

Don Martin

Burroughs, Gary Snyder, Michael McClure, Graham (& some of Elyse) Everett, Robert Creeley, Robert Duncan and Jerome Rothenberg. Excellent visuals by a top notch photographer.

APPLEZABA PRESS BOOKLIST: 1987 - d.h. lloyd, Editor/Publisher (Applezaba)

This booklist is not the sorta thing I'd normally include for review, but the press is celebrating its 10th birthday and you Bukowski freaks might like to get in on the Buk books offered, plus a couple of Buk posters done by underground legend R. Crumb.

KING OF THE BEATNIKS - Arthur W. Knight (Water Row Press)

And if you think this is about Maynard G. Krebs, move along to the next review please. Yes, it's Jack and Neal again and you could say "So What?" without fear of guilt, except that the Beats were/are solely responsible for the current trend toward a less academic style of poetry and prose; they were bold adventurers of both literary and social circles. This is a 3-act play that neatly parallels the dying Old West (one of the character's names is Jesse Younger) with the not-so-pretty fading of human lives. The lead characters, John Duhon, Younger and a third named Logan, smack of Kerouac, Cassady and Gregory Corso, and their desperate struggle to understand their own ending makes for haunting, if sometimes chilling reading. This ain't "Route 66", folks; this is reality, and Knight captures it as someone who's been there. Someday this will be a classic.

UNICORN PRESS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY CATALOGUE (Unicorn Press)

This catalogue is worth note if for no other reason than the fact that 20 years in small press is amazin' in itself. Major names include James Tate, Joseph Bruchac, Theo Savory, Thomas Merton, Robert Bly and Muriel Rukeyser.

THE SAMISDAT READER - Merritt Clifton, Editor (Samisdat)

An update of a book that simply stands alone in helping you to start and maintain your very own press. Few know the printing trade better than Clifton. He tells you you're nuts to try, but if you must, this is how he (and SAMISDAT) has survived for 15 years! He pulls no punches, writes with a broad sense of humor, and the end result can be a successful press.

FICTION

CONDOR AND HUMMINGBIRD - Charlotte Mendez (Wild Trees Press)

A PIECE OF MINE - J. California Cooper

ESCAPE FROM BILLY'S BAR-B-QUE - Joanne Brasil

CONDOR is a fine book, albeit a somewhat obvious good-doer theme, as three women pull together to spring a child from servitude in Bogota. Despite the feminist angle presented by Mendez, CONDOR boils down to white hats versus an Evil, and the white hats winning. Come to think of it, maybe we need more white hats these days, huh?

As one of the blurbs says, J. California Cooper smacks of the ethnically rich writings of the late Zora Neale Hurston, one of the first short story writers I ever read. Cooper's short stories are vivid, sometimes fun, and

always presenting a framework of characters and space in which the reader can draw their own conclusions and pass their own judgments. This is Black Experience that gently nudges you, while carefully opening gates in fences that never belonged. I was charmed from beginning to end.

Joanne Brasil is fun to read and that's almost all I should say, except that her writing style is from inside her heroine's head, her pace is breezy and has you constantly rooting for her Cecyl as she tries to make it in the world, the Real World, and maybe Cecyl is sort of a hip "That Girl," but you probably won't pause long enough to notice anyway. A thoroughly enjoyable read.

FLIGHT TO FREEDOM - F.N. Wright (Applezaba)

This book could also be titled BURN OUT, as it is the Kerouacian tale of Sam Seabolt who, during the rambunctious '60's, dumps an Illinois life as a drunken slob/husband/father, to split for California and be a...uh... drunken/stoned slob. And a writer. I think I'm supposed to like Sam but I don't. I was there in the '60's and saw a lot of Sam Seabolts and the occasional Jack Kerouac or Rambling Jack Elliots amongst them were few. As an unintentional reminder that life is often what you make it, not what it makes of you, Sam is the sadness of a self-made prison and no one left to blame it on.

Support small press cuz if you're reading this you're probably a part of it. And whenever possible, PURCHASE a sample copy to help save postage and time all the way around. In short, learn your markets; look for mags and newsletters that review/network a lot. Still accepting homeless books seeking reviews (also money, food stamps, silver coins, bags of gold, photos of nude frogs, etc.) at: 5 Pleasant Street, Randolph, Vermont 05060. See you in the contents.

D. Roger Martin



The Women's Foundation

3543 Eighteenth Street
San Francisco, California 94110

Telephone: (415) 431-1290
September 16, 1987

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Wild Trees Press
PO Box 378
Navarro CA 95463

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to thank you once again for your support of The Women's Foundation with your recent and very generous contribution of \$67.66 from sales for "Ready From Within" via our newsletter.

Empowerment is what we look for in the programs we fund. We support organizations which enable low-income women and girls to become self-sufficient, productive contributors to their own lives and to our society.

These funded programs range from girls' clubs to immigrant and refugee projects to programs for women over 60 -- and everything in between!

Thank you for making this commitment -- your gift helps make dreams come true. We hope you will continue your support of feminist philanthropy.

Sincerely,

MARYA GRAMBS
Co-Director

February 10, 1987

Azel Jones
4901 Plaza Way
Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Azel,

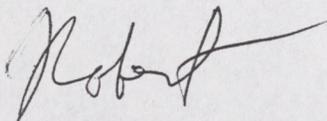
Enclosed is a letter releasing you from the contract for GEKIJO WINTER. Congratulations on the acceptance by PLAYERS; I hope this letter will meet your needs in dealing with them.

For your records I have also enclosed a 1099 form for the \$2,000 fee.

I know you are pleased that Christina is doing well at Stanford. Stanford is not an easy school. Her successes there are a great victory and you are right to be proud of her.

I'm sorry that we couldn't carry through with the publishing project. It was a disappointment for all of us. Your manuscript documents an amazing experience, and I'm sure that as you continue working on this material it will find its best form and the right publisher.

Best wishes to you and your family.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

alice walker
publisher

ROBERT allen
general manager

February 10, 1987

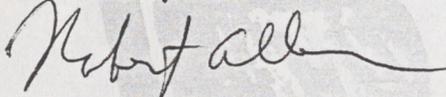
Mr. Azel Jones
4901 Plaza Way
Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Mr. Jones:

As per our recent telephone conversation I must regretfully confirm that we will not be able to publish your book, Gekijo Winter. We had hoped to publish it this year, but unexpected legal difficulties make it impossible for us to continue with the project. We are therefore formally releasing you from our contract.

Your book is really quite remarkable and we hope that you will be successful in finding another publisher.

Sincerely,



Robert Allen

AZEL JONES
4901 Plaza Way
Richmond, Ca. 94804

February 2, 1987

WILD TREES PRESS
P. O. Box 378
Navarro, Ca. 95463

Dear Robert and (hopefully) Alice,

I was pleased and a little surprised to receive your letter. It was very kind of you to convert the loan to a fee. Thank you for your consideration. Christina is doing well at Stanford. She complains about the work load but she is well on her way to the Dean's list this semester, of that, I am sure.

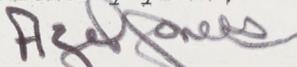
Beyond that I am pleased to tell you that PLAYERS magazine finally decided to buy the excerpt. (a copy of their letter is attached.) Their acceptance does put me in somewhat of a bind because the initial proposal was that they work in tandem with my publisher. With that in mind, I would appreciate it if you would write me a letter of release that would attest to our former relationship and give the reasons for your change of heart. I think that would be useful, both in dealing with PLAYERS and perhaps in expediting my search for a new publisher. Also as a practical matter, I will need a release before I can enter into a contract with someone else.

I pray that you and Alice will change your minds and continue with the project as we first envisioned it. While I have nothing but the upmost regard for you and Alice, I must admit that I am extremely disappointed at the decision you made and the rationale that you chose to employ for making it. In my view, the highest consideration should always be the validity of the work, be that art or anything else! Law suits, other people's standards and anxieties have little to do with any artist's or person's responsibility to their craft! I am saddened that you have allowed these things to creep into your priorities.

Moving forward, I thank you for what you have done and I won't ask again for your help on this project. I would appreciate the release as soon as is possible. If you wish to discuss this over the phone, my home phone is out, but you can reach me at work (415-523-5100) between the hours of nine to five.

Until I see you again, God willing, I remain,

Artfully yours,


Azel Jones, Writer

PLAYERS

PLAYERS INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS 8060 MELROSE AVENUE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90046 / phone (213) 653-806

Azel Jones
4901 Plaza Way
Richmond, CA. 94804

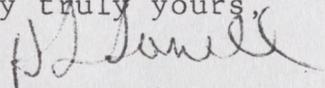
1/19/87

Dear Mr. Jones,

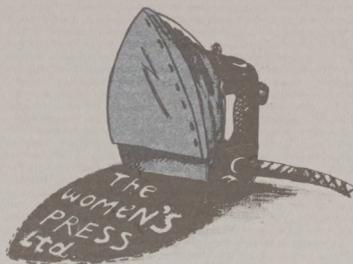
It gives me great pleasure to inform you that we've decided to print the excerpt from your book, "Gekijo Winter: Diary Of A Shuru Kuru Dancer" in PLAYERS magazine.

In order to maximize the publicity value to you, it would be helpful if you sent us the name of the publishing house that has printed the book. You can expect a Purchase Order in the mail in the near future. The amount will be determined by how much of the excerpt we use. Thanks for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



H.L. Sorrell,
Editor



The Women's Press Ltd

34 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DX Telephone 01-251 3007

23 January 1987

Robert Allen
Wild Trees Press
Box 378
Navarro
CA 95463
USA

Dear Robert

This is just to tell you that we thought your **READY FROM WITHIN** by Septima Clark was a lovely book, but not something the Women's Press can handle. We did think of suggesting some of the small political black presses in this country, as possible alternative publishers, but if I understand it rightly, your book is written by a white woman - or rather, edited and introduced by a white woman. And at the moment, I think that that would not go down with any of the presses I had in mind. But I do hope you do really well with the book.

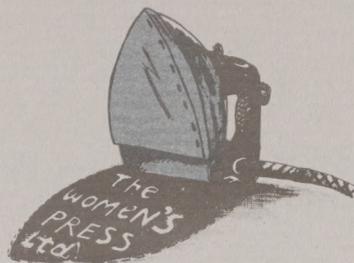
Warm wishes to you and to Alice - we'll be in touch again about other things.

Yours,

Ros

Ros de Lanerolle

P.S. May I keep the copy, & pass it on to someone else if appropriate? There are various book distributors here who might be interested.



The Women's Press Ltd

34 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DX Telephone 01-251 3007

Work: (as above)
Home: 01-228 7089

12/1/87

Dear Robert,

I'm trying to contact you by phone, but in case I don't get through, I'm writing to ask if we could use the same illustration for 'Condor & Hummingbird' as you have. As I don't know how large the original is, would it be possible for you to send us as soon as possible either the original artwork, or a colour-corrected transparency, made professionally and if possible at least 5" x 4".

We're having snow & ice, but the post seems to be getting through, except from Kent & Essex. No problem from the USA!

Best wishes for the New Year —

Suzanne Perkins
(Art Director)