

It was good to hear from you, though I am of course sorry that UDOMO has to go out of print. But I do see your problem and sympathise with it. This presumably means that all rights in the book would revert back to me? I am not quite clear on just what is involved in letting a book go out of print, but there is no urgency so let the question ride until there is need to write at some later date. I hope that the drastic reduction of your list will not make it totally impossible for new young writers for whom getting started is in any case much more difficult than it was twenty years ago; and then, too, I still have one or two more books to get out of my system. I hope too that even in retirement you will still maintain your interest in publishing; it would be strange for me to have to deal with anybody else after all these years! Still, I am sure you have amply earned the right to get away from it all. I have now cut down to three radio commentaries a week, which give time for a little farming but not for the kind of sustained writing a book needs, but that too will come. We keep on making plans to travel but all our plans are frustrated by our responsibilities for the animals we inherited from our children: there is a Jenny, a seventeen-year-old tom cat, and three Labradors; and we find it hard to entrust them to anybody else's care. It all makes life most interesting and enjoyable while inhibiting our freedom to travel. But all things change and I am sure that one day we will be able to travel and perhaps we would meet again then.

As ever

July 3, 1986

Ad. Donker Ltd
P.O.Box 41021
Craighall
2024 South Africa

Sir,

I refer to your letter of June 19 1986 concerning an anthology to be edited by Professor M. Chapman.

I do not wish anything written by me and over which I exercise permission rights to be reproduced by any South African publisher.

This is in keeping with the United Nations call for a cultural boycott of South Africa as an expression of opposition to Apartheid.

You have, I think, had a similar response from my British publishers last October to a request concerning an extract from Dark Testament. Please therefore regard this refusal as covering all my work for as long as Apartheid prevails.

Yours etc

cc Miss Mavis E. Pindard
Permissions Manager
Faber & Faber Ltd



AD. DONKER

PUBLISHER / UITGEWER

Delta House · 111 Central Street/- straat · Houghton · Johannesburg · 2196 · South Africa
P.O. Box/Posbus 41021 · Craighall · 2024 · South Africa Telephone/Telefoon (011) 728-7121/2
DR/AD/HC

19 June 1986

Mr Peter Abrahams
Coyaba
Red Hills P O
St. Andrew
Jamaica

Dear Mr Abrahams,

We are in the process of preparing for publication a new anthology of South African poetry, edited by Professor M Chapman of the University of Natal.

He would like to include two of your poems, 'SELF' and 'OLD AND NEW'.

A fee of R10,00 per page and a copy of the book is offered in return.

We hope you would like to be part of this anthology in which every major South African English poet will be represented.

If you have any objections, would it be possible to let us know this immediately?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,


Ad. DONKER

April 25, 1956.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

The circular letter I am enclosing will, I hope, explain adequately the policy and purpose of 'Africa South'. I include a list of those who have so far agreed to sponsor and write for the Quarterly, that you may measure the extent of the South African support behind it.

The Rt. Rev. R.A.Reeves.
Mr. Alex Hepple M.P.
Mrs. Jessie McPherson.
Mr. H. Davidoff M.P.
Mr. Leo Lovell M.P.
Senator W.Ballinger.

Margaret Ballinger M.P.

Mr. L. Lee-Warden M.P.

Mr. Patrick Duncan.
Dr. Ellen Hellmann.

Dr. A.W.Hoernle.

Professor J.S.Marais.

Professor E.Harris.

Professor Guy Butler.

Professor Leo Kuper.

Rev. H.P. Junod.

Mrs. R.S.Welsh.

The Bishop of Johannesburg.
Leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party.
Chairman of the South African Labour Party.
Labour Member of Parliament.
Labour Member of Parliament.
Liberal Party Senator representing the
Africans of the Transvaal and Free State.
Liberal Member of Parliament representing
the Africans of the Eastern Cape.
Independent Member of Parliament represent-
ing the Africans of the Western Cape.

1955 President of the South African
Institute of Race Relations.
Ex-President of the South African Institute
of Race Relations.
Historian and Professor of History at the
University of the Witwatersrand.
Professor of Philosophy at the University
of the Witwatersrand.
Poet and Professor of English at Rhodes
University.
Professor of Sociology at the University
of Natal.
Organizer of the South African Penal
Reform League.
Writer and Lecturer in Economics at the
University of the Witwatersrand.

I have approached the Presidents of the African National Congress, the South African Indian Congress, and the South African Coloured People's Organization to sponsor the magazine in their official capacities and I await their replies. I hope that eventually the Sponsorship Committee will represent all those groups in South Africa fighting at present to establish a real multi-racial democracy in this country.

We are very anxious to see established similar Committees in England and America. Mr. John Hatch, Mr. Basil Davidson, and Mr. Colin Legum of 'The Observer', have so far agreed to join an English Sponsorship Committee and write for the Quarterly. Mr. Clement Davies has written to me expressing his very great interest and promising to do what he can when he returns from his visit to Israel. I have approached a number of others, but do not wish to anticipate their replies. Would you be prepared, do you think, to join such a Committee? We should feel deeply honoured if you would. By publicising the official interest of influential people overseas, we hope to persuade the general reading public in England and America of the necessity for studying the problems of Africa, and so create a well-informed and powerful public opinion to press for a more liberal approach to African affairs.

In any case, we should be grateful if you would contribute to the Quarterly. Perhaps you would be kind enough to let me know about this as soon as possible, and what, if anything, you would be prepared to write. Contributions for the second issue need only be in at my Office by the beginning of September. But we intend

2.

bringing out a Prospectus in May to be sent to several thousand possible subscribers here and abroad, and I should have the names of contributors and the titles of articles to include in it.

The average article published will be about 2,000 words in length, but the actual limit we have set is 3,500.

Awaiting an early reply,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Ronald M. Segal.

Ronald M. Segal.

UWI Libraries

AFRICA SOUTH

AN INTERNATIONAL QUARTERLY

Editor: RONALD M. SEGAL

Office: 2, VLAM GEBOU,
PARLIAMENT ST.,
CAPE TOWN
25/4/56.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

"Africa South" is an urgent experiment, a Quarterly published in South Africa, dealing principally with the problems of Southern Africa, but carrying articles on related issues by experts in other countries and aimed at a world-wide circulation and influence. It is an attempt to lay down a two-way street across the map, to make and keep the rest of the world aware of what is happening in South Africa, and South Africa aware and understanding of problems and experiences it shares with the rest of the world. If we are not to learn from the agonies of other countries, other countries may learn from our own, and the rest of Africa be made over in a different image. But we must learn if we are to survive at all, and those of us concerned in this undertaking believe that only by such balanced discussion of our problems as the Quarterly aims to provide, may we yet arrive at sanity in South Africa and escape the last tyrannies of our intolerance.

The Quarterly will not support any Political Party. But it will have a Policy - to encourage the building up of a multi-racial democracy in South Africa with the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship common to all. And it will work for this not only by analysis and definition, but implicitly, in a Literary section that will be open to writers in all the languages of South Africa. If we can achieve a multi-racial literature and through it encourage multi-racial literacy in this country, some part of the slums of panic and ignorance that cover South Africa may be cleared, and the way to a multi-racial politic be smoothed.

The Quarterly will have Offices in New York and London and representatives in other parts of the world. Sponsorship Committees are already being formed in England and America and we hope to be able to announce their members very soon. A number of influential American organizations have promised help even to direct involvement. As an instance, the National Association for the Advancement of the Coloured People has offered to circulate all its members for subscriptions and give the Quarterly free publicity and advertising in its national periodical. And so we hope not only to establish a large readership overseas, but be able, as a result, to carry articles by those more interested in the public their opinions will reach than in the relatively small payment the Quarterly can offer them.

The Editor will be responsible for the selection of articles and it is his intention to print only those of the highest standard. It is hoped that distinguished South Africans will serve as Consultants and be responsible for the Quarterly Political and Economic Reviews. The magazine is being backed to a limit of £7,500, and this will make it possible for us to pay approximately £25 an article of 3,500 words (£7 a thousand). Of course payment to Contributors will increase as soon as the Quarterly runs at a steady profit. At present 3/6 has been fixed upon as the price in South Africa for each 140 page issue.

We should be very grateful if you would let us know as soon as possible whether you are prepared to support the magazine - either by sponsoring it in South Africa or promising to contribute to it. A complete list of intending Sponsors will be sent to you for final approval before being published and you may, of course, withdraw your name at any time from the list should you wish to do so. In that event, a notice of withdrawal, with brief reasons, if you wish it, will be published in the Quarterly. Should you require any further reasonable guarantees, we should be happy to give them to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald M. Segal.

Ronald M. Segal,

EDITOR.



AFRICA TODAY

THE BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA

"Ex Africa Semper Aliquid Novi"

May 19th 1956

28 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

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Dear Peter Abrahams:

I have just finished reading - and liked very much - "A Wreath for Udomo". I wanted to review it for the "New Leader", but it had already been cornered by the literary editor, so I have been given the Huddleston book instead. I read the review of it in "West Africa", and am looking forward to seeing how Africans receive it. It is a very honest book. I see - although you may not agree - a parallel with Sartre's "L'Engrenage", in the conflict between the seeming "treason to one's own" necessitated by statecraft, and higher loyalty. By which I do not mean that the books have any other resemblance of course - they do not - but merely that both you and Sartre were preoccupied with a very contemporary problem that only courageous writers have faced: most do not care to think so far.

I have been in touch with Tom Mboya, who tells me that you were keen on the scheme to start an African-run press in Kenya. I do hope that something comes of it. We shall do our best here, and are hoping that we can get Tom over for a start. I think he could generate a lot of enthusiasm in trade union circles if he gets here.

My immediate reason for writing is to ask whether you could manage us a short piece for "Africa Today" on contemporary African writers - or writing, hanging it on to the peg of the forthcoming Paris conference of African writers. I think that it would be good for Americans to know what African writers are up and coming in French as well as in the English language, and to begin to take more interest than they yet do in stirrings on the African literary

(2)

scene - of which, although you may correct me, I think that there are definite signs. I remember that, when you were in New York, you said that you would be willing to do something for us, and suggested that I contact you in May, when you might be a little free-er. I know that writers are never free, even when the current job is done (because the next begins), but I am hoping that you can manage it.

I shall send along (by surface mail) a copy of the current issue of "Africa Today". We have a piece by Patrick Duncan on South Africa, but my general feeling ~~is that~~ the current issue is not nearly African enough. Of course it never can be completely so, it is a question of keeping a balance all the time. But this issue is just not quite up to it, although we have a review by Joseph Lomotey of Nkrumah's biography. Tom's piece in the previous issue was a great success.

I could continue for pages about Afro-American gossip of one kind and another. However I had better not. I know that everyone on the committee ~~sends~~ sends their warmest regards. We hope to see you again before too long. I do wish that your wife would overlook American morals and mores enough (did you read "The Quiet American?") to accompany you here. Visits such as yours are very heartening.

With all best wishes

Very sincerely yours

Keith

Keith Irvine.

PS: We are having "Udumo" reviewed in our next issue.

AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN • WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN • PHILADELPHIA AFRO-AMERICAN • NEW JERSEY AFRO-AMERICAN • RICHMOND AFRO-AMERICAN • NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN

EXECUTIVE OFFICES • 628 N. EUTAW STREET
BALTIMORE 1, MD.

June 14, 1955

Mr. Peter Abrahams
c/o Alfred Knopf, Inc.
501 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

Enclosed is a copy of the review of your book "Mine Boy", which appeared in our issue dated June 18, 1955.

With kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

Carl Murphy

Carl Murphy
President

CM:kep
Enclosure 1



July 7, 1962

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OAKLAND 4-6400

CABLE ADDRESS:
NEGROPRESS, CHICAGO

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
C/o Mr. Wilbert E. Hemming,
Box 27,
Stony Hill P. O.,
Kingston, Jamaica.

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

How are you? We would be very much interested to have a brief resume of your opinion regarding the immediate future in government and progress in Jamaica.

We would like 400 or 500 words covering your viewpoint some time during the next couple of weeks. We will be happy to pay your regular newspaper space rate.

Sincerely,

C A Barnett
Claude A. Barnett

January 6th, 1959

Mr. ^fW. Weeks
Atlantic Monthly
8, Arlington Street
Boston, Mass.
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. ~~Sions~~ ^{Weeks}

As Harold Strauss informed you I am completely involved in a book just now and doubt whether I could do justice to any brief contribution to the Atlantic at such short notice. The novel I am working on, on the other hand is in such a rough state that I am not ready to give out any parts of it.

I think in fairness to you I should also inform you that I have done a longish essay for Holiday who are producing their Africa issue sometime in March. Having said this, let me add that I would welcome the prospect of being printed in the Atlantic, and if you are not restricting your material to new and original matter I would urge you to consult with Harold Strauss about taking a piece out of either "A wreath for Udoma", "Tale of Freedom", or "Mine Boy".

I would of course understand if you feel that you do not want to do this and regret that I cannot cooperate with you more satisfactorily at this time on what I am sure of will turn out to be an exciting project.

Yours sincerely


PETER ABRAHAMS

PA/bid

OFFICE OF THE

EDITOR



8 ARLINGTON STREET

BOSTON 16, MASS.

The Atlantic Monthly

December 22, 1958

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

We are planning to publish in the April Atlantic a special Supplement dealing with Africa South of the Sahara, the contributions to come half from writers of African origin and half from those authorities who have long been resident there, such as Nadine Gordimer, David Cole, and Alan Paton. The articles of which we have a good nucleus already in hand are full of interest and also, as you can imagine, full of problems. And to keep them in balance I am hoping that we can secure from native sources folk tales, native chants, short stories, and perhaps a good essay on African history by Dr. Kenneth Dike of Nigeria. Harold Strauss to whom I have been talking about your work says that you are now absorbed in your new book, but I am writing in the hope that perhaps you might have a short story or two available, or as an alternative, that there might be a portion of the new novel which could stand effectively by itself in the magazine.

We shall have to firm up the table of contents the week of January 23, so if there is the possibility of your being represented, I hope you will tell me so by return mail.

Faithfully yours,

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Coyaba, Red Hill P.O.
St. Andrew, Jamaica

Edward Weeks

23rd January, 1963.

Mr. James D. Mgaya,
BBC (Swahili)
Bush House,
London, W.C.2,
England.

Dear Mr. Mgaya,

Thank you for your letter of September 4, 1962. You should by now have received copy of the West Indian Economist. Like you I am trying to get hold of some copies of some of the books I have written as my friends have borrowed the copies I had and have not returned them. I am going to write the publishers direct to see if I can get copies for myself and I suggest you do the same thing.

I shall look forward to seeing you if you ever find yourself in Jamaica.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Abrahams.

PA/ul.

*Special issue to be
forwarded & to write to him.
copy sent
10/10/62*

James D. Mgaya,
BBC (Swahili)
Bush House,
London, W.C.2.

4th. September, 1962.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

You will, I believe, be surprised to receive a letter from me. Certainly you have never met before, though I have come to know you for a long time now, through reading your books. While I was home in Tanganyika, I always longed for a day when I would meet you. Unfortunately, you had already left the country when I arrived here early in 1960.

I have for quite a long time taken a keen interest in writing, and I used to work for vernacular papers when I was in Tanganyika. I twice contributed for the South African Drum. But I must say that you were the one who inspired me in writing, soon after I had left school.

As you can see from my address, I am working as a Broadcaster with the Overseas Service of the BBC. I have a contract of three years—which could be renewed if I want. And meanwhile I am taking a course with the London School of Journalism.

I had wanted to pay a visit to Jamaica this year for my holidays, and may be I could then have met you, but instead I am visiting Russia and other Eastern countries. May be I can visit Jamaica during my next holidays.

I saw your interview with a correspondent from the Daily Mail

-which was also used by one East African paper- and that's how I came to get your address. I wonder whether you could send me a copy of the 'West Indian Economist'. I would like to see how it is being edited.

↑ First fold here ↓
I have been trying hard to get your two books: Return to Goli, and Path of Thunder-which I had but were taken away from me. I have been told that they are now out of print. Could you advise me of how ^{where} I could get them? By the way, are you going to write another book?

Well, I have to stop here hoping that you will write to me.

Yours truly,

James D. May Jr.



Mr. Peter Abrahams
West Indian Economist
Kingstone
JAMAICA
West Indies

Ibadan, 3/2/59

Mr. Peter Abrahams
c/o The West Indian Economist
164-166, Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica

BLACK ORPHEUS



Dear Mr. Abrahams,

Thanks to Basil McFarlane who finally gave me your adress. I wonder whether you ever got the letter I wrote to you via Mr. Innes Rose.

A JOURNAL OF AFRICAN AND
AFRO-AMERICAN LITERATURE

Some time ago I asked Mr. Rose to give permission to turn your "Path of Thunder" into a Radio Play, and finally got it. But I have not done it yet, I had to finish an own book and then go to Africa. But I shall do it as soon as I shall find time.

Would you like to collaborate with BLACK ORPHEUS? Do you have poems or short stories (unprinted) which might fit in?

Do you think it would be worth while to arrange an Agencie in Jamaica for BLACK ORPHEUS? Could you name me a book store who might be interested to sell this review there? I shall put yourself on the complimentary list so that you will get it regularly without fee.

I hope to hear from you. Best wishes,

Janheinz Jahn

Janheinz Jahn



ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG AB

SVEAVÄGEN 54-58, STOCKHOLM

TELEFON 22 75 20, TELEGRAMADRESS "BONNIERS"

STOCKHOLM den 2 March 1960

Personal address:

Mr Peter Abrahams,
c/o Public Opinion,
2 Torrington Road,
Kingston,
Jamaica, BWI.

Adolf Fredriks Kyrkogata 15,
STOCKHOLM C, Sweden.

Dear Mr Abrahams,

I am a Swedish novelist and made ~~during~~ the whole of 1959 a round trip through Africa, writing for Dagens Nyheter, principal daily newspaper. I met Nadine Gordimer and her husband many times, Anthony Sampson, Bloke Modisane, Zeke Mphahlele, Harry Bloom, and other people whom you might know or who talked about you. Studying for a term at the university in Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, I was immediately recommended your books, and "Return to Goli", in fact, was my initiation to South Africa.

I have now been asked by a Swedish publishing house, Cavefors, to compile an anthology of African writing for 1961, the first of its kind to appear in Scandinavia. It will reflect "the new Africa" and contain fiction and non-fiction, everything from short stories and poems to political articles, speeches, or manifestos.

As you know, "Tell Freedom" is under translation into Swedish by a friend of mine, a very good woman novelist, and I have been asked to preface it. It will be published in September. I wrote an interview with Nadine Gordimer, and quoted her saying that you were the most accomplished novelist in all Africa, among non-whites, and that sufficiently roused the interest of the publishers here.

I am going to select some samples of your writing for this anthology (excluding of course Tell Freedom), and I have not yet decided quite what. I would like to ask you if you have any personal preferences - what chapter, short story, or anything would you like to see translated and presented for a Scandinavian public; the book is to be distributed in Norway, Denmark, and Finland as well as Sweden. Is there anything only published in a newspaper or magazine that would be worth considering, also because of its being less known? Have you written any reportage on the African question not included in Return to Goli which you consider as good? Which short story of yours do you like most, and which novel? What are your immediate plans, in living and writing? What about Public Opinion - for me an unknown paper? These last questions is for a presentation in the end of the book. Any other autobiographical material except for the few lines that Faber & Faber sends to the papers would be very welcome, also for the preface I am going to write for Tell Freedom.

These questions may be boring to you, but you will be the very first African (or non-white) author to be introduced in Sweden and it is important that it is done with accuracy, and that critics and readers will know something about you and your works. (Nadine Gordimer, Alan Paton, Dan Jacobson are all popular here, but nobody has heard of Zeke M or Amos Tutuola.)

I would be very grateful indeed if you could manage to get time to write me a fairly full answer.

Thank you in advance. Having heard so much about you in Africa and having read all your books I feel I almost know you. Such things are strange, like being observed from a distance without one's knowing it.

Sincerely yours,

Per Wästberg

(Per Wästberg)

30/10/87

Coyaba,
Red Hills
St. Andrew.

Dera Ms Rochman,

Sorry about the delay in responding
to your note and enclosure of the 20th.
Our postal system is slow at times.

Faber handles all the business side
of my work now so please write them. The
Permissions Manager is Miss Mavis E. Pin

Sincerely

Peter Abrahams

HAZEL ROCHMAN

October 20, 1987.

Dear Peter Abrahams,

I'm enclosing a request to your New York publisher for permission to reprint the wonderful "Crackling Day" episode from Tell Freedom.

Do you hold the British rights?

Should I write to Faber?

I would very much like to make your story a part of my anthology for young people.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Hazel Rochman

BOOKLIST

American Library Association

50 East Huron Street

Chicago, Illinois 60611

312/944-6780

American Library Association
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
312/944-6780

Hazel Rochman
Assistant Editor, Books For Young Adults

BOOKLIST

Ann Sandhorst
Permissions Editor
Random House
201 East 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

October 19, 1987

Dear Ann Sandhorst:

In Fall 1988 the Harper Junior Books Group plans to publish Somehow Tenderness Survives: Stories of Southern Africa, a short story anthology for young adults compiled by Hazel Rochman, in a hardbound trade edition with a probable retail price of \$12.95. The first printing will be 6,000 copies.

May I have permission to reprint ^{the} attached ~~the~~ excerpt from Tell Freedom by Peter Abrahams in Somehow Tenderness Survives, in all editions published or licensed in all languages throughout the world? Could we give it the title, "Crackling Day," as in the anthology African Rhythms, or would you prefer another title?

Please advise me the fee you would charge, if any, for this use and please indicate the proper form of acknowledgment. My royalties will be given to an anti-apartheid organization, such as the International Defense and Aid Fund for Southern Africa.

For your information, some of the other contributors we are hoping to include are Doris Lessing, Nadine Gordimer, Dan Jacobson, Zoë Wicomb, Gcina Mhlope, Ernst Havemann, and Mark Mathabane.

If you do not control the British Commonwealth rights, would you please forward a copy of this letter to the proper party?

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Hazel Rochman

cc: Peter Abrahams

Africana Studies & Research Center

June 4, 1990

607-255-5218 Director
607-255-4625 Faculty
607-255-5229 Library

Ms. Mavis Pindard
Permission Editor
Faber & Faber Ltd.
3 Queen Square
London WC 1N 3AU
England

Dear Ms. Pindard,

Yesterday I conferred by telephone with Peter Abrahams in Jamaica regarding a number of apparent misunderstandings concerning my request for permission to include the script of "A Wreath for Udomo," my play based upon Mr. Abrahams' novel, in the forthcoming anthology of plays by Black playwrights in the diaspora, which I am editing for Indiana University Press.

As a result, Mr. Abrahams has referred me to you again, as he put it, "to see if we can work something out" -- subject, of course, to his final approval.

Among the points to be made clear are these:

- 1) I have no claim whatsoever upon Mr. Abrahams or his novel, since our three (3) prior contractual agreements have all expired.

I enclose a copy of the agreement of January 11, 1960, which also refers to a prior agreement of October 1, 1957. Additionally, please find enclosed excerpted pages from a copy of the Minimum Basic Contract of May 15, 1960, which was supplied to me by Curtis Brown Ltd. in New York City. (I have omitted sending a copy of the entire document, since it runs quite a few pages. I'm certain, however, that Curtis Brown will be agreeable to any request by you for a complete copy.)

As such, Mr. Abrahams is completely free to contract with anyone at any time, either now or in the future, for exploitation of the rights to his property.

- 2) The play was professionally staged in two productions, both of which were authorized by Mr. Abrahams: (A) by and at Karamu House in Cleveland, Ohio, in March and April of 1960; and (B) by William Chambers at the Lyric Hammersmith in London, England, in November of 1961.

Mr. Abrahams, of course, received his contractually due advances and royalties as specified in both contracts.

I enclose a copy of the programme from the London production, together with a copy of the poster/handbill, designed by Tony Walton -- who was the set and costume designer as well.

(Continued)

I have searched high and low for copies of the reviews, but all I can supply at present are these two excerpted references:

"(The play) affects us like an isolated candle-flame in the dark. When it is extinguished, the darkness still seems to be alive with it." --The Times.

"Aeschylean...remarkably successful." --London Daily Telegraph.

3. The permission requested is confined solely to publication of the play in an academic anthology, which is intended primarily for classroom use.

As specified in both contracts, no production of the play may be given by anyone without the written permission of Peter Abrahams or his representatives. This would be made absolutely clear in a notice preceeding the play in the anthology. (Please see enclosed Permissions letters.)

I hope this will clear up any possible misunderstandings concerning this request.

Again, I enclose two copies of the proposed agreement. If this now meets with Mr. Abrahams' and Faber & Faber's concurrence, please sign, retain one copy and return the other to me.

My thanks in advance for your consideration.

Cordially,



William B. Branch
Professor of Theatre, Dramatic Literature
and Communications

Enclosures.

WBB:s

cc: Peter Abrahams

P.S. Since our regular 1989-90 academic year is now over, please reply to my home address, which is:

William B. Branch
53 Cortlandt Avenue
New Rochelle, N. Y. 10801
(914) 235-1809

Africana Studies & Research Center

June 4, 1990

607-255-5218 Director
607-255-4625 Faculty
607-255-5229 Library

Faber & Faber Ltd.
3 Queen Square
London WC1N 3AU
England

Re: "A Wreath for Udomo," a play by William Branch,
based upon the novel by Peter Abrahams.

To Whom It May Concern:

With your concurrence and signature below, this letter will serve as a PERMISSIONS AGREEMENT for the publication of "A Wreath for Udomo," a play by William Branch, based upon the novel by Peter Abrahams, in an anthology of plays by Black playwrights in the diaspora, compiled and edited by William B. Branch and published by Indiana University Press.

In consideration of the permission granted herein, the undersigned Editor agrees to pay to Faber & Faber Ltd., as Agent for Peter Abrahams, the sum of \$100.00 (one hundred dollars), representing a 50% share of the total permissions fee of \$200.00, upon publication.

The author credits will be given as follows:

"A Wreath for Udomo," a play by William Branch,
based upon the novel by Peter Abrahams.

As part of the usual copyright and permissions warning preceeding the play, the following will be stated prominently:

"No production of this play may be given without the written permission of Peter Abrahams or his representatives, Faber & Faber Ltd., 3 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AU, England."

The rights granted to this property by the Playwright to the Editor are non-exclusive and are for English language publication and world distribution. All other rights are reserved.

William B. Branch, Editor

Date _____

Faber & Faber Ltd., Agent

Date _____

WBB:s

Africana Studies & Research Center

June 4, 1990

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Coyaba
P.O. Box 20, Red Hills
St. Andrew
Jamaica, West Indies

607-255-5218 Director
607-255-4625 Faculty
607-255-5229 Library

Dear Peter,

Thank you for conferring with me by phone on Sunday regarding my request for permission to include the script of "A Wreath for Udomo," the play you kindly allowed me to base upon your novel, in an anthology of plays by Black playwrights in the diaspora, to be published by Indiana University Press.

As you suggested, I have written again to Mavis Pindard at Faber & Faber in order to try to work something out. Enclosed are copies of that letter and all the accompanying documents, including contracts, having to do with the play's productions in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1960, and in London, England, in 1961.

These contracts have long since expired, of course, but they clearly affirm that your rights to your property are completely unfettered by any claim from me or the play's producers. As a writer (of sorts) myself, I would not want it otherwise.

That is why I informed you in my letter of October 31, 1989 (copy enclosed), that I would be contacting Faber & Faber to seek permission to include the play in the anthology. There has never at any time been any wish or attempt on my part to address this in anything other than a professional manner. My call to you was an attempt to clarify any possible misunderstanding of fact or intent, since Ms. Pindard apparently based her denial of permission upon your letter to her of March 14, which stated you were unable to find any records.

Thus, I hope these documents, as well as our talk on Sunday, will be of some help to you and Faber & Faber in reconsidering this request.

It was good talking to you, Peter, after all these years. I'm glad to know that you and your family are well and thriving. If ever you're up this way, please feel free to give a ring and perhaps we can get together for a chat.

Meantime, go well, stay well.

Sincerely,



William B. Branch
Professor

P.S. Home address, as always: 53 Cortlandt Avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y.,
(914) 235-1809.

Enclosures.
WBB:s

Africana Studies & Research Center

607-255-5218 Director
607-255-4625 Faculty
607-255-5229 Library

October 31, 1989

1-809 944-2580
Mr. Peter Abrahams
Red Hills, St. Andrew
Jamaica, West Indies

Dear Peter,

Greetings to you and your family!

Yes, I know, it's been a very long time since we were last in touch. I hope you, your lady and family are all well and thriving.

First, I want to pass on to you the enclosed newsletter, which reports on the passing of our senior colleague, J. Congress Mbata. In a chance conversation some years ago, he told me that you and he had been schoolmates in South Africa. He asked for your address, which I secured for him, but when I asked a few times later, he hadn't gotten around to writing. He is very much missed here at the Africana Center, where he taught for nearly 20 years and was scheduled to retire last Spring.

Next, I'd like to report that I've been engaged by Indiana University Press to compile and edit a new anthology of plays by Black writers in the diaspora. Among the plays I'd like to include is the final script of the London production (1961) of "A Wreath for Udomo," based, of course, upon your novel. (I emphasize "based upon" rather than "a dramatization of" in order to be quite clear that you are not to be held to blame!)

In that connection, I understand that your agents nowadays are Faber & Faber Ltd of 3 Queen Square, London WC 1N 3AU, England, and 50 Cross Street, Winchester, Mass., USA. I shall be contacting them within the next few weeks to see if this can be arranged.

Meantime, all best wishes.

Sincerely,



William B. Branch
Professor of Theatre, Dramatic Literature
and Communications

WBB:s
enc.

Africana Studies & Research Center

607-255-5218 Director
607-255-4625 Faculty
607-255-5229 Library

October 31, 1989

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Red Hills, St. Andrew
Jamaica, West Indies

Dear Peter,

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Meantime, all best wishes.

Sincerely,



William B. Branch
Professor of Theatre, Dramatic Literature
and Communications

WBB:s
enc.

Dec. 8, 1959

Meantime, I've started on my fellowship at long last, and am busy gathering material and sketching in the two plays on my project. I don't remember if I was in the newspaper business when you were here last, but Jackie Robinson and I have a thrice weekly column in one of the leading dailies here now, the N. Y. POST. We like to think that it's having some sort of impact, and I'm continuing with Jack on this, though I dropped the radio show once I began with the Guggenheim.

And speaking of Guggenheims, did you apply this year? I certainly hope so for I think you're a cinch once you do. Lofton sent you the information as I recall, but if for some reason you missed it, let me know and I'll get next year's application to you as soon as they're ready. By the way, John Clarke, Alice Childress and John O. Killens are among those applying this year.

We often speak of you here, Peter, and we've all been waiting for the Holiday article. Marie sends fond regards, as do Helen and Lofton. Lofton has a play out shopping for a home also, and Julian Mayfield is in the final stretches of his new novel. John Killens spent last summer in Hollywood writing the screenplay of YOUNGBLOOD and is back at work on his novel, while Alice is re-writing a play. We saw Ruthie just last night at a reception for Miriam Makeba, the singer from Johannesburg who has just begun a nightclub engagement here. We hope to catch her act sometime next week.

And, as you'll note from the address above, we've moved at long last! And next time you come up to visit we can put you up overnight, at least.

Well, I've prattled on and on now, and so it's your turn next. Please drop me a note post haste about the Karamu production as I promised to call them on Monday. There's nothing to lose and quite possibly a great deal to gain if the production goes well. Regards to the wife, whom we look forward more than ever to meeting some day, and take care of yourself.

Sincerely,



William Branch

P.S. Henry Lee Moon has been ill lately, and I know he'd appreciate a hello from you, c/o NAACP, 20 West 40th Street, N.Y.C.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

16, Robb & Hincks Streets, Georgetown, British Guiana.
Tel. 4448.

BG/0280/2 (iv)

29th June, 1961.

My dear Peter,

Enclosed, please find Money Order for £1. 15s. Od. as our subscription to the West Indian Economist for the year ending 1961. I am so sorry that this is late in reaching you. The account dated 27th March was included in the March issue, which arrived in Georgetown on June 22nd and came to my notice only yesterday. I thought you would like to know of the long time it takes the "Economist" to reach us.

I was very pleased to read John Brown's notice of "Focus". Criticism of that order can do nothing but good if it will help us to grow up. The difficulty is that we have not sufficient of it; for, without in any way detracting from what Brown has said, there could be other equally valid criticisms which would have given us other view-points. I was glad to see Miky get such high praise and I agree that the Board was not quite strict enough about some of the shorter pieces.

I am daily in touch with the Argosy Bookshop which is next door to us, but as yet there is no sign of the arrival of the copies of "Focus" which had been ordered months ago. We do seem to be a very great distance away from you. What a pity! — *in so many ways. My love to Daphne to you, Miky & all friends. Things should warm up here in August. Don't you think you should come over to get a better hand*

EWB/BW

*account
for the W.I.E.?*

E.W. Burbridge,
Representative.

Peter Abrahams, Esq.,
The West Indian Economist,
164-6 Harbour St.,
Kingston,
Jamaica, W.I.

Eas

Comes to



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

13 EAST STREET, KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

TELEPHONE: 4631

TELEGRAMS: BRITCOUN, JAMAICA

Copy for Mr. Peter Abrahams ✓

28th March, 1960

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

E.W.Burbridge, O.B.E.

5406

CONFIDENTIAL

(See Mrs Manley)

Jamaica Arts Advisory Council
1960 Publication of "Focus"

You already know that the Arts Advisory Council made a recommendation to the Minister of Housing and Social Welfare that the next edition of "Focus" should receive a subvention from Government funds. We have been glad to learn that the Minister has warmly accepted this proposal and, in my capacity as Chairman of the Literature Sub-committee of the Advisory Council, I have been entrusted to hold for the time being a cheque for £500.

Our Chairman, Dr. Philip Sherlock, has also already let you know that we were very happy indeed that you had consented again to edit "Focus". Could you please very kindly let me know to whom I should now hand over the Minister's cheque. I quote below the letter from the Ministry which accompanied the cheque:-

"Would you be good enough to lodge this money at your earliest convenience and operate an account on behalf of the Arts Advisory Council, providing this Ministry with a statement showing how the money has been utilised."

The Arts Advisory Council has also asked Peter Abrahams and myself, as the members of the Literature Sub-committee, to hold ourselves in readiness to assist you and your editorial board in any way in which you feel we can be helpful. There are, for example, such practical considerations as advertising and the sponsorship of future editions of "Focus", in which the Arts Advisory Council is bound to have an interest, and we have been asked to make ourselves responsible to the full Council.

May I please say how delighted I am personally that there is to be another issue of "Focus" and that it is once again in your capable and enthusiastic hands.

Mrs. Norman Manley,
Drumblair, Kingston.

Yours sincerely
Ernest Brown

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

BRITISH COUNCIL HOUSE, 13 EAST ST., KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

REPRESENTATIVE IN JAMAICA

E. W. BURBRIDGE, O.B.E.

Telegrams: "Britcoun," Jamaica

Telephone: 5406

P.O. Box 5

2nd February, 1960

JAN/0543

(Dear Edna)

At the last meeting of the Jamaica Arts Advisory Council Peter Abrahams and I were charged with the delightful task of getting in touch with you to see what assistance we might be able to render in the publication of the next edition of "Focus". We might have the delightful discovery that there is nothing actually to be done by us, but Philip Sherlock thought we should make this approach in case there were any chores of which you should be relieved.

I am wondering whether a meeting could be contrived at our home at 23, Liguanea Avenue when we could also meet Alan Ross. It would be most helpful for him if we met early during his stay, and I will shortly ring you to discover if Thursday, February 11th, at 8.15 p.m. would be convenient.

(Yours
Ernest.)

Dear Pete,

Mrs. Norman Manley,
"Drumblair"
KINGSTON 8.

cc. Peter Abrahams
and Philip Sherlock.

EWB/js.

I will also
ring you after I
have met Ross on
Feb. 4th. Note I have

had to change the date from
Feb. 27th to Feb. 11th for this particular
meeting, but please keep Feb. 27th
for a hark anyway. Love Ernest.



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

13 EAST STREET, KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

TELEPHONE: 4631

TELEGRAMS: BRITCOUN, JAMAICA

Dear Peter,

25/1/60.

I dashed off this second article at the weekend while the connecting link was still active in my thoughts. I think you might welcome the assurance that the trilogy on "Woods" would be complete.

Warm regards

Eve

Ernest

DOMINION PUBLISHING CO (W.I.) LTD.
WEST INDIAN ECONOMIST.

Managing Director
Authorised Person
Authorised Person

3rd January, 1962.

Mr. Siegfried Marks,
Latin American Editor,
Business International,
200 Park Avenue South,
New York 3, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Marks,

I am sorry about the delay in replying to your letter of September 12th 1961, but I have been travelling in the Caribbean and have been extremely busy.

I am afraid I have so much on my plate that I cannot take on any more. If, however you would like me to try to get somebody suitably qualified for you let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Abrahams

PA/mph

Business International

200 PARK AVENUE SOUTH
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
ALGONQUIN 4-5500

WEEKLY REPORT TO MANAGEMENT ON BUSINESS ABROAD

September 12, 1961

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Managing Editor
West Indian Economist
164-166 Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

Business International is in need of a qualified part-time correspondent in Jamaica (to cover also, if possible, the other islands of the West Indies Federation, British Honduras and Guiana). It is my impression that your experience and present full-time job would make you qualified to work for us.

The enclosed pamphlet explains the activities of BI and the attached 10 back issues of our weekly illustrate the type of reporting we do. Most of our readers are US company executives involved in exporting or manufacturing abroad. Aside from analyzing what new legal provisions and political, economic and tax changes in individual investment stories containing new ideas which could be applied by our readers to their own firms. The nature of the material we are interested in is such that we do not require regular reporting, but rather dispatches whenever suitable material for BI develops. At times I have particular story suggestions for individual correspondents. Sometimes, but not usually, they have to meet particular deadlines. However, some material, such as new laws, requires early presentation in BI. We pay our part-time correspondents 10 cents per published word, but a minimum of \$15 per published item in BI, no matter how short. Thus, any of our radars, for example, would result in a \$15 payment. If specific information is requested and furnished by the correspondent, but not published in BI, a lump-sum payment of at least \$15 is paid.

Please, fill out the enclosed application form, if you would be interested in working for BI. An existing working arrangement can be terminated by either party giving one month prior notice.

I am looking forward to an early reply from you.

Sincerely yours,

Siegfried Marks

Siegfried Marks
Latin American Editor

SM/mr

Business International

200 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
ALGONQUIN 4-5500

WEEKLY REPORT TO MANAGEMENT ON BUSINESS ABROAD

April 15, 1959

Mr. Peter Abrams
Editor
West Indies Economist
164 - 166 Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Mr. Abrams:

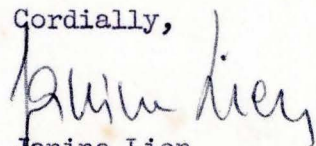
On February 26, George Natanson, to whom I gave your name when I returned from Jamaica, wrote to you concerning the correspondent's job which we discussed together. No word was received from you subsequently, and yet we should be taking a decision very shortly.

In the meantime, Mr. Natanson has left Business International and our Editor, Elliott Haynes, has asked me to check with you whether you wish to confirm your candidacy at this time, or not. I am enclosing a copy of our February 26 letter, in case it did not reach you.

Did you come to the USA in March as you planned? I had announced your visit to our editors who would very much have liked to meet you. I am certain we could have had a very lively discussion of the Caribbean situation with you! Sorry that we did not see you.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Cordially,


Janine Lien
Research Editor

JL:aek
Encl.

Business *International*

200 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
GRAMERCY 7-9243

WEEKLY REPORT TO MANAGEMENT ON BUSINESS ABROAD

February 26, 1959

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Editor
West Indies Economist
164 - 166 Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

Please forgive me for not having written you much sooner. Upon her return from Jamaica, Janine gave me your name and asked that I write you with the idea that you might be interested in becoming our correspondent in Jamaica and perhaps throughout the West Indies.

If you are interested in doing this, we here at Business International would be more than happy to have you represent us. Janine has no doubt told you all about BI, but I thought I'd go over a few of the high points.

Business International is a weekly publication written for top management of US companies who do business abroad. We try and do fill them in on any development overseas which might affect their foreign business. As you can see from the enclosed copies of BI, we attempt to cover the world with stories on investment climate, taxation, currency, tariff regulations, corporate practice, economic growth, etc., all this from the most specific point of view possible.

I'm sending along a few back issues of BI which will show you what I mean.

As you can see, our requirements are fairly special. Briefly, we need someone who can keep us informed from time to time on developments that affect US business operations, or that help to instruct them. Our need is for full, factual material; most of the material is re-written here in New York from additional information we pick up on the basis of the correspondent's information.

Our correspondent's rates are ten cents per published word with a minimum of \$15 per story (used). We have a section called "radars" which are brief notes (please see copies enclosed) on items of particular interest. These are paid at a rate of \$15 for each one published. We naturally pay the same rates on specific stories requested by us but in the event that these aren't used, we pay a flat rate of \$15.

Business *International*

200 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
GRAMERCY 7-9245

WEEKLY REPORT TO MANAGEMENT ON BUSINESS ABROAD

-2-

If you are interested, please let me know by return mail. If you are, we'll be happy to have you with us. Our deadline in New York, by the way, is Wednesday morning for that week's issue. We'd like it early in the week, though, if that is possible.

I'll certainly look forward to hearing from you then and hope that you'll be able to work for us. Aside from Jamaica itself, Janine tells me you can also contribute material from the other islands of the West Indies. This is ~~ex~~ceptionally good as we'd have one central clearing house, as it were, for all material from the Federation.

Janine sends her best regards.

Cordially,

George Natanson
George Natanson
Latin American Editor

CN/mr
Enclosures



B-WEE ADVERTISING SERVICE

BRITISH WEST INDIAN ADVERTISING SERVICE.

CABLE: B-WEE
TRINIDAD.

~~XXXXXX HOUSE~~
~~10, XXXXX~~

4 Wrightson Road TELEPHONE
31801.

PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD,
B.W.I.

October 16, 1959

Dear Mr Abrahams,

I seem to have bad luck with your magazine, which I really look forward to reading. Although a subscriber, I haven't yet received your August number, although I have read it - the Federal Information Office's copy. Because I think the magazine valuable as reference, I'm bringing this to your attention in the hope that you'll put right whatever is wrong. I do hope "The West Indian Economist" will have a long life.

Sincerely,

Albert Gomes.

19/10/59.

29th April, 1959

c/o B-Wee Advertising Agency

4 Wrightson Road.

Port of Spain

Trinidad. T.W.I.

The West Indian Economist,

164- 166 Harbour Street.

Kingston,

Jamaica.

Sir,

Please note that since I sent you a year's
subscription to your paper I have only received one copy - February's.

Yrs etc.,

Albert Gomes.

May 31, 1994

Mr. Charles H. Rowell
CALLALOC
Dept of English
University of Virginia

Dear Mr. Rowell

Thank you for your letter of May 2, 1994
on your proposed special issue on the
life and work of Ralph Ellison.

I did not know Mr. Ellison personally, and I
never met him on my rare visits to the
U.S., despite the efforts of mutual friends
like Langston Hughes to bring us together.

I am therefore not qualified to make any
meaningful contribution to your special
issue. I wish it well nonetheless and would
be interested to read it, if you care to
send me a copy.

Yours sincerely

Peter Abrahams

Callaloo

A JOURNAL OF AFRO-AMERICAN AND AFRICAN ARTS AND LETTERS

Department of English • University of Virginia • Charlottesville, VA 22903

May 2, 1994

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Red Hills
St. Andrew
JAMAICA

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

To honor the late Ralph Ellison and celebrate his literary achievements, we are planning to devote a special issue of Callaloo (Spring 1995) to Mr. Ellison's life and work. I am writing to invite you to submit work on Mr. Ellison for this special issue.

Your literary contribution to this special issue of Callaloo need not be limited to the critical essay. In other words, you may submit any one of a number of forms (or a combination of them): for example, an informal or popular essay, a reminiscence, a poem, a combination of poetry and prose, a formal or critical essay, a creative non-fiction piece, or a prose narrative recounting personal or professional relationships or encounters with Mr. Ellison, will all suffice. Individual contributions should not exceed 5,000 words or twenty typed pages, and, if documented, should follow the style designated by the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (second edition, 1984).

If you would like to submit more than one text and would like us to publish all of or to select from them, please indicate your wish in your cover letter. It is also important that you keep our publications dates in mind: in order to bring out this special Ralph Ellison Issue of Callaloo on schedule (Spring 1995), it is necessary that we receive your manuscript(s) **on or before January 15, 1995**. Please know that we would consider it a very high honor to include your work in this special of Callaloo.

When I first informed members of our editorial board about my plan to mount a special issue of Callaloo that would illuminate Ralph Ellison's work and celebrate his phenomenal achievements as an artist and an intellectual, they all advised me to begin planning immediately for such a project. I have no doubt that if you support it too we not only will meet our publication deadline, but we also will be able to present to the reading public one of the most innovative and multi-faceted portraits of Ralph Ellison in print. We foresee this special issue of Callaloo as a major contribution to the ever-growing body of work on Ralph Ellison.

If you accept this invitation to contribute to what we consider to be one of the most

important special issues of Callaloo, please complete and return the enclosed response sheet at your earliest convenience. You may also write to me at the above address, telephone me (804-924-6616), send me a note via electronic mail (callaloo@virginia.edu), or send a FAX (804-924-1478).

Thank you ever so much for supporting this project.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Rowell
Editor of Callaloo
Professor of English

UWI Libraries

Callaloo Fact Sheet

Editor: Charles H. Rowell, Professor of English, University of Virginia

Editorial Address: 130 Wilson Hall, Department of English, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Phone: (804) 924-6616/6637 **FAX:** (804) 924-1478 **Internet Address:** Callaloo@VIRGINIA.EDU

Publisher's Address: The Johns Hopkins University Press, Journals Division, 2715 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218 **Phone:** (410) 516-6987 **FAX:** (410) 516-6968

Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction, Drama, Essays/Criticism, Reviews, Bibliography, Translations, Photography/Artwork

Focus: Arts and letters by and about Africans, African Americans, and African peoples in the Diaspora (Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, Asia, Micro/Melanesia), International Cultural Criticism and Theory

Founded: 1976 **Frequency:** Quarterly **Total Subscribers:** 1375 **Avg. Size:** 250 pp/7x10 **Status:** Non-Profit

Authors Recently Appearing in CALLALOO: Chinua Achebe, Elizabeth Alexander, Jimmy Santiago Baca, Aimé Césaire, Maryse Condé, Rita Dove, Ernest J. Gaines, Yusef Komunyakaa, Reginald McKnight, Caryl Phillips, Adrian M.S. Piper, Richard Rorty, Helen Vendler, John Edgar Wideman, George C. Wolfe, Jay Wright

Recent Special Issues: The Arts and Literature of Haiti (Vol. 15, No. 2, Spring 1992 & Vol. 15, No. 3, Summer 1992), Anglophone and Francophone Women Writers (Vol. 16.1, Winter 1992), Leon Forrest (Vol. 16.2, Spring 1993), Native American Literatures (Vol. 17, No. 1, Winter 1993), Puerto Rican Women Writers (Vol. 17, No. 3, Summer 1994)

Recent Awards to Callaloo: 1992 First Prize, Special Issues (Double Issues on Haiti, Volumes 15.2 & 15.3), Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ), The Modern Language Association of America; Authors selected, Best American Poetry 1992, 1994; Best American Fiction 1992; Nominations, Pushcart Prizes XIX, 1994.

Recent Awards to Callaloo Authors: National Book Critics Circle Award, Fiction 1994, MacArthur Foundation Awards 1992, 1993, Whiting Writers' Awards 1993, Lannan Foundation Awards to Writers, 1993, Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry, 1994.

Recent Grants: National Endowment for the Arts Literature Grants for 1991, 1992, 1993; National Endowment for the Humanities Grants, 1990, 1991.

Membership: COSMEP, Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ), and Council of Literary Magazines and Presses (CLMP).

Payment: (When grant money is available) **Copyrights:** First rights registered under CALLALOO (Johns Hopkins University Press), transferable to author; previous copyrights with notification.

Subscription costs: Ind: \$25/yr; Inst: 47/yr; Single issues: \$8/ Inst. \$15; For foreign subscriptions add \$6.05; (Canada/Mexico); add \$17.85 all other countries.

Indexed in: America: History and Life, American Humanities Index, American Literature, Book Review Index, Historical Abstracts, Index of American Periodical Verse, and PMLA.

Listed in: Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory.

Ad rates: Full Page, 5 1/2 x 8/\$215.00, Half Page 5 1/2 x 4/\$145, Cover 3/\$240.00

ISSN: 0161-2492

RESPONSE SHEET FOR
SPECIAL CALLALOO ISSUE ON RALPH ELLISON

TO: Charles H. Rowell
Editor of Callaloo

FROM: _____

I accept your invitation to contribute to the special Ralph Ellison Issue of Callaloo which is scheduled for publication during the Spring of 1995. I understand that, in order to meet your publication deadlines, you should receive my manuscript(s) **on or before January 15, 1995.**

I would like you to use the following address and telephone number when communicating to me about this project:

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

E-Mail _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

"Coyaba",
Red Hills P.O.,
St. Andrew,
Jamaica.

September 24, 1964

The Director,
Cardiff Commonwealth Arts Festival,
C/o Town Clerk's Department,
City Hall, Cardiff, Wales.

Dear Mr. Harpe,

Thank you for your letter of September 19th. I am very interested in your idea about a volume of Commonwealth poetry. And I am wholeheartedly with you that such a publication will be of greater long-term value than the usual conference of writers. Unfortunately I am not in a position to share actively in the putting together of such an anthology.

I am committed to completing a book between now and the spring of next year and I have already promised to go on a journalistic trip through East Africa immediately the book is done. All this means that I will be completely tied up until at least the middle of next year, by which time your volume of poems should be in a very advanced stage of production if you are to publish by September.

However, I would like to suggest two other names to you. First there is Andrew Salkey. You may be familiar with his work for the B.B.C. and I believe he is in reasonably close touch with contemporary Commonwealth writing. Salkey is a Jamaican. He lives and works in London and you can reach him through the B.B.C. Second, there is Derek Walcott who is from the island of St. Lucia and in my view the finest poet so far produced by the West Indies. I do not know the range of Walcott's contacts but a few days ago John Hearne told me that Walcott was on his way to Germany to take part in some big affair to do with poetry. He published a volume of poetry in England (last year, I believe) but I do not know the publishers and since he is based in Trinidad I do not have his address. I think Salkey or the people at the B.B.C. Caribbean Service will be able to give it to you. A third person who comes to mind is Henry Swanzy. A dozen years ago Swanzy knew more about contemporary Commonwealth poetry than anyone else I knew, but I've lost touch with him since he went to Ghana for the B.B.C. and so I cannot tell you if he has

kept up his interest in the subject or not. I should imagine though that it would be very worth your while to make contact with Swanzy if he is back in Britain. Again the B.B.C. should be able to help with an address. Finally, especially for African writers, you might be interested in contacting Ezekiel Mphahlele, whose two books were published by Faber. He was in Paris for the Congress for Cultural Freedom but I believe he is in Kampapa now. His book, African Images, will give you a pretty clear indication of his ability and limitations as a student of literature.

I hope these few ideas are of help. If there is any other way in which I can help, short of doing the collecting and editing, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Abrahams.



IN YOUR REPLY
PLEASE QUOTE

CITY HALL,
CARDIFF.

YOUR REF:

S. TAPPER-JONES, LL.B.

TOWN CLERK.

CLERK OF THE PEACE.

TEL. N° 31033.

19th September 1964

Dear Mr Abrahams,

I have been given your name by George Skinner - who my wife and I met when we were staying at Suzy Benghiat's flat in London; and your address by Frank Pike, editor for Faber & Faber.

They both felt that you might be interested in editing (or part editing) a book which we (that is the Cardiff Commonwealth Arts Festival) are hoping to publish - an anthology of contemporary Commonwealth prose or poetry.

I will try to put you in the picture.

I am responsible, together with a guiding committee appointed by the City Council of Cardiff, for the direction of the Cardiff Commonwealth Arts Festival which is to be held here from 16th September - 2nd October, 1965.

As you may know, the Commonwealth Festival will be running simultaneously in London, Cardiff, Glasgow and Liverpool. The programmes of the various cities will be inter-related, and drawn partly from a central pool of artists and companies and exhibitions being brought to London by Mr Ian Hunter, the Director-General of the Festival. But in addition each city will be responsible for initiating productions and functions of its own.

It is hoped that - in addition to a conference of Commonwealth writers, (which has already been suggested though not yet approved) - Cardiff will be able to sponsor the publication of a volume of collected Commonwealth prose ~~at~~ or poetry (contemporary).

I favour the idea of a volume of collected poems.

It is going to be difficult to find one editor to 'cover' the Commonwealth. If - for instance - you felt able to cover Africa, the West Indies (and perhaps India) etc., then presumably we would need someone to cover Australia, New Zealand, Canada etc. We may need 2/3 editors for

selection, and one executive editor in London - doing no selection, but seeing that all the chosen poems come together and make a book. In any case it is going to be difficult to present a publisher with mss. in 3/4 months time - in time to have the book published for the opening of the Festival in September 1964. It is also going to be difficult to make the book into something more than a piece of book-making. Inevitably, I'm afraid, all the published work will have to be in English (or with English translations). The book may well lack any unity; but on the other hand it would be folly to impose an arbitrary unity, which would probably only serve to exclude talent. I think 3/4 poems should be published from each country (maybe with a very brief - perhaps biographical - note); and the book left as simple as that.

In spite of the arbitrariness I feel that there would be definite value in such a book (certainly I prefer the idea of something solid like ~~to make~~ a book, to some 'Poet's Conference', though we may have that as well). And anyway I feel that a good Festival should leave something permanent behind it. ~~And~~ An opportunity for a "Commonwealth Poetry '65" would give the readers and poets a chance to see what is being written in other countries; a chance for young (and perhaps old) poets to be published in London, and on sale in the 4 Festival cities, and (we hope) the Commonwealth as well. And a (small) fee for each poet.

So much for the plan.

If we are to carry the plan through, then we will need to appoint editors as soon as possible. Each editor would be responsible for ~~finding~~ finding and collecting poems from a number of countries (with appropriate administrative help for letter-paper, money to cover any advertising costs, postage etc.; in addition to editorial fee). And the collected poems would then go to London, for inclusion in the full anthology.

Does the project interest you? I hope so.

If you feel unable to take an interest in the editorial side (or if your commitments prevent you from doing so) then I would be grateful if you could suggest any other names (or perhaps pass this letter on). It is going to be very difficult to produce the book in the time. But I feel the endeavour to be more worth-while and of more practical value, than the usual 'talk' which is the product of literary get-togethers (though I can see ~~that~~ the value in that part of Conferences where the writers are on their own, in small groups). For my part I would be very happy to give publication to Commonwealth poets for whom publication is more an urgent need than even more time spent talking about poetry.

Of course I am interested in all the Commonwealth
I would welcome any pointers towards Commonwealth sculptors, film
musicians dancers etc (in their own country, in London, New York
(and I have already written to National Dance Theatre Company of the
Indies, though I gather Ian Hunter has already provisionally booked
to come to London and tour the other 3 cities); and I would welcome
suggestions of ways in which the Festival could deal with indigenous
I am going to enclose 2 minutes passed by the Cardiff Committee which
out the nature and the scope of the Cardiff Festival.

But it is the book which is my urgent, preoccupation
other matters can still wait a while.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Harpe

Bill Harpe
Director

Cardiff Commonwealth Arts Festival

Peter Abrahams Esq
Coyaba
Red Hills P.O.
St Andrews
Jamaica.

That the Committee recommends that the Cardiff
shall :-

- (a). take a particular interest in celebrating
exhibiting the achievements of industry
past and present, from all the Commonwealth
countries - this being likely to lead
only to a most exciting and stimulating
programme, but also being an ^{appropriate} ~~appropriate~~
of paying our respects to the newer Commonwealth
countries, and furthering the ties of friendship
with them
- and also (b). give representation and encouragement to the
developing modes of the more-Europeanised
Commonwealth art.

That the Committee further recommends that the Cardiff Festival, while subsidising and encouraging the arts, shall provide a programme likely to interest the whole community of Cardiff, and the country which it serves, by sponsoring and promoting an interest in all aspects of the Commonwealth (including sport, entertainment, crafts, food etc), and by encouraging other bodies and associations to take up the theme of the Commonwealth during the Festival.

In this way the Committee hopes that the Festival will not only be both memorable and exciting in itself, but that the lasting effects will include such permanent testimonials as commissioned works (as, may be, a film, a book, a gramophone record), and also a renewed and growing interest in social, economic and artistic Commonwealth ties.

Subject:

Nadine Gordimer's words

Date:

Mon, 17 Jul 2000 14:59:02 -0400

From:

"The Caribbean Law Publishing Co. Ltd." <cariblaw@colis.com>

To:

coyaba@cwjamaica.com

Dear Mr Abrahams,

This is what Nadine Gordimer had to say:

'Blood, race, colour and origin are not the only bonding agents in human relations. The trouble is that the others are not as easily defined.' It is seldom that one finds the depth of wisdom in personal reminiscences, but here is the wisdom of Peter Abrahams's words. His exploration of the severing and bonding of human relations forms a kind of peripatetic autobiography--not only of one man, an extraordinary writer, but of the concepts and attitudes that have interplayed between the countries and peoples of our time, preoccupied us and determined our lives. Abrahams is an African writer, a writer of the world, who opened up in his natal country, South Africa, a path of exploration for us, the writers who have followed the trail he bravely blazed."

As I said, positive stuff. By the way, the book is being printed by Thompson Shore in Michigan.

Best wishes,
Araya



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Marjorie E. Taylor

Subject: Nadine Gordimer's words

Date:

Mon, 17 Jul 2000 14:39:02 -0400

From:

"The Caribbean Law Publishing Co. Ltd." <cariblaw@colis.com>

To:

coypds@cwjamaica.com

Dear Mr Abrahams,

This is what Nadine Gordimer had to say:

'Blood, race, colour and origin are not the only bonding agents in human relations. The trouble is that the others are not as easily defined.' It is seldom that one finds the depth of wisdom in personal reminiscences, but here is the wisdom of Peter Abrahams's words. His exploration of the severing and bonding of human relations forms a kind of peripatetic autobiography--not only of one man, an extraordinary writer, but of the concepts and attitudes that have interplayed between the countries and peoples of our time, preoccupied us and determined our lives. Abrahams is an African writer, a writer of the world, who opened up in his natal country, South Africa, a path of exploration for us, the writers who have followed the trail he bravely blazed."

As I said, positive stuff. By the way, the book is being printed by Thompson Shore in Michigan.

Best wishes,
Araya

February 6th, 1973.

M. Pierre Servais,
Casterman S.A. Editeurs,
Rue Des Soeurs Noires, 28,
B-7500 Tournai,
BELGIQUE.

Dear Mr. Servais,

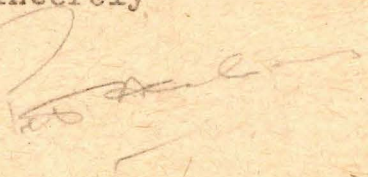
Thank you very much for your letter of January 3rd which took rather long to reach me as it came by surface mail.

I shall of course be happy to agree to your granting paperback rights for the French version of TELL FREEDOM on the terms set out in your letter.

I do not know if you have published a French version of A WREATH FOR UDOMO, if you have I should be grateful if you could send me copies as I do not have any of this book in French.

Again my apologies for the delay in replying to your letter.

Yours sincerely





CASTERMAN S.A. ÉDITEURS

RUE DES SŒURS NOIRES, 28, B-7500 TOURNAI (BELGIQUE) ☎ 069/241.41 ✉ CASTEREDIM TOURNAI

Mr. Peter Abrahams
c/o Messrs John Farquharson
8 Halsey House
Red Lion Square
GB - LONDON WC 1
Grande-Bretagne

N. R. PS.AM

Tournai, 3rd January 1973

V. R.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

We could have the French version of your book TELL FREEDOM, which we have been publishing for some years under the title JE NE SUIS PAS UN HOMME LIBRE, also published in a Book Club.

Would you please kindly allow us to grant the requested permission ?
As usual in the case of reprint in a Book Club, we shall repay you 50 % of the monies we shall receive.

With our best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Yours very truly,

Pierre Servais

944-4420

*Coyaba,
P.O.Box 20
Red Hills
St. Andrew
Jamaica*

Mr. N. Chiwengo
Department of English
Creighton University
2500 California Plaza
Omaha NE 68178-0305
U.S.A.

26/1/2000

Dear Mr. Chiwengo,

Your letter of January 6th, as well as the copy of it you sent through Faber in London, reached me earlier this week.

I have recently completed what I think is the last book on the theme with which I have grappled all my life. It is non-fiction; an autobiographical looking back over the eighty years of my life as one man's mirror of the black experience in the 20th century. It is called **The Coyaba Chronicles: Reflections on the black experience in the 20th century** and plans are to publish it simultaneously in both Jamaica and South Africa on the 25th of June of this year. An important change is that the publishers are non-metropolitan: a Jamaican-owned house in Jamaica and a South African-owned house in Africa. So, in a small way, this is also my contribution to the decolonisation of publishing. We do not have to continue looking to the metropolitan centres for publishing. The Jamaican publisher will manage all foreign rights and translations. He is currently working on finding an American publisher for a US-Canadian edition.

I thought this information might interest you. It also explains why I cannot accede to your request for an interview. I shall be deeply involved with the book. We are now awaiting the proofs. I think the book should give all, or most, of the answers you would want. As you say, I have not given interviews for many years. This is by choice. I am an old man now and I need what remains of my life to myself and my partner of a lifetime who has always put up patiently with all the intrusions and travels and activism of my earlier years.

For us this is a time for peace, quiet reflection and tranquility. I have been very fortunate to have lived to see all of Africa free, and the darker peoples of the earth moving toward achieving their just due in the world. **The Coyaba Chronicles** are my last contribution to this process. I hope you will read it and tell me your reactions to it.

Thank you for your letter. Peace and love.

Peter Abrahams



Department of English

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Red Hills
St. Andrew
Jamaica, West Indies

January 06, 2000

Dear Mr. Abrahams:

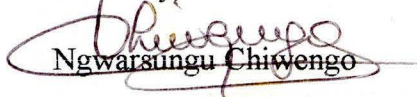
I have been interested in your works since my undergraduate studies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I am not only an ardent admirer of your literary work but also have tremendous respect for you as a man who dared to speak up during apartheid South Africa.

Thanks to a Fulbright scholarship, I was able to pursue a Ph. D in English in the United States. I then wrote a dissertation on your works. Currently, after teaching eight years in the Congo, I am teaching at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. After numerous years of intensive teaching, I am in the process of writing, at last, a book on your literary oeuvre.

Your voice on numerous issues has not been heard through interviews in the past years. I would, therefore, like to include an interview in the book and would appreciate interviewing you during the Easter break of year 2000 or whenever it is convenient for you. I would also like to include some of your journalistic works and other accomplishments.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,


Ngwarsungu Chiyengo

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG
PUBLIC LIBRARY



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Our ref:

Mrs B. Nagelgast

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Johannesburg

2001

Telephone 836-3787

23 April 1975

Mr Peter Abrahams
c/o Faber & Faber Ltd
3 Queen Square
LONDON WC1N 3AU
England

Dear Sir

- * I enclose a list of translations of your works which this Library is anxious to acquire. I have already tried the publishers but most of the titles are out of print. Do you know where I might find a second-hand copy in good condition? I shall be most grateful for any help you are able to give me.

Yours faithfully

Annals Smith
(MISS) A. H. SMITH
CITY LIBRARIAN

BN/JG
ENCL

*

ABRAHAMS, Peter

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- Az rakhi rashchdi gurron; introd. by I. Potekhin. Dushambe, Nashrdavtots, 1962. (Path of thunder in Tajik).
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- Divlji pohod. Zagreb, Zora, 1954. (Wild conquest in Serbo - Croatian).
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- (Path of thunder in Bulgarian). Sofia, NSOF, 1957.
- (Path of thunder in Kirghiz). Frunze, Kirgizuchpedgiz, 1958.
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- (Path of thunder in Russian); introd. by E.V. Kornilova. Moskva, Izdatel'stvo literatury na inostrannykh jazykakh, 1954.
- (Path of thunder in Russian); tr. by O. Kholmskaya. Moskva, Izdatel'stvo inostrannoi literatury, 1949.
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- Perkona taka. Riga, Latvijas valsts Izdevnieciba, 1953. (Path of thunder in Latvian).
- Reiter der Nacht. Berlin, Volk und Welt, 1957. (Path of thunder in German).
- Rouge est le sang des noirs. Tournai, Casterman, 196-? (Mine boy in French).
- Røde hjulspær. Oslo, Tiden, 1951. (Wild conquest in Norwegian).
- Sabi al-manjam. Al-Qahirah (i.e. Cairo), Dar al Katib al arabi, 196-? (Mine boy in Arabic).
- Schwarzer Mann im weissen Dschungel. Munchen, Rex, 1961. (Mine boy in German).
- Il Sentiero del tuono. Milano, Mondadori, 1960. (Path of thunder in Italian).
- Tordenstien. Oslo, Tiden, 1953. (Path of thunder in Norwegian).
- Tropoyu goma; tr. by O. Kholmskaya. Alma-Ata, Kazgoslitizdat, 1955.
- Tropoyu goma; tr. by O. Kholmskaya. Saratov, Knigizdat, 1960. (Path of thunder in Russian).
- De wilde trek. Antwerpen, Ned. Boekhuis, 1957. (Wild conquest in Dutch).
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- Yn Kalja tresnetului; tr. by A. Lipkan. (Path of thunder in Moldavian).
- Zlatokop; tr. by O. Koranova. Praha, Druzstvo Dilo, 1948. (Mine boy in Czechoslovakian).

11 Blackmore's Grove, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9AE United Kingdom

17 February, 2010

Dear Mr Abrahams,

I am writing to ask for permission to include an extract from *Mine Boy*, a copy of which is enclosed with this letter, in a 200,000-word anthology of South African history, literature and politics which I have edited.

The book, to be called *Captured in Time*, is to be published in June by Jonathan Ball, Johannesburg and distributed by them in Europe and North America as well as South Africa. They are proposing an initial print run of 2,500 in trade paperback priced at R250.

All royalties are going directly to the Nelson Mandela Foundation Centre of Memory Programme, a registered charity, and I am asking authors and copyright holders to waive their fee or, at most, accept a token payment.

My email address is clarejr@msn.com and I look forward to hearing from you.

With thanks and warmest regards,



John Clare

Advanced though it was for its time, Paton's sympathetic portrayal of African nationalism had already been superseded. In *Mine Boy* (84), published four years earlier, Peter Abrahams, a Cape Coloured writer, had looked to a future in which blacks not merely 'did things' for themselves but gave the white man orders. Here Xuma, a 'mine boy' recently arrived from the country, encounters Paddy, his red-haired Irish overseer, in a Johannesburg street.

He carried on up the street and turned down Eloff Street. This was the heart of the city and the crowd was thick. It was difficult to move among all these white people, one had to keep on stepping aside and to watch out for the motor cars that shot past.

Xuma smiled bitterly. The only place where he was completely free was underground in the mines. There he was a master and knew his way. There he did not even fear his white man, for his white man depended on him. He was the boss boy. He gave the orders to the other mine boys. They would do for him what they would not do for his white man or any other white man. He knew that, he had found it out. And underground his white man respected him and asked him for his opinion before they did anything. It was so and he was at home and at ease underground.

His white man had even tried to make friends with him because the other mine boys respected him so much. But a white man and a black man cannot be friends. They work together. That's all. He smiled. He did not want the things of the white man. He did not want to be friends with the white man. Work for him, yes, but that's all. And didn't the others respect him more than they respected Johannes.¹ It was because he did not say baas to the white man but knew how to deal with him.

Then he thought of Eliza again. And the pride vanished from his breast. He had tried to forget her but it was no good. Every day his longing for her grew more and more. But she wanted the things of the white man and for that reason he resented the white man.

"Look Di, there's Zuma!"²

Xuma turned. It was his white man. And with him was a woman. And there was laughter in his eyes and a smile on his lips. It was the first time Xuma had seen Paddy laughing.

"Hello, Zuma!"

Paddy held out his hand. Xuma hesitated then shook it. Xuma smiled. The Red One had been drinking. "This is my girl, Zuma. How is my taste?" Paddy laughed.

Xuma looked at the woman. She smiled at him and gave him her hand. Passing white people stopped and turned. Xuma felt unhappy and wished the Red One would take his woman away. He took the woman's hand. It was small and soft.

"So this is Zuma," the woman said.

"It begins with an X, dear," Paddy said.

"The Red One talks about you a lot, Zuma," she said.

"We are blocking traffic," Paddy said and took Xuma's arm.

Paddy led him a little way down the street and turned off into a little alley.

"I live here," Paddy told him.

"Bring him up, Red," the woman said.

¹ A more experienced 'boss boy'.

² Xuma is 'Zuma' when the white man pronounces it because the X represents a click sound.

"Good idea!" Paddy exclaimed. "Come, Zuma, you will eat with us?"

"No," Xuma said.

"Come on!" Paddy insisted and half pushed him into the lift.

They got out and the woman led the way into the flat.

"This is my home," Paddy said.

Xuma looked around. He had never seen a place like that before.

There was no fire, but it was warm.

"Sit down, Zuma," the woman said.

Xuma sat on the edge of the chair. The woman took off her coat and went into another room. Paddy stretched himself on a settee and smiled at Xuma.

The woman came in with three glasses.

"This will warm you," she said, giving Xuma one.

Paddy raised his glass.

"To the best mine boy, Zuma!"

"To Zuma," the woman said and smiled at him.

Paddy and Di emptied their glasses. Xuma sat holding his. He could still feel the woman's hand in his. It was so small and soft. And she was very good to look at but he didn't want to look at her.

"Drink yours, Zuma," she said.

The wine warmed Xuma. She took the empty glass from him and turned on the radio.

"Everything is ready," she said to Paddy. "Put it on the trolley and bring it in."

Paddy went out.

Xuma thought: now I understand what Eliza wants. But these things are only for white people. It is foolish to think we can get them.

He looked round the room. Yes, it was fine. Carpets on the floor, books, radio. Beautiful things everywhere. Fine, all fine, but all the white man's things. And all foolishness to want the white man's things. To drink wine and keep the bottle on the table without fear of the police, how could a black person do it. And how could Eliza be like this white woman of the Red One.

Di followed his gaze round the room.

"Do you like it?"

"Heh?" He looked startled.

"I mean the room," she said.

"It is fine," he said and looked at her.

Her eyes looked kindly at him and dimples appeared on her cheeks when she smiled. Just like Eliza's dimples. And it seemed that her eyes understood what he was thinking. He looked away from her.

"The Red One wants you to be his friend," she said.

Again Xuma looked at her. And again it seemed that she understood everything that went on in his mind. And as he watched her a smile slowly broke over her face.

"He is white," Xuma said.

The smile faded from her face and there was sadness in her eyes.

And suddenly Xuma felt sorry for her and was surprised at himself for feeling sorry for a white person. And there was no reason for it either.

"And so you cannot be friends," she said, and in her eyes was the same look he had seen many times in the eyes of the Red One.

Paddy came in with the food. Xuma felt ill at ease. But Paddy and Di talked and did not notice him, and soon he forgot his discomfort and ate.

When they had finished eating they drank more wine. And Xuma and Paddy talked about the mines and the funny things that happened there and soon they were all laughing. And in spots Xuma forgot that they were white and even spoke to the woman. Then Paddy took the things away.

Xuma looked at the woman and suddenly wanted to tell her about Eliza. But he didn't know how to begin. She gave him a cigarette and smoked one herself. Eliza smoked too. Xuma looked at Di and smiled.

"What are you smiling at?"

"My girl smokes too."

"What's wrong with that?"

Xuma was silent.

"What is she called?"

"Eliza." He wanted to tell her then, but the words would not come.

"Tell me," Di said.

"What?"

"What you want to tell me. The Red One will be back soon and I know you don't want him to hear."

"You know everything."

"No. But I know this. Tell me."

Xuma stared at her. She met his stare and smiled.

"You are a good one," he said.

"Thank you. I'm your friend. Tell me."

"She's a teacher and she wants to be like white people. She wants a place like this place and clothes like yours and she wants to do the things you do. It is all foolishness for she is not white. But she cannot help herself and it makes her unhappy sometimes."

"And you?"

"It makes me unhappy too, for she wants me and she does not want me. But it is foolishness."

"It is not foolishness, Zuma."

"She cannot have your things."

"But is not the heart the same, Zuma?"

"No. I care only for my people."

"No, Zuma."

"But it is so and where is the good in wishing."

"Listen, Zuma. I am white and your girl is black, but inside we are the same. She wants the things I want and I want the things she wants. Eliza and I are the same inside, truly, Zuma."

"But it cannot be."

"It is so, Zuma, we are the same inside. A black girl and a white girl, but the same inside."

"The same?"

"The same."

"But it is wrong."

"It is right, Zuma, I know."

"No!"

"Yes!"

"It cannot be. You are good, but it cannot be."

"It is. You do not believe me but it is so. . ."

Paddy came in. Xuma looked at Di then got up.

"I must go," he said.

"Not yet, Zuma," Paddy said, "it is early still."

"All right, Zuma," Di said.

Paddy looked at Di then at Xuma and smiled.

"Do you like my woman?"

Xuma smiled. "She's a good one, and you are lucky, Red One."

"I will take you down," Paddy said.

Di took Xuma's hand and smiled into his eyes.

"I am right."

"Maybe. But I don't think so."

He followed Paddy to the lift.

* * * *

Paddy returned and slowly shut the door behind him. Di watched him. He went to the settee and pulled her down beside him. He slipped his arm round her shoulder and they sat like that for a while.

"What do you think of him," he asked finally.

"What is there to think? ... He's just a mine boy."

"He's a grand fellow."

"Yes. Grand, but not a human being yet. Just a mine boy. His girl's human and he can't understand her. He can't understand her wanting the things I want and have. And another thing you're wrong about—he does not dislike you, you're just not of the same world, Red."

"That's nonsense, Di."

"Think it out for yourself."

"That fellow's as human as I am."

"No, Red, he accepts what you wouldn't. That's part of the reason why he's so popular among all the other whites. He's all right. You can't say the same about Chris's boy."

"I think you are wrong, Di."

She smiled bitterly and looked at him.

"Yes, I know, Red. A man's a man for a' that. A man's a man to the extent that he asserts himself. There's no assertion in your mine boy. There is confusion and bewilderment and acceptance. Nothing more. Oh, he's human all right; he talks, he eats, he feels, he thinks, he gets lonely; but that's all."

"He has dignity and pride."

"So has an animal, Red. You've got this all wrong. The man in your Zuma has not come out yet, so he looks beautiful and strong and perfect and has dignity, so you say that is your future native. That is not true."

Paddy looked at her. His face clouded. They were silent for a very long time. Di got up and went into the kitchen.

"You make it very difficult, Di," Paddy called out. "You make it sound as though there's no hope anywhere."

Di laughed and her voice was sweet.

"Never again will I take up with an Irishman," she said. "One moment you are at one extreme and the next you are at the other."

"Be serious, Di."

There was a pause from the kitchen. He waited. Then her voice came to him. It was slow and hesitant and yet very-matter-of-fact.

"So many of the people who consider themselves progressive have their own weird notions about the native, but they all have one thing in common. They want to decide who the good native is and they want to do good things for him. You know what I mean. They want to lead him. To tell him what to do. They want to think for him and he must accept their thoughts. And they like him to depend on them. Your Zuma makes an excellent 'good native' for progressive folk. That's why you like him."

"That's not true, Di. And I think you're being unfair."

"I'm sorry, Red, but I honestly believe that."

"In any case your little theory holds no water with Zuma. He is unfriendly towards me."

"Yes, that's the one snag, but it doesn't prove anything. And beside, he's not being unfriendly towards you; you two just belong to different worlds. But the whole point is that a native who wants the things the whites have is suspect if he does not apply to them for leadership."

Di came back into the room and they sat facing each other.

"So?"

"So nothing."

"That leaves a pretty hopeless position for your hypothetical progressives."

"Yes, until they accept the fact that the natives can lead; not only themselves but the whites as well."

But that was still nearly 50 years in the future.

26th October, 1962.

Mr. R. Fox,
Head of Commerce Dept.,
College of Arts, Science
and Technology,
Hope,
Kingston 6.

Dear Mr. Fox,

Mr. Peter Abrahams has received your letter of the 4th October, 1962, stating that you have enclosed "Symposium of Twelve Thesis" to review for the West Indian Economist, but he has not received the enclosure.

Kindly forward this as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary/Accountant.



College of Arts, Science and Technology,
Hope,
Kingston 6,

October 4, 1962

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
Editor,
West Indian Economist,
164 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

I enclose "Symposium of Twelve Thesis",
and would be glad if you could find time to
review this for your paper.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to be "R. Fox", is written over the typed name.

R. FOX
HEAD OF COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

RF/yal

Mr. Peter ABRAHAM

Author, Media Commentator

% Mr. L. Michael HENRY

Kingston Publishers Limited

KINGSTON

(JAMAICA)

Prof. Noël DOSSOU-YOVO
Professors World Peace Academy
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COMPRENDRE

REVUE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ EUROPÉENNE DE CULTURE

Le directeur

Venice, September 29th 1959

Plaza S. Marco, 52
Tél. 30.210 - Venice

Sir,

I have the honour to ask for your collaboration in the inquiry we are holding in our magazine to establish the practical possibilities of a meeting and a dialogue between Negro and Western men of culture, and through them, between their peoples.

I am sending you under separate cover the latest number of COMPRENDRE, and a copy of the Statutes of the European Society of Culture, so as to give you a more exact idea of our work. Enclosed in this letter you will find a few notes in which we have illustrated the reasons for our inquiry; naturally they do not limit your freedom, neither in the way you view the problem nor in the solution you propose - even when, to make our meaning clearer, we may have seemed to anticipate the results of our research.

We believe that the studies we receive will represent, as well as the answer to our questions, a first step towards the meeting and dialogue that we should like to see effected.

The articles that we publish consist generally of fifteen or twenty typewritten pages, but their eventual length must of course depend upon the developments which the subject imposes. Your typescript should reach us by December 1959.

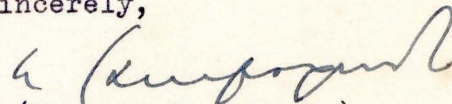
The administration of COMPRENDRE will put at your disposal the sum of 300 Swiss francs as honorarium.

I should be very grateful for an early reply at your convenience, as we are obliged to fix our plan of work without delay.

With many thanks in advance,

I am,

Yours sincerely,


(Umberto Campagnolo)

Peter Abraham, Esq.
37 Jessel Drive
Loughton, Essex

COMPRENDRE

REVUE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ EUROPÉENNE DE CULTURE

Place S. Marco, 52
Tél. 30.210 - Venise

A Few Notes on the Inquiry of COMPRENDRE into Negro Africa

For none of our former inquiries has it been so necessary than for this one to call the attention of our contributors to the practical, and not purely scientific, nature of the reasons which have led us to undertake it. We intend, indeed, to study Africa in order to find out the moral and material conditions in which our work for the creation of greater harmony among peoples would develop.

We have often had occasion in our magazine to insist on the idea (whose obviousness has unfortunately done nothing to modify the perilous course of events) that war is no longer a way to resolve international conflicts. The alternative between reason and the recourse to violence which was open in the past to States at tension is no longer conceivable; and only reason, fully exercised, seems to have the power to dispel the mortal menace which hangs over humanity.

When we say 'reason fully exercised' we wish to contrast abstract logical reason with dialectical reason, which includes the spiritual needs, the moral convictions and the vital interests of men. The dialogue which is the expression of this reason, and our own aim, will consist in the search for a place - truth - in which all men may finally meet each other, if the concept of man has any meaning; and it must not be confused with academic discussion, diplomatic fencing, or political bargaining. Absolutely conceived, the dialogue is of course always possible: but it is important for us here to establish its historical conditions, for which the interlocutors must have a common criterion of values.

With our scheme in mind, it will be necessary to take into consideration the various characteristics of different African cultural groups, and notably the relationship between African brought up in their native traditions, and those educated in the schools and social atmosphere of Europe or America. However our main objective will be to specify the origin, nature and significance of the forces shaking Africa today. These forces are tending to create independent States on foundations which they would like to be analogous to those of the Western States. One wonders whether these 'national' States respond to a spontaneous necessity, or if they do not rather represent the creation of a policy aiming to give to Africans the political framework to which Europeans seem indebted for their power.

There are many negro intellectuals who proclaim the urgent necessity for African peoples to study their past and awaken to the fact that they are heirs to a culture of universal value. We must not forget that the past only becomes history through the experience, and in the interests, of the present. Without unduly stressing that the words 'nation' and 'culture' themselves have been invented and defined by Western civilization, it will be useful to examine African 'nationalism'. There is no reason why this should be the only conceivable impulse behind Africa's awakening: we could also think of a policy aiming at world-unity to which the existence of national States would seem a dangerous anachronism. From this last point of view, Africa would be a particularly favourable ground for the idea that world-security lies in the suppression of the monopoly of the State in international re-

lations. Perhaps, entering into this policy, the Africans could with one blow free themselves from the psychological obstacles which they meet when trying to align themselves with the West.

In examining the African 'national' movements, particular attention should certainly be devoted to the role of Christian missions, Moslem expansion, and Communist action. We have a major interest in studying these activities of non-African origin and supra-national character, since they are often led by those intellectuals and men of culture to which we are appealing, in the name of a solidarity above all antagonisms. Just now these bodies of opinion support 'national' claims; perhaps they judge that it is the most efficient way of eliminating colonialism, or that it is the consequence of having done so. But the origin and the nature of these opinions make one think that their support of 'nationalism' is not unaccompanied by certain essential reservations.

What we have just said by no means excludes the opportunity of studying the concept of 'negritude', which French-speaking negro writers and thinkers have with authority developed into a theory. It will be very important for us to appreciate the real consistency of the ethical and metaphysical core that 'educated' negroes say lies in the depths of their soul, even when they have perfectly assimilated the white ways of life and thinking; ethics and metaphysics which make up, besides, the foundation of the negro cultural heritage, and which white men as well as black should recognize and support in its autonomy.

Is negro civilization then destined to remain juxtaposed to Western civilization? This is naturally not our opinion, since on the one hand we are trying to effect a vital relation between the two, and, on the other, we are opposed to colonialism which sees only barbarity and ignorance in the customs and mentality of the negro. The value of negro culture must be recognized, and, with its indispensable co-operation, spiritually won for history. There is no doubt that the poor results of the Western work of civilization in Africa are the consequence of the colonialist fallacy. It will not be easy to overcome the suspicion and rancour that this has aroused among Africans; but if all wrongs are honestly acknowledged, and if the West approaches Africa with the manifest intention of apprehending its originality so as to integrate it into universal history, it may be hoped that the suspicion and rancour may soon be dispelled.

But we must also show the people of Africa that the real meaning of Western civilization generally escapes them, and that they are mistaken when they identify this civilization with its collected actions and gestures; for the meaning lies on the contrary in the criterion by which these actions and gestures are judged, and very often condemned. In the present situation, we consider that the dialogue between the West and Africa must be prepared partly by the careful study of this positive vision of Africa, and partly by coming to the help of the Africans with all kinds of spiritual, intellectual and material enterprises, enabling them in this way better to perceive the profound meaning of Western civilization. The ground must be cleared of many resentments and misunderstandings, which certainly are not the discordia concors representing the substance of the dialogue.

At this point the question could be asked which almost all our inquiries have provoked: whether a civilization can adopt the values of another civilization without changing their original meaning. We shall just point out here the logical aspect of this question. When we state that the distinction between civilizations lies in their different criteria of values, we seem to deny the possibility of a transference of values to one from the other. But we also recognize, with our feelings as well as with our intelligence, the need for the integration of all values. The difficulty which follows can only be surmounted if we admit the existence of a civilization whose members are really judged from their works and actions according to a universal criterion.

The dialogue, as we have defined it, assumes that the thought of the interlocutors develops from the concept that man is historical reason. In the mind of someone who would not define man as such, the dialectical attitude would make no advance. To him, the contact, the conversation, would seem superficial. Thus the interlocutor who is disposed towards the dialogue has as his immediate task, not to transmit to the other his own convictions or his own doctrine, but to lead him to look at the world in his own universal perspective.

3rd January, 1961.

Mr. Laurence Smith,
Assistant Editor,
The Critic,
210 W. Madison Street,
Chicago 6, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you very much indeed
for the copy of the December-January
issue of the Critic. I find it
particular interesting not only be-
cause of the article on page 31.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'PA' with a stylized flourish above the 'A'.

Peter Abrahams

PA/mph

The Critic

210 W. MADISON STREET, CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS

We believe you will find this advance copy of particular interest because of the article on page 31

Sincerely,

Laurence Smith

Laurence Smith
Ass't Editor

The
Critic

210 W. MADISON STREET, CHICAGO & ILLINOIS

We believe you will find this ad-
verse copy of particular interest
because of the article on page 31

130

180

4

DISSENT

A QUARTERLY OF SOCIALIST OPINION 509 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

VA 6-0890

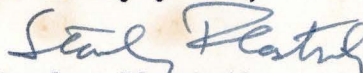
April 6, 1960

Dear Peter Abrahms:

George Hauser has given me your address; I thought we might persuade you to write something on South Africa for "Dissent"'s next issue, out in the summer (deadline, May 15th). We would be very pleased to receive something from you (we plan to have a section on South Africa); the article would be paid for.

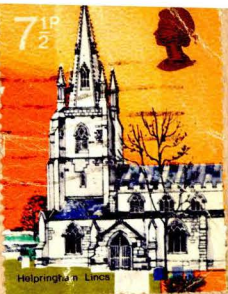
I trust you have been well and hope to hear from you.

Cordially yours,



Stanley Plastrik

Most urgent
Please forward, if necessary.



Mr. Peter Abrahams

~~% Faber and Faber~~

~~24, Russel Square~~

Coyaba

Red Hills P.O.

St. Andrew

JAMAICA

West Indies

~~LONDON~~ W.C.

Monsieur Noël Dossou-Yovo
Institut International d'Administra-
tion Publique (section diplomatique)
2, Avenue de l'Observatoire
PARIS 6.

Paris, 20th July, 1972

Mr. Peter Abrahams
% Faber and Faber
24, Russel Square
LONDON W.C.1

Dear Sir,

I beg to write to say that my dearest wish is that my letter should come to reach you some time where you live in Jamaica. For a long time now, I have wanted to meet you but a few months ago, my desire fell short of fulfilment.

This is a letter from a young, too young indeed and rather unknown friend and admirer of yours who is willing to contribute, somehow or other, with yourself as patron and mentor, to the emergence and assertion of African literature.

There surely is no space here for me to tell of the intricacies of the circumstances which brought me to hear and know of you. But I approached your literary work — from Dark Testament to This Other Island — through the French University.

I am 29 years old. French is my first foreign language; my native country is Bahamian (West Africa) and in Europe I specialised in Economics, foreign languages and African literature.

I said earlier that I nearly met you some time ago; in fact, I am expected to start working in the coming months, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of my native country, but prior to this, I had to take a training course in diplomacies for which I stayed a couple of months abroad. To start with, I suggested I would do the course in Jamaica as I thought I might meet you there, but my choice did not receive the agreement of our Central Department. And indeed, I was sent to the Netherlands where I stayed as late as last December.

But here is the reason why I wanted to meet you: for some time now I have been working on a Ph.D. thesis which comes out as: PETER ABRAMS: AN AFRICAN NOVELIST, and which I lately defended with success in a French University, having been myself in charge of an assistant-teaching post in English (the language of Economics) - at the University of Paris for the last two years.

Following my success, wishes came from around me that I should manage to publish my thesis in a book form.

So I have decided to turn to you for help.

The work is entirely written in English. At one time I was most interested in translating a few novels of yours into French. But with the CASTERMAN publications, I came to realize that this had already been done by much able people than myself.

Funnily, I was deeply disappointed, because my wish at the time was to do something, anything, connected with your literary work which I only too much appreciate for both sentimental and intellectual reasons.

And in case I would have a bit of luck with you, these are a few suggestions which I leave the most considerate person whom you surely are to decide upon:

As soon as I receive a favourable reply, I shall send you a copy of my piece of work.

Then, in as much as you could spare a few precious hours, I would be much grateful if you could read the 330 odd page-document through, adding as many annotations and personal remarks as would be necessary, (including hand-written proofs of yours in form of letters, old and new etc ...)

All this will surely take time and will depend on how far you are available.

If everything goes well, I will be glad to provide your French and French speaking readers with a French version of my PETER ABRAHAMS: AN AFRICAN NOVELIST...

Hoping to read from you at your earliest convenience,
I remain

Yours faithfully.

Monsieur Noël Dossou-Yovo
Institut International d'Administration
Publique (Section Diplomatique).
2, Avenue de l'Observatoire

PARIS 6.

Roosevelt College

OF CHICAGO

430 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS

December 3, 1948

TELEPHONE
WABASH 3580

Mr. Peter Abrahams
c/o The League of Colored Peoples
19 Old Queen Street
West Minster, London, England

Dear Peter:

I don't know where you are, so I am sending this letter via the League, and I hope you are still in South Africa.

Your native land is very much in the news over here due to the insanities of the Malan regime and the fact that one Alen Paton has recently published a novel, CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY, which has been receiving very favorable reviews. I am sure that your forthcoming novel on South Africa will find the public well prepared to receive it due both to your own work, which has been published here, and this current interest.

I am using some South African materials in my doctor's thesis and have been consulting with Isaac Schapera who is a Visiting Professor in Anthropology at the University of Chicago. I think he is from the University of the Witwatersrand. I have also run upon a marvelous study of religious organizations under the title "Bantu-~~clubs~~". The weakest gap in the literature is on lodges, social clubs, culture groups and similar organizations among the Colored and the Bantu. I am wondering if you could do two favors for me: (1) send me the names and addresses of the main Colored leaders who are connected with organizations of any type and (2) inquire whether anyone has written any books or theses down there on the subject of Colored and Bantu associations, clubs, and societies.

PROPHETS

I hope you are feeling that your trip home was fruitful. I know that I cannot say that I hope you are enjoying it, for I cannot truthfully say that I enjoy my visits to the South, and I know that for you, South Africa is ten times worse than our South. But out of your travail of spirit, I know there will come the words that will shape themselves up as a part of the gathering storm, which we all hope will some day blow aside the Shanty Towns and clear the way for South Africa that belongs to the people.

Give my regards to your wife, and I hope to see you in America soon after your return to England.

Sincerely yours,

St. Clair Drake
Drake

SCD:pc

Peter du Sautoy · 31 Lee Road · Aldeburgh · Suffolk IP15 5EY

Aldeburgh (072 885) 2838

27th July 1983

Dear Peter,

It was very good of you to ask Fabers to send me your novel to read (I think Anne Walmsley told me you might do that) and I am sorry I have been so slow in writing to you about it. It arrived when I was very much pre-occupied, first because my wife, Mollie, had a fall at the end of April and she had just come back from hospital where her broken hip had to be operated on, so I was responsible for looking after her at home and doing the household chores too; and secondly because the Aldeburgh Music Festival began at the beginning of June and it was imperative that I should take Mollie to as many concerts as possible, in spite of her crutches and a wheel chair, since music is her passion and it was a good morale booster - we managed to go to a lot. During this time your novel was a lifeline to me, as I came back to it each evening with enormous relief, pleasure and interest. I was absorbed in it. I do congratulate you on a marvellous piece of work. I must admit that I didn't expect to become so involved in it but I found that it gripped me. I have told Faber this but whether it is a book they will be able to publish I simply don't know; I am rather out of things these days.

Of course it is long but so are many novels today; and I didn't find it too long to grasp. It is very ambitious but I think you have succeeded in what you set out to do. It is sometimes rather allusive and dates are obscure but I don't mind that. There are some things I found a bit unconvincing but the narrative sweeps you along. For example, the development of David and Sarah and their family community into a sophisticated group, based largely on Sarah's Bible and her bit of education, gave me doubts but something of the kind must have happened. I found their discussions with the white missionary (the only white in the book?) fascinating and very well done.

I was a bit puzzled by the American black church that Jacob goes into, with its Episcopal organisation - bishops called "My Lord" and so on. It sounds very Anglican. Is there such a church in existence?

I found all the talk, philosophical, religious, political, extremely interesting and well handled. The only criticism I have is that their return to Jamaica is a bit of an anti-climax after all that has gone before, though you live it up with the arrival of the wounded boy. But I can see that you have to get back to Jamaica in the end, even if they don't stay there. Is Coyaba (Coyaba) the hill where you live? It is not absolutely clear that it is always the same hill,

in the story, but I suppose it is.

You use your knowledge of many black communities very skilfully and you show your sympathy with the different ^acharacters as movingly as you ever did. In fact it is, in my view, an impressive novel and I should like to know more about its background one day. I wish I felt more confident about the development of black organisations; Africa doesn't give us a very encouraging picture these days. Looking back on the last forty years or so I can't help feeling that all the work done by well-meaning people like Lord Lugard, Margery Perham etc. was very ineffectual; they didn't understand the deep-seated conflict they were trying to solve. Perhaps the religious answer might be the right one, as your story seems to suggest, if it is offered by blacks, not whites; but there is not much sign yet that it would work.

I have very little personal knowledge of all this. I don't know Africa at all. Apart from a holiday in Morocco, I have been very briefly to Nigeria. I was sent there in ~~1978~~ 1978 by the Publishers Association and the British Council, after I had retired from F. and F., to try to advise the Nigerian Government on the establishment of a national publishing and printing organisation. I had a couple of printers with me. We were only in Lagos, though we came down briefly at Kano (not so interestingly as David in your book) on the way; and I can't say I enjoyed it. It was in February and terribly hot. On the whole all we did was to explain to the Nigerians how very difficult they would find it to create the organisation they had in mind, but we gave some advice. Whether it was followed I am not at all sure, or how successful they have been if they did go ahead. Lagos was not a very attractive place to be in at that time, but we were very kindly treated while we were there. It was all a bit disorganised but that was largely the British Council's fault.

I hope all goes well with you. We send affectionate greetings to you both.

Yours ever,

Peter Abrahams,

Coyata,

Red Hills,

St. Andrew,

Jamaica

P.O. Box 20,

Peter

28th July
Make from
has just
series five
can another
one stick
Proppan at
last! P.
back
" Surgeon
up her
rising
island.

Air Mail



Peter A Williams,
Coyata,
Red Hills,
P.O. Box 20,
St. Andrew,
JAMAICA

Peter du Sautoy · 31 Lee Road · Aldeburgh · Suffolk IP15 5EY

Aldeburgh (072 885) 2838 16th April 1980

Dear Peter,

Very many thanks for your letter of 8th April. It is good to hear from you.

The answer to your question is certainly yes. Faber do act for authors in dealing with the rights you mention and are glad to do so. In fact I think I can say that the departments dealing with translations, permission to reprint extracts, broadcasting etc. are both efficient and effective, with a good deal of experience behind them. I am sure they would be willing to act for you.

As I am only an editorial consultant for the firm now, I shall send a copy of your letter and a copy of my reply to the Managing Director, Matthew Evans, who was my colleague and very valuable helper for twelve years or so and knows more about the firm and its operations than anyone. He can confirm whether we can act for you in the way you wish.

Of course you will have to make whatever arrangements are necessary with John Farquharson Ltd. It is of course easy enough to deal with any new books but I am never quite sure what can be done about old agents' contracts; it depends on what the author's arrangements with the agent are. I think you will find that you have to go ^{on} paying them commission on books for which they have made contracts, which is reasonable, but it may be possible to say that you want to deal yourself ^{with} or pass to someone else, all subsidiary rights from a certain date.

I will ask Matthew to send you a line to confirm that Faber will handle your rights if you want them to; you can then deal with Farquharson.

We shall be very happy to hear of your writing plans when you are finally finished with your broadcasting responsibilities and I hope I shall have a chance of reading a manuscript sent by you before too long. I shall look forward to that.

Our very best wishes to you both,

Yours ever,

Peter

Peter Abrahams,
P.O. Box 20,
Red Hills, St. Andrew, Jamaica

copy to: Matthew Evans
Faber and Faber