

March 8, 1959

Laura D. Wilck, Literary Agency,
14847 Dickens Street,
Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Elliott:

My apologies regarding the reference to "Lou Cowan's talk." I suspect "Lou Cowan" is the name of the man who made the TV talk on "The Arts." I sent the publicity sheet along for the varying information it contained, including the reference to setting up writing grants. (In which I'm not interested). You understand I'm not a TV fan, or I would be sitting at home watching TV instead of working.

One of our editorial writers, H. Dean Gule, who has written several Indian books in the past read the first six chapters of Sorority Row. You've got to know Mr. Gule to appreciate his observations which are usually very critical. I emphasized to him, over and over that it got off to a too slow start. He saw none of the later part where it moves along. He liked it for readability and for the field it was designed for.

The problem, starting off in the "middle" of a person's life is too much backflashes. I agree with you about it's slowness. But the problem is still there. To me personalities etc. have always been more important than plots.

Perhaps before it is redone, and that means ~~xxxxxx~~ another 65,000 words of typing, correcting etc. I should outline it in detail, chapter by chapter, synopsis it.

However I do not agree concerning the parts dealing with procedures, rules etc. My conviction is that as many, or more people would read a Sorority Row book who plan to go to college, or want to go, or who never had the opportunity and ~~xxxxxx~~ still want to go, as the "comparative" few who did. I know that from my own research around various classes of people. I believe people read books to see what they can find in them about themselves and to see what they can find in them to benefit themselves in their own plans for their own lives.

Re: Drummers and Dreamers, perhaps, looking toward possibilities, I should communicate with Gipson and ask him if it's possible for me to purchase, personally, the plates etc. of D and D. That's a customary procedure in Northwest presses since most are in limited publication, go out of print and are picked up later by historical societies etc. It would eliminate Caxton's consideration that a larger publisher were involved and they'd see a chance to make a few hundred on a work they have already made costs and more on. Again, my apologies on Mr. Cowan

Sincere Regards

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