

[c. 1954, Feb.]

2001 Los Amigos
La Canada, Calif.

Dear Irving Paul Lazar:

I have recently returned from a two-year residence in Mexico, and am undertaking a most urgent examination of the possibilities for work and sales in motion pictures. Remembering a conversation we had some years ago, it occurred to me to write you.

I am rather an old hand in the black market, having been one of the first to jump into it. Until I left the country I encountered considerable success---more, I might say, than many writers in the free market---in the sale of originals and screenplays, some of which have done very well and one of which presently is being rather highly honored. I have also done a few films on a straight employment basis.

My agent up to the time I undertook an enforced vacation at Federal expense has since, as you know, been obliged to seek other fields of employment. I think I should add that his change of profession had nothing whatever to do with his association with me, and that no purchaser of my work has ever been questioned by anyone concerning it.

I am well aware of the problems which would present themselves to you in representing me. One of the first requirements is that the relationship be confidential. In relation to this I might point out that I have achieved a certain reputation for not talking.

If you think it might be mutually profitable to discuss the matter, let me suggest that for purposes of communication I be Dr. John Abbott, and that you write to me as such at my home address which is 2001 Los Amigos, La Canada, or that you reach me by telephone at SYlvan 0-3877, asking for the same person. I do not suggest the subterfuge out of any sense of guilt, but merely to confuse the curious.

If you feel that you do not wish to see or talk to me, simply ignore this letter altogether and I shall understand.

Yours very truly,