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February 20th 1965

Dear Kay, -

once again I have been acutely and additionally ill - some stupid virus infection which in my case also caused a lot of pain. So there. Am I forgiven ?

Thanks, first, for your beautifully furious letter of January 29th to poor Joe Besch. I really enjoyed reading it even though, in the meantime, I have come to think of Joe with a great deal of saddened sympathy. Which brings us to your letter of February 10th.

As for Joe's report on his Zurich conversation with me, it is not what I should call entirely correct. What happened was that Joe said Ed Riskind was a bit tiresome regarding things that were not in the contract but that he, Joe, would nevertheless make him see the light. Whereupon I: "Inasfar as the work I did at Oxford certainly facilitated Harry Craigs job, it would probably also shorten the "advisory work" I should have to do on the finished script." Joe: "Might it not even work out in such a way that your advisory work would only have to cost \$ 500 instead of 1500 ?" I: "That's more than unlikely. But I am certain that I shan't have to 'advise' against the full 1500." Joe: "Now that's just fine."

For the rest I couldn't disagree with you less and think we should get \$ 1000 now and \$ 500 for the advisory business provided I am not to work for more than a week. Should I have to labour for two weeks an additional amount of \$ 700 or even of 500 should be handed over. I leave it to you just what to ask for.

I am more than sorry to hear about the Ferrer situation. Zefirelli would be about the best thing that could possibly happen to us. But I feel horribly confident that Zefirelli, though very interested, is so overburdened - especially by his operatic endeavours that his availability is practically non-existent.

Please let me hear from you as soon as anything crystallizes.

As always yours affectionately,