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THOMSON LEARNING

October 15, 2001

Professor Mike Lennon
Department of English
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Dear Professor Lennon,

I am so pleased to learn from Jay Parini that you have agreed to contribute the article on Norman Mailer for *American Writers*.

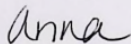
Enclosed please find Directions for Contributors, a sample article from an earlier volume in the series, and two copies of our work-for-hire agreement.

Your 10,000-word article is due 6/15/2002 and the honorarium is \$2,500. Please sign and return both copies of the agreement (envelope enclosed); a fully executed copy will be returned to you.

Do not hesitate to call me if you have questions about the preparation of your manuscript. Any substantive questions about content should be addressed to Jay Parini.

Thank you for joining the project!

Sincerely,



Anna Nesbitt
Senior Editor, Charles Scribner's Sons/Gale Group
Anna.Nesbitt@galegroup.com

*Done
5/30/02*

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15 May 2002

Professor J. Michael Lennon
Department of English
Kirby 106
Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Dear Professor Lennon,

This is a friendly reminder that the due date for your *American Writers* essay on Norman Mailer is one month away.

I would be most grateful if you would please call, write, or send me an e-mail if you have any doubts about your ability to make the June 15th date so that I can better coordinate our freelance copyeditors' assignments.

With thanks and best wishes,

Alja K. Collar

Alja K. Collar
Project Editor
Charles Scribner's Sons

Phone: 800-877-4253, ext. 8254

Fax: 248-699-8075

E-mail: alja.collar@gale.com

Done
5/30/02

Dr. J Michael Lennon

Barry Leads Mailer critic
Scholar

From: "Doc Holiday" <bhleads01@snet.net>
To: "Dr. J Michael Lennon"
Sent: Saturday, June 08, 2002 7:23 AM
Subject: Your MAGNIFICENT essay

Dear Mike,

The three documents you sent me: Biographical through N&D, the bulk of the essay from N&D to 2003 (!) and the wonderfully organized bibliography, are SO good that you're putting me in an embarrassing position: On the first draft, I was reduced to petty quibbling and minor copy-editing ("pouring" for "poring," it's for its, and (as you've noted), the title of my book.

Now comes the latest version. I don't know if it's just that I've lost the critical ability to find errors or omissions or even honest disagreements with your writing on NM, which is to say that I'm getting to be the sauerkraut to your mustard and hot dog relationship, or THE REAL TRUTH: You are getting better and better.

Aside from the fact that the writing is precise, incisive, sophisticated AND accessible, and the facts (no surprise) that you keep teaching me new facts (e.g. NM's FIRST as-yet-unpublished novel), the essay is unusual to me in that I don't think I've ever seen you write as BALANCED a treatment of the canon. Your low-key (because it relies on substantiating facts and convincing perceptions) admiration for most of the works is lent even greater force and credibility by the candor with which you treat the weaker books, notably *Barbary Shore*.

I feel happy to tell you how much I like, admire, and enjoy this profound and comprehensive piece; but I feel silly in that even Eagle-eye Leeds can't find anything SUBSTANTIVE to correct or argue with.

I feel reduced to rooting about (as NM would write) for scraps: in the early pages of the biographical opening, you use "parent" for "parents."

There is, however, one glaring error. Just as Lincoln wrote in The Gettysburg Address, "the World will little note nor long remember what we say here," you are gracious but incorrect in assigning the title Dean of Mailer Studies to Bob Lucid. Let's face it, buddy: YOU da man!

With great stuff like this, NM's work will never die.

With respect and friendship, Don Michael, I thank you for this fine piece.

Barry

"Dr. J Michael Lennon" <lennon@wilkes.edu> wrote:

Dear Barry,
 I have revised it still more (and got the name of your book correct finally). Finished the bib too. I am limited to 30 entries in critical section. Tell me if there is any MAJOR omission. It will come in a separate email in a sec.
 thanks, Pal,
 Mike

jmlennon1

From: Parini, Jay <parini@middlebury.edu>
To: 'jmlennon1' <jmlennon1@attbi.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2002 3:48 PM
Subject: RE: Mailer

Dear Mike,

I sent an enthusiastic report, accepting your Mailer, to Scribners, who will write soon and say this and send a check! Bravo. A GREAT essay, one that really took me into Mailer in a way I've never been there before. Loved it. Really perfect. They'll send you a copy-edited version before September, I hope...with lots of annoying little queries... Ignore them if you like. It's just their way.

McCullers is covered for the moment, but I can get your friend to write for Scribners next time around, and we're always going around and around. It's an endless, ongoing project....

Have her email me!

Jay

> -----

> From: jmlennon1
 > Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2002 11:56 PM
 > To: Parini, Jay
 > Subject: Re: Mailer

>

> Dear Jay,
 > Finished up the Mailer and sent it in the other day. Quite an experience;
 > I
 > did about 1,000 words a day for two weeks then rewrote, cut, edited. It
 > stands at just 13,000 now. I hope it won't have to be cut. Worked hard on
 > an
 > up-to-date bib also.
 > Question: do you need anything on Carson McCullers? I have a good friend,
 > an
 > extraordinarily reliable friend who could do an essay on her. And she
 > writes
 > beautifully.
 > Let me know.
 > Now I get started on the Oxford entry.
 > All Best, mike
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Parini, Jay <parini@middlebury.edu>
 > To: 'jmlennon1' <jmlennon1@attbi.com>
 > Sent: Monday, May 20, 2002 10:24 AM

6/15/02

Dr. J Michael Lennon

From: "Alja Collar"
To: <lennon@wilkes.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2002 12:46 PM
Subject: Norman Mailer essay

Dear Professor Lennon,

Jay Parini has approved your essay on Norman Mailer for publication in the American Writers series. The essay will now be sent to a copyeditor as soon as one is available. Could you please forward your home address so that I can send your honorarium there? Our accounts payable department dislikes university addresses as they are difficult to fit onto a check.

All the best,
Alja

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17 July 2002

J. Michael Lennon
67 South Pioneer Ave.
Shavertown, PA 18708
570-696-5449

Dear Professor Lennon,

Enclosed is the edited manuscript of your essay on Norman Mailer for *American Writers Retrospective Supplement II* for your review, emendation, and final approval. Original text changed by the copyeditor is crossed out; text added by the copyeditor is double underlined. Queries to you are indicated by [AuQ] in the text; the queries themselves are attached at the end of your manuscript. I hope that you will find the editing acceptable. Please make your responses to the queries directly on the manuscript and query sheets.

As you review your manuscript, please remember that this is your last chance to make substantive changes; you will not be seeing galley proofs. The aim of the copyediting is to create consistency throughout all of the entries in *American Writers*. If, however, you feel the editing has substantially altered the intended meaning of a specific passage, please indicate this.

Please return the manuscript with your corrections and responses to me by **Wednesday, July 31, 2002**. You are welcome to e-mail or fax corrections if either of those methods is easier for you. Finally, could you please forward a brief biographical note for inclusion with your essay? Most authors supply their present position and a few publications.

Thank you in advance for your attention to the edited manuscript and for your participation on this project. We expect to publish *American Writers Retrospective Supplement II* by the end of the year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Alja K. Collar

Alja K. Collar

Editor

Scribners Reference/Gale Group

Phone: 800-877-4253, ext. 8254

Fax: 248-699-8075

E-mail: alja.collar@gale.com