



Columbus College

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31907

November 16, 1970

Dr. Sidney Isenberg
401 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Dr. Isenberg:

I am writing to you because of your interest in and friendship with Carson McCullers, who has mentioned you in letters she has written to Lillian Smith. I also was referred to you by Dr. Hervey Cleckley, with whom I have recently corresponded. I am enclosing copies of my letter to Dr. Cleckley and his response to me so that you can understand something of the nature of my letter to you today.

As you see, my colleague, Mrs. Aimee Alexander, professor of English at Eastern Kentucky University, and I are at work on a book on Carson McCullers, her life and works. And we are under contract with a New York publisher, David Lewis, Inc., whose letter I also include (upon which the contract was based); we hope to deliver our manuscript to him early in 1971, but we still are busy in our search for Truth and have a number of people yet to talk to who knew Mrs. McCullers personally. We hope that you, also, will help us.

Both Mrs. Alexander and I will be in Atlanta next week to attend the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, to participate in the program, and, hopefully, to talk to you. Would it be possible for us to meet you for lunch on Wednesday, November 25, or Friday, November 27, or meet you, if you prefer, in your office at a time convenient to you so that we might talk together about Carson McCullers as you knew her. The questions I have asked Dr. Cleckley I also pose to you. Mrs. Alexander and I will be staying at the Sherraton-Biltmore on the 24th and 25th (I will be there from Sunday, the 22nd.); and on the 26th through Sat. night, the 28th, we will be at the Marriott. I hope that you do mind my calling you early in the week to see if we may get together. I know how busy you must be, but Mrs. Alexander and I do hope that you may be able to share with us, if only for a few moments.

If you have any correspondence with Mrs. McCullers that you might be willing to share with us for our book, we would be most grateful. I know that much of your information regarding her may be of a confidential nature, but for whatever you would be at liberty to share--of a biographical, clinical, or critical nature--we would appreciate very much. We would like to know, also, your opinion of the psychology of certain of her characters.

Sincerely,

Virginia S. Carr

Virginia S. Carr, Ph.D.

A Unit of The University System of Georgia Assistant Professor of English



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