

Friday 12 th

~ 1973

Dear Rosa:

The enclosed is fairly self-explanatory I reckon. I receive a hand full of these from Ramona Weeks in Phoenix, with a long explanatory letter, plus a copy of DESCANT, the ~~Southern Methodist Quarterly~~ (oops) the Texas Christian U. Lit. Journal containing two more of Ramona's completely obscure (to me) poems.

She says in her letter: "I'm sure you know other librarians besides Rosa Morgan ...and I hope they will want to acquire Duane's book. A wonderful bit of joy and luck: Nelson Bentley will make the book required as a text in all his poetry classes at the University of Washington..."

As you see, these brave gals are also reviving INSCAPE. And already one of them, Ramona says, may gradually disappear, because of her complicated love life. To use Ramona's words: "Our partner Jill is greatly strewn apart by her love life." I haven't answered the letter, being faced with the always-almost-impossible necessity of commenting upon Ramona's poetry. It must be good. She has had poems in Yale Review, Antioch Review, Pacific NW Review, Suwanee, etc. Has two more coming out in Yale Review. I try to rely on Dorothy, who not only knows contemporary poetry but who is also smarter than I am, by a good deal. But she has thrown up her hands mumbling something to the effect that it is the business of the writer to communicate, and that included poets.

I have sheaves of Ramona's poems, both published and unpublished. I understand a few, admire a few, admire many images. But the bulk of these leaves me groping. Oddly, I never felt close to Ramona at all, never quite trusted her to be on my side, as I always do Patsy Smith, and of course dear Bill James. But she keeps up this correspondence, sends poems, books she has picked up that she thinks Earle or I might like, etc. An odd girl, smart, industrious, talented....

I received a 20-copy packet of ISLAND IN THE SOUND paperbacks from Ballentine yesterday, compliments of BB.

New Manuscript almost ready to take over. I don't know what the reaction of Don and Company will be.

I hope to see you some time during the holidays. Might catch Lane at home. I would like that.

Love to you all,

Hazel

Friday 12 th

1973

Dear Ross:

The enclosed is fairly self-explanatory I reckon. I received a hand full of these from Ramona Weeks in Phoenix, with a long explanatory letter plus a copy of DESCANT, the journal containing two more of Ramona's completely obscure (to me) poems.

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