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Bill to Dr. Silver, 12 January 1963

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Saturday Evening
Jan 12, 1963

Dear Dr. Silver,

We're resting after a long hot day of house cleaning. This pen, this paper, and I are not exactly compatible but I love the paper so I must use it. My glasses are so bespeckled can hardly see. Anyway. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Am supposed to be writing a term paper. Intended to go to the LC but it's too crowded on Sat. anyway. Archives of the Hittites. An impossible topic but it just goes along with the rest of the course - History and Administration of Archives. Two full semesters for a training course. Next semester is on technical stuff. It's been a fantastically boring course. Our instructor mumbles and doesn't seem very interested either. It's rather an awkward situation for me since my supervisor is a very good friend of the instructor's & she assumes we love the course. They have breakfast together every morning & he puts flowers on her desk. (every morning)

Rather schmaltzy. They also have coffee breaks together or cocktail breaks maybe since they meet in a lounge. Undoubtedly it's platonic not ^{only} because he has a wife but mainly because it's been going on for years & years. She's the type who lives for her work & expects the same of others. Now please don't let all this gossip get back to them. It wouldn't do a tall. The Archives has been rather lively. The other day a man followed his estranged wife to work & into the main Ladies john & beat her up. The most shocking thing about it is that he breached security by entering before visitors hours.

Well, Charles & I both are about fed up with Mr. Meredith. That article in the Reporter made me mad but his last news conference (!!) almost beat that. That article though! He's certainly not the first man never mind Negro to see injustice but getting so upset over seeing a Negro woman sweep the floor that he couldn't keep his appts back of the theater.

Obviously it took a lot of nerve to try to enter Ole Miss but I think maybe he has a little too much. Oh, he has his friends who would back him ~~has~~ even if he committed murder but they're the same as the segregationists only the other way. I'm convinced, Dr. Silver that if I were at school, I would refuse to associate with him. Why can't he just shut up. That's really a turn around for me. After the fiasco I was mad at everyone else but Meredith (MR.) & willing to blame anyone but him. But he (MR. Meredith) insists on being an ASS.

Enough about MR. YOU-KNOW-WHO. We had a nice vacation & missed a lot of snow. Most of it is now gone. Our apartment is now pretty clean for a change. Florence calls about once or twice a year & rates. She has an autographed photo of Goldwater in her apt. Don't know if her book ever came out. She was writing it way back when. Must tell you all about the Archives next letter. Some kookie people. Thank you for writing for my father. Hello to your family.

Love,

Bette