

The Fork Route One Galiano British Columbia Canada VON 1P0

June 6, 1975

Dear Carolyn:

I meant to write before this. I think my sense of organization is thrown off badly when I go off a writing schedule, and that's probably a good thing. I was exhausted when the new novel was finally finished. I did, right away, ship off a Fred record to your friends at S. Lake and haven't heard from them, but I hope his lovely voice is singing to people there just the same. Reports from him as he travels across the country are mostly good in concerts and sales. He's somewhere in Toronto now, I think.

Thanks for Women's studies news, which Helen, particularly needs and wants just now. Since I've finished writing, I've been reading with her for her new course, or mostly rereading and enormously enjoying it. We go on long rambles, our attention divided between blooming broom-wild roses-camas and Women's Studies. When I'm not reading I'm attending to crab. Monica is bringing us marvelous supplies of it, more than we can eat at once; so I'm shelling and freezing it. I went to town yesterday, went into a fish shop to find it's now selling for \$6.50 a pound; so I feel crab-rich.

And thanks, too, for making book store journeys to see that the short story volume gets some Toronto exposure. It's a handsome book, which is the more pleasing and comforting for the absolute disaster of a cover for Lesbian Images for the American and Canadian editions (the English is fine, but perhaps you saw that). That book is out in the States July 11, god knows when in Canada. Even the Doubleday N.Y. office ~~gax~~ can't get anything out of the Canadian office (which I think is probably a small warehouse without staff). American news of the book is good. The Woman Today Book Club has taken it for an alternate choice for August, and that means a lot more publicity than Doubleday could/would afford. Advance reviews begin. I've seen the one in Publishers' Weekly which is really accurate and very positive, and I've just heard that Kirkus (which usually is snide and ugly about my work) is good. I'll believe it when I see it. The new novel is at various publishers, under consideration.

It is a nervy time for me, and I'm glad to be on the island where the whole atmosphere is counter to that tension. I don't really look forward to going back. We take possession of the house again in August and will be back and forth in that month before we settle in Vancouver in September. Though I've liked that place, enjoyed that life, I am ready to get rid of it, and that will be my chore in the fall. We hope to be back here next May, finally free of city life.

I'm going to North Carolina for two weeks, the last two of this month, and then I'll settle in here to family visitors for the summer and to running Father's business while they're in Europe.

My letters are more like telegrams these days. Forgive. I'll be more relaxed by the time July arrives, less involved in waiting, which is never my best stance.

Are you spending the summer in the country? I hope so-- projection  
for my own sanity.

Love,

*Jane*