

February 21, 1995

Dear Victor,

I was glad to hear from you last night. I think you have a real future in cd-rom voice overs. I wonder if this guy is a computer guy or primarily a publisher/writer type. Maybe he is just a multi-talented, multi-media man. When you put something like that together how is it credited? I read that Bill Gates would have teams of lawyers going around to museums to secure the digital rights of their collections. In fact later there were some researchers in the Still Picture Branch who were working for Microsoft, and putting together a WWII cd-rom. We have a cd-rom on our computers at work which deals with the assassination. We mostly use it as a reference guide, but it has some photographs of "players" and some of the home movies taken at the scene including the famous Zapruder movie. I have been making the joke that we should get the Zapruder movie as a screen saver. No one thinks that is very funny.

Some people I know were the subject of a cover story in the Washington Post Magazine. When I worked at Olssen's there were these kids that were down with the DC scene, and they played in rock bands and worked in the store. They were punkers you know. Maybe vegetarian, definitely thrift shopping, just discovering soul music and jazz, and trying to figure out what to do since they graduated college, or since they quit going to college. A bunch of them lived in this total dump of a group house in Mt. Pleasant. Anyway I opened up the inserts of the Sunday paper and there they are on the cover of the magazine. The article was pretty good I guess. You know, they refused to be pegged as representative of "their generation". But of course there they were on the cover of the damn magazine. It was as if the Post had taken the extras of the "Real World" and set them up in Washington, and grew them as a cultural biosphere. Their growth wasn't hindered by the bright lights and teevee cameras, but we got a story out of it eventually. I guess in about 1973 or 74, the mainstream media probably did a lot of stories about hippies, way after the real deal was gone.

Here is that Whitman article. Maybe when you come to D.C. you can get in touch with the rare book librarian over at the L.C. and get a look at the notebooks. I think its cool that the writer is so amazed at Whitman's sophisticated notion of image and especially self-image. Of course to me the sophistication makes perfect sense. The guy was intensely self aware.

love,

Kevin