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Horace R. Cayton  
820 21st Avenue  
Seattle Washington  
March 8th 1939

Mr. Langston Hughes  
New York City New York

My Dear Sir:

For some weeks, perhaps, months I have been trying to make myself think that I am writing a book and while I am not convinced that such is a fact, yet I have about completed a manuscript and will submit to some publisher after getting a bit of advice from who knows how to go about doing so.

The manuscript covers about 400 pages of typewritten material, divided up in 27 chapters, with a few illustrations throughout the whole. It is more of a commentary nature than "educational."

My object in writing to you is to learn what publisher, if any, will give the effort the most favorable consideration. If you will give me a bit of personal advice as to what course to pursue I will greatly appreciate the favor.

You doubtless remember me, more, I suspect, on account of two of my children, Revel and Madge, they having entertained you while visiting in Seattle. Mrs. Cayton and are now all alone with the exceptions of a grand child and she may go to Chicago to live some time this year, but I am glad to say we are in fairly good health to be as old as we are. Hoping your health, happiness and financial success I am,

Yours Truly

Horace R. Cayton

Ann 3/25/39

Remember visit with please difficulty! only unknown.  
Writers Digest National pulpwells  
Sell mixed reactions  
Concerning Negroes Carter W. West in Wester? north side of Chi.  

Horace R. Cayton
1379 E. Wash. Blvd.,
Los Angeles, Calif.
March 25, 1939

Mr. Horace R. Cayton
320 21st Avenue
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Cayton:

Your letter to Langston Hughes has just been forwarded to him here. He has asked me to explain that since the subject matter of your manuscript is not known to him, it is difficult to suggest any specific publisher. However, he suggests that the Writers Digest lists all of the publishers and the types of material they favor. By submitting your manuscript to one of these and noting their reactions, you will get about as good results as by any other method. If your book is concerning Negroes, Mr. Hughes suggests that Carter G. Woodson, who publishes books about the Negro, might be interested. His address is 1536 9th Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

Mr. Hughes sends best regards to you and Mrs. Cayton and to your grandchild. He remembers with pleasure his last visit with you and adds that he had the good fortune of seeing both of your children in Chicago several months ago. He is happy to hear that you are enjoying good health and wishes you much success with your book.

Very truly yours,

James R. Derry
For Langston Hughes
January 8, 1941

Mr. Langston Hughes
Hollow Springs Farm
Monterey, California

Dear Lang:

Thanks for "America's Young Black Joe." Its great!
Did you see the plug I gave you in the Pittsburgh Courier?

Best of luck.

Music sent
2/13/41

HRC
Good Shepherd Community Center
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY  TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 6727  CHICAGO

April 30, 1941

Mr. Langston Hughes
Hollow Springs Farm
Monterey, California

My dear Mr. Hughes:

The Good Shepherd Community Center has (through the courtesy of the Chicago Women's Club) guest rooms in which it can entertain its friends. As one who is vitally interested in the problem to which we are addressing ourselves, I would like to invite you on behalf of the Board of Directors to be the guest of the Center anytime that you are in Chicago. As our guest it will be possible for you to see and get acquainted with the work which we are doing in this community.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

HORACE R. CATTON
DIRECTOR
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the DIRECTOR

November 8, 1941

Mr. Langston Hughes
Hollow Hills Farm
Monterey, California

Dear Lang --

You are welcome to stay with us in the guest room here at the Center. There is no rent. You do not have to read poetry - even to me.

I am sure if you play twelve records on my machine all at once, no one will play it again for some time.

We will be delighted to see you.

[Signature]

HC:le

[Signature]
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

January 10, 1942

Office of the
DIRECTOR

My dear Langston:

I am writing to confirm the arrangements for your lecture here at the Center on Sunday, February 15. The Good Shepherd Community Center has agreed to pay you the sum of fifty dollars ($50.00) for this lecture. This is for this single performance and the Center will have no further claim on your services for the above sum.

Of course, we are hoping that you will produce your play here following the lecture but this agreement does not include this which will be a voluntary service on your part. We are, however, going to use any profits from the lecture for the purpose of financing your play.

We have been planning to have an exhibit of Gordon Rogers Parks photographs in connection with your lecture. His name and picture would appear on our programs (as would your own) and his pictures would be hung in the dining room where tea would be served and where your table of books would be on display. Do you have any objections to this arrangement? If so please let me know by return mail so that we can make any re-arrangements you would like to suggest.

Yours truly,

Horace

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the
DIRECTOR

January 16, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

Things are coming along nicely
and we have gotten a great deal of advance
publicity.

I will arrange to have a press
conference for you when you come to the
city.

Please let me know when you ex-
pect to arrive and how and I may be able
to think up some publicity angle.

As ever

Horace

HRC:kw
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apt. 1-D, c/o Harper
New York, N. Y.
January 24, 1942

Mr. Horace Cayton
Good Shepherd Community Center
5120 South Parkway
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Horace:

I expect to arrive in Chicago on Friday the thirteenth of February, so you could arrange a press conference if you wish for that day. My book, Shakespeare in Harlem, appears on the sixteenth, but I shall arrange to have advance copies on sale and display at our program and I will ask the Knopf office to send you publicity material.

At the moment I am writing a radio play for the Om radio play program, Keep 'Em Rolling, to be given in honor of Lincoln's birthday on the evening of February fifteenth over a national hookup. The play is called Brothers, and Rex Ingram and Canada Lee are to take the leading roles.

Tell Irma the invitations look fine and I will do my best to give our audience at least seventy-five cents worth of entertainment. I presume pictures, cake and tea will take care of the rest of the dollar. Anyhow, I am sure we are going to have fun.

I am delighted with the arrangements which you mentioned about the Gordon Parks photographs; and I would be pleased to have this occasion used to give his work as much publicity as possible.

Expecting then to see you soon, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the
DIRECTOR

February 27, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
5120 South Parkway
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Hughes:

This is to confirm our conversation of this afternoon, concerning the play, "The Sun Do Move".

The Center agrees to pay your railroad expenses, from New York and return, in compensation for your producing the play here. In consideration of the fact that, in addition to giving us your services, you will have incurred a loss in lecture fees to the amount of Fifty Dollars ($50.00), this Fifty Dollars ($50.00) will be taken from the gross income of the production. In case the play makes no gross, of course, we cannot pay it. But the Fifty Dollars ($50.00) will be taken from the first income of the play.

In addition, the Center will pay a royalty of Five Dollars ($5.00) per performance, each time that the play is produced, whether an admission is charged or not.

On behalf of the Board and the Staff of the Center, I want to thank you for your interest and your willingness to give so liberally of your time and talent.

Yours truly,

Horace R. Cayton
Director

HRC:mmw
March 4, 1942

TO MR. LANGSTON HUGHES

FROM MR. HORACE R. CATTON

Dear Mr. Hughes,

Please send copies of your book, autographed in a manner which will call attention to their activities in behalf of the Center to Atty Sidney P. Brown, 417 East 47th Street; Mrs. George B. Wilson, 19 South La Salle Street; Mr. Samuel A. Goldsmith, 130 North Wells Street; Dr. Niel Hansen, 19 South La Salle Street; and Dr. T. K. Vogler, 7000 Jeffrey Avenue.

Sincerely,

Horace R. Catton
Memo From

HORACE R. CAYTON

Sent Feb. 15

Miss Elizabeth With
5727 Kimbark autograph
Shakespeare in Harlem 2.50

---

Mrs. S. Storm
7656 Euclid
Shakespeare in Harlem 2.50
autograph: To Judy Storm

---

Mrs. Lois S. Eckhouse
164 Harbor Street
Glencoe, Ill. autograph
Shakespeare in Harlem 2.50

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
Telephone Atlantic 6727
Memo From

HORACE R. CAYTON

Mr. Jacob Weinstein
920 East 50th Street
Shakespeare In Harlem 250
Autograph: To Jacob & Janet Weinstein

Miss Jane Ann Evans
International House
Chicago, Ill. Autograph
Shakespeare In Harlem 250

Mrs. Everett Hughes
5155 Dorchester Autograph
Shakespeare In Harlem 250

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
Telephone Atlantic 6727
Memo From

HORACE R. CAYTON

Miss Nina Gale
q. a. Lueright
Hull House
800 South Halsted
Shakespeare In Harlem $2.50

Mr. R. A. Meyer
5490 South Shore Drive
Chicago, I. L
Shakespeare In Harlem $2.50

Sold one copy of Weary Blues $2.00
3 copies of music $1.50

Total $23.50
Program

Prelude ......................... Miss Vivian Carter

Audience ........................ America

Invocation ........................ Rev. L. A. McGee

Musical Selection ................ Miss Vivian Carter

Introductory Remarks ............. Mr. Charles Graves, Jr.

Musical Selection ................ Mrs. Jennye Turner

Introduction of Speaker .......... Mr. Horace Cayton
                                  Director of Good Shepard Community Center, Chicago, Ill.

Address .......................... Mr. Langston Hughes

Musical Selection ................ Miss Ruth Roberts

Presentation of Prizes from Quiz Contest .... Miss M. L. Dyson

Closing Remarks .................. Mrs. Nona Mae Glenn
                                  Organizer of the Alaine Locke Literary Guild

Benediction ........................ Rev. D. G. Lewis
Patrons

Mr. and Mrs. Dell Nicholas  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Newton  
Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Semmes  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Crump  
Rev. and Mrs. Lewis A. McGee  
Miss Juanita Whittemore  
Mr. and Mrs. George Ellis  
Miss Castelane Harris  
Mrs. Mable Cox  
Miss Wthhemina McKinney  
Mr. and Mrs. Luther Morris  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mallard  
Mrs. Bernice Washington  
Mr. Albert L. Brown  
Mr. Quinton P. Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Guy  
Mrs. Clara Wand  
Mr. George N. Davis  
Mr. and Mrs. Lucius H. Brewer  
Miss Eddy Turner  
Miss Laurabelle Evans  
Att'y. and Mrs. Harry Schell  
Miss Mildred Cooper  
Mr. Charles Graves, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gray  
Miss Lynnette Wiggins  
Dr. and Mrs. H. Lovell  
Att'y. Calvin James  
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Harris  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Greene

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Mr. Chas. Graves, Jr.  
Mrs. Nona Glenn  
Mrs. Grace Kirkwood  
Mrs. Electa Ridgeway  
Miss Mary L. Dyson  
Mrs. Gayce Smith  
Mrs. Geneva Murray  
Miss Mildred Page  
Mr. DuBois Childress  
Mr. G. L. Whittemore

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE
Mrs. Grace Kirkwood  
Mr. Alfred Beckman  
Mr. Roy Parham  
Mrs. Fredonia Reese

RECEPTION COMMITTEE
Mrs. Novella Rudolph  
Mrs. Minnie Gilliam  
Co-Chairman  
Miss Mildred Page  
Mrs. Geneva Wilson  
Mrs. Etbel Lewis  
Mrs. Willinda Gray  
Mrs. Fredonia Reese  
Mrs. Katherine R. Cooke  
Mrs. Gayce Smith  
Penguin Girls Club

Alfred L. Beckman  
2108 Jeff Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana

USHERS
Junior Usher Board  
First A. M. E. Church

Appreciation is extended to Mr. Horace Carton, our patrons, receptionists, participants and many others who cooperated with us in the interest of the program.
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
3120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Mr. Langston Hughes
Memo From

HORACE R. CAYTON

April 10, 1942

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Just to remind you that we are expecting you at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 16 to meet Mr. Marshall Field III.

Yours very truly,

Horace R. Cayton

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
Telephone Atlantic 6727
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the Director

May 9, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

I am enclosing some of the clippings about "The Sun Do Move." It is going over very well but with the usual difficulty of cast which every little theatre experiences.

Irene Castle McLaughlin was out Thursday night and enjoyed the play immensely and we will try to get some publicity out of that.

When you have time I wish you would write to me about the possibilities of your coming back to produce "St. Louis Woman." Say in September or October. Let me know what it will involve in the way of finance, etc., and whether you can put it into your schedule.

We all miss you and speak of you often and wish you were back with us.

Yours
touch
delays

Grace

[Signature]
634 St. Nicholas Avenue,
Apt. 1-D, c/o Harper,
New York, New York,
June 6, 1942.

Mr. Horace Cayton,
5120 South Parkway,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Horace:

I have been meaning to write you for a long time—but you know how it is with me and letters—especially in New York were I seem to know a million people and have a million things to do—besides the necessity for long and daily "denials of reality". Of late, my war work has been keeping me as busy as Irma's did her. I'm on the Writers War Committee and have been helping out on Latin American broadcasts and going around with various Latins, especially the Brazilians—one of whom I am waiting for now to take to introduce to some of our Harlem artists and writers (and sociologists) as he does a daily syndicated column for Brazilian papers and intends to write extensively about Negroes and eventually to do a book about us. He is a nice guy and has told me much about the "race" in Brazil. They are greatly like the "race" here, from all I can gather, and it seems they raised the same kind of hell about NATIVE SON when it came out down there. They have the same super-sensitivity on things colored.....Dick's Brazilian publisher was here and I arranged a luncheon with them. He said the book was a great hit down there.

Listen! Kindly send my royalties check for SUN to my agent: Maxim Lieber, 545 Fifth Avenue, New York. I do not remember whether I gave Miss Mitchell that information or not. He is who handles all my work. I've given him the information about the play and asked him to drop you a note.....How did the run turn out? I've had a letter or so from some of the cast. But never got additional programs or publicity. Remind Roger to send me a final program or two (for Yale) and any clippings there might have been after I left.....I'd love to come out and help on ST. LOUIS WOMAN if you decide to do it. But will write more in detail later on. At the moment I have to take the Brazilian up to Aaron Douglas' house, also a couple of Haitians. So I have to get my languages together.

Man, I have just written a war song that is a killer! Wish I could write music, too.....Also wish I was rich as Lionel, I'd call you all up and say Hello. Would love to talk with you.....Arna is due here this week-end. So reck'n he will bring some news.....Very best regards to Irma and your mother, and all the staff.....Drop me a line when you have a chance. And drink a small glass for me.

Sincerely,
Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Street
New York, New York
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
520 South Parkway
CHICAGO

June 9, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Street
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

Miss. Mitchell, is working on your royalties and it will take the usual amount of time and go through the usual amount of red tape before you get your check, which I hope will not be too long. Mr. Bush is working on a report of attendance etc. which I think you will get within the week. Please write me and tell me what would be involved in your producing for us Arna Bontemps, St. Louis Woman. Incidentally, I would much rather call it for this production in view of our semi-religious background, "God Sent Saturday or was it Friday" which seems to me a much better title.

We all send regards and love.

Yours very truly,

Horace
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the
DIRECTOR

June 11, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

We are having our Annual Board of Directors and Corporate Members Dinner Meeting, Thursday, June 18 6:30 p.m. at the Center. As you know, this is probably the largest Negro Community Center in the world and has made tremendous strides within the last year and a half. We would appreciate your sending us a telegram of congratulations to be read at the dinner.

I think a word from you would do much to encourage our Board and, in a small way, to build up morale in this community.

Yours truly,

HORACE R. CAYTON
DIRECTOR

P. S. You may like to know that this is our First Anniversary in this building. Address all messages to Dr. Niel E. Hansen, Secretary.
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the
DIRECTOR

July 11, 1942

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

Miss Mitchell tells me that your check was sent you on June 30, to your agent Mr. Maxim Lieber: I am inclosing a carbon copy of it. (Miss Mitchell's letter) I hope this clears the matter up. Mr. Gluxman will contact you in New York in regard to a Negro newsreel venture it sounds good and as he is connected with Madeline Woods of the SUN I think he is a man we should try to assist. He will be able to tell you what he would like for you to do.

When I return from the coast I will start working on your lecture series here.

How do you stay out of the army?

Cordially yours,

hrc lb

Horace
Mr. Langston Hughes
624 South Nicholas
New York, New York

Dear Langston:

I wonder if you will be in New York on Sunday and Monday, August 23, 24? If so, get in touch with me as I will be registered at the Theresa.

Very truly yours,

Horace

We sent HRC1ac to see you happy trip regards

L. 8/24/42
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apt. 1-D c/o Harper
New York, New York
THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the
DIRECTOR

October 19, 1942

Dear Langston:

We would be tickled to death to have you come to the Center for a recital sometime in November or the early part of December. In addition, Mr. Embree stated that he thought the Quadrangle Club might want a lecture, and I think I know two other prospects. Nothing is sure, however, except the one lecture at the Center for which we will pay $50 and fit it into your schedule as long as it gives us time enough to work up an audience. Arna was supposed to tell you this today also.

How about putting on "St. Louis Woman" for us this fall?

Yours truly,

HER. H

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo, Saratoga Springs
New York
Mr. Horace Cayton,
5120 South Parkway,
Chicago, Illinois.

October 24, 1942.

Dear Horace,

I'd be delighted to give a program again at the Center. Maybe make it at "popular prices" this time? My subject this season is, POETRY, NEGROES, AND WAR, and I have lots of new poems along that line. Stowe College in St. Louis is November 18th with two other engagements out that way pending, so we would be safe in setting a Chicago date or two any time from the 25th on through the first week in December. And I will do Detroit and Cleveland on my way back East, planning to get back to New York about the 15th of December.

I would love to work on ST. LOUIS WOMAN for you, but with the uncertainties of the draft, I do not think it would be wise for me to start so heavy a production, as I think it would take at least 8-10 weeks to get it ready. Probably for your first play this year, you ought to choose something with a smaller cast, unless you have a lot of fellows out there in 4-F. But we can talk it over when I come out.

Please let me know what date you choose soon as you can, in case others come up, so that I can fit them in.

Give my very best regards to your mother, and also to Irma when you write. I follow you through the COURIER every week. Provocative material. Lately I've had two offers to do a column, too. Waiting to see which pays the best! The next issue of COMMON GROUND has an article of mine on WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE SOUTH? And I'm slated to do another for the JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY so you see I am getting to be an intellectual. Maybe I will even be a doctor (Dr.) in due time if somebody gives me an honorary degree.

Mix me a tall one, please, because I'll be there shortly.

Sincerely,

Langston Hughes

P.S. Dick was re-classified into 3-A. But I have nary dependent! Idea: See if you can get Lonnie Johnson to sing the Handy and my GO AND GET THE ENEMY BLUES on my program; and some more formal tenor or baritone—Wm. Franklin or John Green to do FREEDOM ROAD, thus tying up poetry, song, and the war effort in one fell swoop!
February 26, 1943

Dear Langston:

I will be in New York Saturday, February 27. Arrive in the morning and will register at the Theresa Hotel. Would like to see you. How about dinner Saturday night.

Yours,

HORACE

HRC:MLG
THE PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 South Parkway
CHICAGO

Office of the Director
HORACE R. CAYTON

March 24, 1943

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apt 1-B, c/o Harper
New York City, New York

Dear Lang:

Are you coming on the 15th or has your speaking engagement been postponed?

Dick will be here and I thought it would be a good chance for us to have a parley.

Thanks for the card and the complimentary things you said about the piece in the Sun. Your script, Freedom's Power, was swell. I stole your technique to try to write a piece on Passive Resistance. Let me know what you think of it. I feel a little foolish trying to write "literature."

Yours very truly,

HRCtD

Horace

FORMERLY GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

Mr. Langston Hughes
Hollow Farm,
Monterey, Calif.
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

May 15, 1943

Dear Mr. Hughes:

This is not an ordinary appeal for funds.

We Americans in Chicago and throughout the nation are facing a situation in which race relations are becoming more strained than they have been since the Reconstruction Period. In Chicago thousands of Negroes are being brought in by industry to work in defense plants. Their labor will win the war but their presence in an already overcrowded black ghetto further intensifies the problems of this tension area.

To meet this need there are a woefully inadequate number of social institutions. A tremendous load is thus placed upon the existing agencies by this relocation of people and by the many strains and stresses brought about by the war. This problem must be met, however, as the eyes of the world are focused on the treatment which American Negroes are receiving. Chicago must never again experience the conflicts and misunderstandings between Negroes and whites which followed the last war.

PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE is making a desperate attempt to meet some of these community needs. The House, however, has found it difficult to adequately assist mothers working in war industries and to maintain an after school child protection program for the older age groups. We will need your financial assistance to even maintain the present scale of our work, to say nothing of inaugurating a much needed expansion.

By contributing to PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE we feel that not only will this enable us to continue the program which we have embarked upon of child care and protection and providing cultural and recreational opportunities for all persons in the community but, more important, will insure the continued existence of a "common ground" where a common understanding can be maintained and an interpretation of the points of view, tensions and anxieties of each group can be articulated.

We are enclosing a return envelope in which we hope you will send your contribution. It will bear interest in contributing, in a small way, to the solution of America's greatest internal problem.

Sincerely yours,

Horace C. Cayton
Director

FORMERLY GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
July 9, 1943

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo
Saratoga Springs
New York

Dear Lang:

Thanks for writing me about the piece in the Nation. We certainly hit upon the same idea at the same time, which would appall Louise and Pat.

I hope you enjoy Yaddo—wish I could get a decent vacation.

Yours,

HORACE E. CAYTON

P.S. Note the pieceDick did you vs. Why not do something a found on the piece and cut up the cause. 6.
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

25 CHICAGO
AUG 7
5 PM
1943

BUY
WAR SAVINGS
BONDS AND STAMPS

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo
Saratoga Springs
New York
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

August 7, 1943

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo
Saratoga Springs
New York, New York

Dear Langston:

It was very kind of you to write me concerning the death of my mother. I want to thank you on behalf of the entire family as well as myself.

These crises are much easier to face when one has the sympathy of sincere friends.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Horace R. Cayton
Director

HRC:ST:MC
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago

October 18, 1943

Mr. Langston Hughes
634, St. Nicholas Avenue
Apt. 1-D c/o Harper
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

I thought you might be interested in this series of articles which I did for the Sun.

Yours very truly,

Horace

P.S. If you agree or disagree with those pieces, write the paper; not me.
634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, 80, New York, January 25, 1944.

Dear Horace,

Man, I got that 8:35 plane that day after all, beat the Braniff to Oklahoma City—and when it came in Dr. Adams wasn’t on it—so I reckon he must have gotten taken off account priorities somewhere. I was lucky, after all. On way back, priorities delayed me twice—Chicago and Buffalo, so I reached New York six hours later than I had planned. Missed the ESQUIRE concert on that account.

I’ll be seeing you on the 20th—speaking at Carey’s church. Will be in Chicago until March 6th, so if you know anybody wants me to speak, let me know. Fee, small non-public groups, $25.00. Public groups, $35-50. ($50.00 preferable.) I’ve reserved a room at the Grand near enough to come in and dine with you once in a while.

In March am booked on to Nebraska, Kansas, and Texas, so will run out to the coast for a month. If you write Irma, tell her I’d be glad to stop off at Huachuca and give a program for the WAACS free, or USO, last week in March.

Off to Montreal this week-end for two dates there—Montreal Forum and Women’s Club.

See next week’s DEFENDER. Got you in my column re our drive to airport! (A friend in need is a friend indeed.)

Sincerely,

2 lecture cards sent.
February 2, 1944

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Langston:

I have been trying to line up some speaking dates for you. Please let me know the exact date on which you will come to Chicago and how long you intend to stay.

Mrs. Stella Councilbaun of the Round Table of Christians and Jews wants to use you at a meeting at the end of February or the first week in March. She said that she would pay whatever honorarium you ask (I suggest $50). Why don't you get in touch with her directly? Her address is 203 North Wabash Avenue. I also had occasion to talk to Rabbi Weinsstein this morning and he inquired about when you would be here. I would suggest that you write him also. His address is 920 East 50th Street.

I will look forward to your coming and although you will have to stay at the Grand, I suggest that you have all your meals with me.

Yours very truly,

Horace

[Handwritten note at the bottom]
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15

February 11, 1944

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

Some lady from the Church Congress phoned me about getting you to speak here in Chicago. She was leaving for New York and I suggested that she get in touch with you there. I didn't have your phone number (which you should send me) so I gave her your home address and told her to send you a city telegram and arrange to have lunch or dinner with you. You may be able to work that in with your Chicago stay.

Mrs. Councilman phoned today to ask about what she should offer you and I refused to commit myself as I was not your agent. I suggest asking her for $25.00 at least.

Yours truly,

Horace

FORMERLY GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
August 1, 1944

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

Magdalene Crawford is coming to New York for her first trip and I'm trying to arrange for her to see as much as possible of the city and have a good time. Elizabeth Drake, who lives next to Dick Wright, is going to look out for her. She arrives on the 9th and if you get a chance to show her something of Harlem between the 9th and 14th I would appreciate it a great deal. You can phone her at the Drake's, whose number is MAin 2-8148, or at Dick's whose number is Sterling 3-7888.

Yours very truly,

Horace
LANGSTON HUGHES=
APT 1B 634 1ST NICHOLAS AVE=
MADGE DIED YESTERDAY FUNERAL MONDAY WOULD YOU CARE TO SEND A WIRE COMMENTING ON HER SOCIAL IDEALISM AND LIFE=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15
ATLANTIC 1030

December 13, 1944

Mr. Langston Hughes
6341 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

I will be in New York from December 23 to January 2. If there is some real nice affair about then, I would like to go. If so, let me know and secure a bid for me.

Regards,

[Signature]
On Tour
February 5th, 1945

Mr. Horace Kayton
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15, Illinois

Dear Horace:

I am scheduled here right through Friday afternoon and so I am afraid I will get back into Chicago too late to see you. At any rate do not count on me for dinner but if I have a chance between trains I will give you a ring.

I certainly enjoyed seeing you, and I want to thank you again for your kind hospitality.

My first day here in Milwaukee has been a very pleasant one, and it looks as though the remainder of the week will be most interesting. I am stopping at the Schroeder Hotel, which is certainly most comfortable. The only trouble is that I have to get up about 6:30 every morning in order to make these early high school assemblies, some of which are five or six miles from the center of town. I certainly do not feel very poetic at that hour of the morning, but you will see to what dire lengths I am going in order to save the race.

Sincerely,

LH/vh
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15, Illinois

Mr. Langston Hughes
6341 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York
July 18, 1945

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York

Dear Langston:

Thanks for the copy of the poems. For the first time I think I have a feeling for poetry probably because it is connected with my surrealism.

I thought you might be interested in an article review of BLACK BOY which Dorothy Norman is going to publish in Twice A Year.

Be sure to write me about your schedule next year as we would like you to present you at the House and will be able to pay a moderate fee.

Yours truly,

Horace.

HRC:let
enclosure - 1

P.S.

How about a column on the House?
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15, Illinois

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York 30, New York
September 18, 1945

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York 30, New York

Dear Lang:

Thanks for your very nice letter and your complimentary remarks about the piece on Wright.

I really enjoyed the evening in New York we had together and liked the show almost as much as you disliked it - but not quite. Anyway, it was fun for the three of us to get together and I hope we can do it again in Chicago.

When you come in November, it is possible that I will have a guest room so I can put you up. Let me know in plenty of time.

Yours truly,

Horace.
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15, Illinois

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York
April 2, 1946

Mr. Langston Hughes
634, St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York

Dear Lang:

I am making application for admission to Yaddo, which is a literary colony endowed to support writers working on specific projects. I want to attend during the month of August. I'm interested in working on a book entitled The Folklore of Race Relations, two or three chapters of which I hope to finish during the month. In addition, I want to do a series of articles for The New Republic on the general topic of recent trends in Negro literature.

I've been requested by the Committee on Admissions to give the names and addresses of sponsors who will make detailed and informative statements about me and my particular writing program. To be helpful these letters will have to be sent immediately. I would like to ask you to do me the favor of writing to Mrs. Elizabeth Ames, Executive Director, Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, New York, and giving her a frank appraisal of the worthwhileness of this project and any evaluation you may care to make of me and my work.

Yours very truly,

Horace R. Cayton
Director

Formally Good Shepherd Community Center
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15
ATLANTIC 1020

March 21, 1947

Mr. Langston Hughes
English Department
Atlanta University
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Lang:

Dave Wallerstein, who is a trustee of Francis Parker School, called me today to inquire about the possibility of your speaking to one of their parent groups any time in the first two weeks of May. They would of course pay all your expenses. They do not have much money for this as they do not have a budget for speakers but Mr. Wallerstein stated that if you did not want to break a precedent they could scare up a modest honorarium. It's very seldom, Lang, that I would ever try to pressure anyone into speaking and certainly, knowing that you earn your living that way, do not like to ask you to make concessions as to fees. But I would like you to take these facts into consideration. First, Dave Wallerstein has been very friendly toward the House and it was his technician and part of the equipment borrowed from Halaban and Katz that allowed us to put on the play, The Sun Do Move.

Second, Francis Parker School has been one, if not the first, of the private schools in this area to completely break down racial barriers. I was on a committee that met with their principal and later with the faculty and they not only went about integrating Negroes, but did it in a very smart fashion. The first year they had a Negro girl as a cadet teacher and later introduced Negro students throughout all the classes. This, interestingly enough, was not done as a result of pressure from the outside but social consciousness from the inside. As you know, I'm not the greatest enthusiast about some of the race relations efforts, but for Francis Parker I go overboard.

You have met the Wallersteins and Mrs. Wallerstein, incidentally, is one of your most ardent admirers in this area. Mr. Wallerstein will phone you sometime in the near future and this letter is just to sort of soften you up a bit.

Your new book, Fields of Wonder, arrived and I am just getting into it. Thanks loads. It was thoughtful of you to send it. Incidentally, it's a beautiful job of bookmaking.

Miss Crawford tells me you are coming up in April so plan to have dinner with me and spend an evening going over the recent gossip.

Yours very truly,

Horace R. Cayton
Director

FORMERLY GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER
April 4, 1947

Mr. Horace H. Cayton
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago 15, Illinois

Dear Horace:

I was delighted and surprised to hear from you, even if most of the letter is about speaking. That, however, is a pleasurable occupation for me, and I would be delighted to appear for one of the parent groups of the Frances Parker School except that it is not possible in early May because each of the week-ends are taken up, the first one at Fisk and the second one I go to Houston. It looks as though the third week-end in May will be booked for an engagement in Washington now under negotiation so I am afraid we will have to let Parker School appearance go until next semester. Since I have classes here every day except Friday, I can only get away from Atlanta on week-ends as I used up all of my cuts during Negro History Week when I was away filling several engagements in North Carolina and Virginia.

I had hoped to come up to Chicago for Easter but I got back from New York with a bad cold and so have decided to stay here and recuperate.

E. Simms Campbell is coming Sunday to open the art exhibit here and since he is a good friend of mine, I hope to have enough in the coolest for him to drink - but I do not know if that will be possible since he sometimes can do even better than you by good livations. What is this I hear about your impending wedding? And they tell me she is charming, unsophisticated, and delightful.

Congratulations and all my good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Lilumb
Removed from Cayton

Horace R. Folder to

Spaulding, Helen

folder:

April 22, 1947 - Hughes to

Spaulding

May 8, 1947 - Spaulding
to Hughes

May 13, 1947 - Hughes to

Spaulding
April 29, 1947

Mr. Horace Cayton
Parkway Community House
5120 South Parkway
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Horace:

I have just written the enclosed note to Mrs. Spaulding.

Griffith David, a very excellent photographer here who does all of the photographic publicity for the affiliated Atlanta University colleges, and who has sold work to EBONY and other publications is interested in possibly doing a picture story of your Community House which I have been telling him about as being the largest Negro one in the world and one of the most interesting. He has just returned from Palmer Memorial Institute where he did a picture story for EBONY about that unique institution. I have been trying to persuade him to come to Chicago during the week that I shall be there, and I have told him that he might also get a splendid series of pictures of the various Negro writers and artists who live in Chicago such as Gwenolyn Brooks, Motley, yourself, Drake, and others.

Would you be agreeable to this idea in case he wishes to do so? You may ask Ben Burns about the quality of his work if you like. His photographs of myself have recently appeared in the New York Post and the Saturday Review of Literature, and I believe he is one of the up and coming young photographers of America.

I am off for New York and Washington tomorrow to speak at Howard but will be back Sunday.

I send all good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

LH:wm

Enclosure
April 29, 1947

Mrs. Helen Spaulding  
Skyloft Players  
Parkway Community House  
5120 South Parkway  
Chicago, Illinois  

Dear Mrs. Spaulding:

I find that I will be able to come to Chicago after the semester closes here, but I will not be able to get away from Atlanta before the end of the first week in June. So if you will be having your program the second week in June and wish to have the Autograph Party at that time, I would be happy to take part in it as I told Mr. Cayton last week when I saw him at Fisk.

I send all good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

LH:wmb

cc: Mr. Horace Cayton
PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY
CHICAGO 15, ILL.
TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 1020

May 2, 1947

Mr. Langston Hughes
English Department
Atlanta University
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Lang:

Thanks for your note to Mrs. Spaulding. I've asked her to write you as soon as she's worked out plans. I'm awfully glad that you can come and the only possible hitch would be that there might be something else scheduled the second week in June but we'll let you know right away.

I would certainly like to meet Griffith David and would like for him to do a story on the House. It would also be nice for him to photograph the writers around in the community because a little Chicago group is growing up--Motley, Bland, Era Bell Thompson, Gwendolyn Brooks, and perhaps Drake and myself. So tell him to get in touch with me and we can put him up here.

I'll be looking forward to seeing you, and in spite of some little upsetments I enjoyed the music festival. I was particularly anxious to meet Van Vechten as I had never known him before.

Yours very truly,

Horace R. Cayton
Director

HRC:mco

[Handwritten note: 2nd 1947 week O.K. Davis due 15th.]

Endorsed by the Chicago Association of Commerce, Subscriptions Investigating Committee.
June 26, 1947

Dear Horace,

Knopf gives a discount of 42% on 100 FIELDS OF WONDER which is 2% better than my author's discount. So I told them to bill directly to you. Send them a check for $147.34 which I think also includes postage.

Send the remaining books to me at the above address and bill me for them and I will send you a check immediately.

Arna was in town for the day yesterday. He likes Yaddo, and is looking forward to seeing you there. We ran into Bill Townsend who is going down to Fisk on the 11th too.

See THE MEDIUM when you come to town. It is terrific.

MARTERS OF THE DEM is getting swell reviews and the publishers are surprised that is selling well. I still haven't got any copies, but will have by the time you come to town, so will give you one.

Best to Ruby. And thanks for a swell time when I was out there AND a good book sale.

Sincerely,
ARRIVING NEW YORK TOMORROW MORNING HAVE WIRED VAN VECHTEN
MAYBE WE CAN GET TOGETHER AT THIS HOUSE TO SEE HIS
PICTURES

=HORACE,

José Années going to Morhous
5120 S. Parkway
Chicago, I11.

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Ave.
New York. New York

gp. Harper
Mr. and Mrs. Horace Roscoe Gayton
At home
Saturday, the eighteenth of October
from eight until eleven o’clock
5120 South Parkway
Chicago
PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY
CHICAGO 15, ILL.
TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 1020

January 12, 1948

Mr. Langston Hughes
6314 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York 30, New York

Dear Lang:

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of Northwest Harvest in which I have a chapter entitled "The Bitter Crop." I think you read this in manuscript and I thought perhaps you would like to have the book.

Warmest personal regards and drop in to see us next time you are in town.

As ever,

Sincerely,

HRC

Endorsed by the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, Subscriptions Investigating Committee.
CB 1007 NL PD = CHICAGO ILL 26
LANGSTON HUGHES =

634 ST Nicholas Ave NYK =

I AM INTERESTED IN THE JOB AT THE SCHOMBURG COLLECTION CAN YOU OR ARNA GIVE ME ANY LEADS TO FOLLOW AND ADVISE ME AS TO WHOM I SHOULD WRITE TO MAKE APPLICATION REGARDS =

HORACE R CAYTON.
PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY
CHICAGO 15, ILL.

20 East 127th St.
New York 35, N.Y.

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo
Saratoga Springs, New York
PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY
CHICAGO 15, ILL.
TELEPHONE ATLANTIC 1020

August 5, 1949

Mr. Langston Hughes
Yaddo
Saratoga Springs, New York

Dear Lang:

Thanks for the card. It's incredible how you keep up correspondence with so many people. Dropping me the card was a kind and thoughtful act.

Give my regards to Arna, Elizabeth, and all other friends I may have at Yaddo.

I am working on a paper now which I think will cut much deeper and be much more decisive, incisive, and inciteful than "The Bitter Crop." I'd like to talk it over with you sometime.

Warmest personal regards.

Yours very truly,

Horace R. Cayton
Director

HRCme

Endorsed by the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, Subscriptions Investigating Committee.
PARKWAY COMMUNITY HOUSE
5120 SOUTH PARKWAY
CHICAGO 15, ILL.

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 1-D
New York, New York

203127 St
August 24, 1948

Mr. Langston Hughes  
65½ St. Nicholas Avenue  
Apartment 1-D  
New York, New York

Dear Lang,

Magdalene Crawford wants to live in New York for a while and I am trying to help her to get a suitable position. You know of her work and I cannot recommend too highly her loyalty and personal integrity. She has your number and will call you when she gets to the city sometime in September. I will appreciate anything you can do for her.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Horace B. Cayton  
Director

[Endorsement]

Endorsed by the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, Subscriptions Investigating Committee.
NA037 PD=BROOKLYN NY 27 1020A
MR LANGSTON HUGHES=
20 EAST 127 ST=

COME TO DINNER DECEMBER 28 AT 630 TELEPHONE 305 DECAURE
ST BROOKLYN GLENMORE 57306=
HORACE=

[Signature]

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE.
Battle Creek Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent
Willard Library Building
Battle Creek, Michigan

December 14, 1948

Mr. Horace H. Cayton
305 Decatur Street
Brooklyn 33, New York

Dear Mr. Cayton:

This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of information concerning Langston Hughes. It is encouraging indeed and I very much appreciate getting it.

May I ask a further question concerning this matter which has to do with certain poems which Mr. Hughes has written and which have been interpreted to mean that he is or has been sympathetic to the communistic point of view. I refer to the one to which reference has been made in the July, 1948 Reader’s Digest by Mr. Henry Taylor - "Jesus Christ Lord Jehovah, Beat It Away From Here" - "Put Another S In The U.S.A." These poems were referred to in the Congressional Record of fairly recent date. We are most anxious to clear Mr. Hughes in our community and wherever we can be of influence. Anything you can do to help us will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Virgil W. Rogers

[Handwritten note at the bottom]
Battle Creek Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent
Willard Library Building
Battle Creek, Michigan

January 22, 1949

Mr. Horace R. Cayton
585 Beacon Street
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Mr. Cayton:

This is to acknowledge with sincere thanks your kindness in answering my letter. I did not realize that you were now in Detroit.

Your letter is exactly to the point and clarifies a question about which I have been concerned. I am as confident as you are that Langston Hughes is not a Communist, and I sometimes wonder how you, he, and others could possibly continue your great faith in American democracy in viewing actions of smaller politicians and so many of the major race groups in our country.

Your point of view is well taken in your letter, and I have taken the liberty of copying your letter and sending it to Mrs. Jessie XXX Morton, a fellow townsman in Battle Creek at 56 Manchester Street. West who is a splendid person deeply interested in the welfare of the nation, and who has been concerned over reports and misrepresentations in the press concerning Langston Hughes. I trust this meets with your approval for me to send a copy of your letter to her.

With sincere regards, and looking forward to the time when we can visit again together, I am

Cordially yours,

Virgil M. Rogers

VJR:fla

[Handwritten note: "McCarthyism"]

Transcript
x

Date: 4/6/53
After 5 days, return to
The Director of Admissions,
NORTHFIELD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
EAST NORTHFIELD, MASS.

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York City
NORTHFIELD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
EAST NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

March 5, 1949

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York City

Dear Sir:

Miss Rita D. Wright

daughter (or ward of) Mrs. Horace Cayton

has made application for admission to the Northfield School for Girls
and has referred to you as able to give information concerning the
financial standing of the family.

We call your attention to the statement on the following page indicating the purpose of the school and the requirements for admission.

The charge for board and tuition is $750 for the school year. This is much less than the per capita cost which is $1050. Therefore, we feel that in general we ought not to admit those who can afford to attend a more expensive school. Under these circumstances, does this candidate qualify for a place in this school? Whatever you write will be considered confidential.

Please use the attached sheet for reply.

Yours sincerely,

MIRA B. WILSON,
Principal
PURPOSE OF THE NORTHFIELD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The purpose of the Northfield School for Girls is to put within the financial reach of young women of limited means the advantages of a sound secondary education. It aims to provide the environment of a good home and a campus life developed as a project in Christian Education.

In addition to the usual academic work, each student shares in the housekeeping of the dormitories. This helps to make possible the low tuition charges and gives the students valuable training.

Experience has made it clear that the School is equipped to accept only students who have good native ability, who are in good health, who have developed such traits of character as reliability and co-operation, and who desire a well-rounded education that they may learn to live creatively and with purpose.
March 16, 1949.

Dear Lang:

I am enclosing a couple of letters that might amuse you. I am sorry that I didn't keep a carbon of my letter to him but it was to the effect that he and all decent people should spend their time stopping lynchings rather than waste their and my time trying to track down "so-called" reds.

How do you like U.C. I heard from your aunt. You were there. Ruby sends regards.

Yours,

[Signature]
Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York

20E. 127A
Caption: [Folder 755]
January 19, 1950

Dear Lang,

Just read the review in the Times. It's a rave. I'm looking forward to seeing it.

I'm still pushing Harold Ross on the profile. I would like like all hell to do it.

It was kind of you to call me today.

Horace
January 22, 1959

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York, New York

Dear Lang,

Why haven't you done a column on Lillian Smith's Killers of the Dream. It's a great book. Besides we should support it as Hodding Carter is bringing out a vile one taking the opposite point of view of Miss Smith and spending tons of money to promote it. If you want a copy of the Carter book so that you might make a contrast between the two, I'll send you one.

I'm looking forward to seeing the play Thursday. You certainly got rave reviews.

Sincerely,

Horace
May 29, 1950

Mr. Horace Cayton
1268 Union Street
Brooklyn 13, New York

Dear Horace:

That is a wonderful column you have done about SIMPLE. Thanks immensely.

The book seems to be selling very well and the reviews from far left to far right, THE WORKER to Catholic publications, have been almost uniformly excellent. And in New York the book has been a bestseller in two quite opposite shops, the Concord Bookshop in Times Square and the Hotel Barolay Shop.

I have just come back from St. Louis and Chicago. I saw Anna at the opening of the new library at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri. In Chicago the DEFENDER had a big book party for SIMPLE and many of your friends were there and asked about you. Oh, yes, Hayakawa was also at Lincoln University and sends his regards to you.

This weekend I have to go out to the Ann Arbor Drama Festival where the BARRIER is opening next Monday. When I get back to town about mid-June, I hope that I shall be seeing you.

With my continued good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

LANGSTON HUGHES

LH/HHV
H. R. Cayton,
1458 Union Street,
Brooklyn 13, N.Y.

Mr. Langston Hughes,
23 East 127th Street,
New York, N.Y.
October 15, 1950.

Dear Lang:

Thanks for the card about The Barrier. I think I have told you before how wonderful I thought it was.

I would like to see it opening night on Broadway---I don't think I have ever seen a opening. If you have a couple of press tickets and think a column would justify their expenditure send them along.

I hope that The Barrier receives the recognition it deserves.

Best of luck,

[Signature]
Mr. Langston Hughes,
20 East 127th St.,
New York, N.Y.
Dear Lang:

Thanks for the book. I enjoyed it and am sorry that I took so long to acknowledge it.

In case you want to get in touch with me my new address is...

34 St. Manhattan, New York, N.Y.

The phone is Gramercy 5-3071.

Orace.
W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

NAO85 PD=NEW YORK NY 7 403P=
LANGSTON HUGHES=
20 EAST 127 ST=

CAN YOU GET ME TWO TICKETS FOR BARRIER SUNDAY AFTERNOON. WOULD BUY THEM BUT DONT HAVE THE MONEY. LET ME KNOW ALBERT HOTEL OREGON 70100. SEE YOU THERE=

HORACE=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
Mr. Langston Hughes
% Harper
20 East 127th
New York, N.Y.
January 21, 1957.

Dear Lang:

One thing I am going to do is to come and see and hear you and Mahalia Jackson February 9th. I'm not only going to do that but I am going to try and get a column out before the date to tell people why I am going.

Do you want to know why I am going? I thank you are both great. I think the combination is terrific. The fact that it is for Negro History week clinches it. I have gone pretty far; a little further than a respectable newspaper man should go. I have sent in for three, three thirty tickets – cash man. You know I am sent.

Here is what I want you to do. Get me a story to run before the concert. I thought of this – The Negro woman. What is your poem (forgive me) about life ain't been no golden stairs, etc. Are you going to read that? Then comment about Mahalia singing in Montgomery – the strong Negro woman stuff. You the Negro poet who sings her praise. Makes it look bad for the Negro man but things are as they may be, as Knut Hamsens says.

To be specific get the publicity man to let me know a tie up. Then I'll write the story. Also see that I get good seats, my order is in.

Finally I want to come backstage with my two friends and meet you both. Is this asking too much? You see Montgomery has stirred me up more than somewhat.

LARGE and SOUND-PROOF ROOMS
I can be reached here at the hotel or at the office (I am enclosing a card). I want to play the story from the religious, political and racial angle and will send you a copy before the concert.

Warm regards,

Harare
January 24, 1937

Dear Horace:

It was certainly nice getting a note from you and it will be a pleasure to see you, I hope soon. If you are ever in Harlem, stop by and have a drink, phoning first to see if I am home (ATWATER 9 – 5999), since I am a little far East and you probably would not be in the immediate neighborhood otherwise.

I am planning to give a brief resume of the background and history of Gospel music, and tie it in with the struggle of the Negro people – including Montgomery. I am also planning to read two or three of my short poems relative to the subject and to Negro History Week itself.

I have phoned Fred Hayfield who is the publicity man for Festival Productions and asked him to send you whatever material he might have, also to be sure that you get good seats. Both he promised to do, and was very pleased that you are so much interested in the concert. Since the time is not long I hope he has followed through promptly on this.

All my good wishes and I shall be looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Mr. Horace Caton
Hotel Chelsea
23rd St. and 7th Ave.
New York, N. Y.

L. H. 8 Gospel Music
We in New York are going to have the particular pleasure of celebrating Negro History Week in a joyous and devoted manner. Mahalia Jackson, the noted gospel singer will appear as part of this celebration with Paul Langston Hughes. I have known Lang for years and respect his work, but I am just getting acquainted with Miss Jackson.

If it appears queer that a political writer should be turning art critic I can give you a reason. Langston Hughes and Mahalia Jackson are not only artists but they are symbols of the Negro people; what they do and say, their very art, has political significance. Try to assess the inspiration for political action which Lang's poems have had. Then take Miss Jackson when she was asked to go down to Montgomery and sing at the celebration of the anniversary of the bus strike—the question of money came up. She settled it with a statement reminiscent of Joe Louis' directness: "I'm not going down there to make money off of those walking people," she said. She sang for nothing. That is what I mean by being of the Negro people.

Thru her agent I went out to see Miss Jackson last week and as tired as she was she gave me two hours of her time. I took the interview on tape and have played it several times since. I wish that I had space to digest this conversation with this remarkable woman. We talked about many things and especially about the south. Her feelings are best summed up in this quotation: "I think race hatred is a sickness. We must never betray the Martin Luther Kings, the Atherines, and the white folk of good faith like the Reverend Paul Butler who was beaten for walking to school with Negro children in Clinton, Tennessee."
Langston Hughes and Mahalia Jackson belong together on Negro History Week, especially in these troubled but hopeful times. Miss Jackson told me that Langston was one of the first writers to discover her talent and write about it. She did not get immediate recognition for her art—she was put out of the first choir she joined because she sang too loud.

But there is a deeper reason why I couple these two personalities. Langston has written with rare insight about the strong Negro woman—the brown mother who tells her son that life ain't been no crystal stairs. Mahalia Jackson is that strong, warm brown woman who has suffered and kept her faith; has given of herself when the cause of her people demanded it.

Not all of you can be here in New York to hear them together. But there is one thing that you can do. Buy their books and records and get to know—and teach your children to know—about these two great artist-fighters for democracy in the history of the Negroes’ struggle for justice in America.

Horace R. Cayton
National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America
297 Fourth Avenue • New York 10, N.Y.

H. R. Cayton

Longston Hughes
To Harper
20 East 127th
New York 35, N.Y.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

[Postmark: Feb 4, 1957]
February 4, 1957

Dear Horace:

That is a fine column! Thanks you so much for sending me an advance copy.
I will look for you at the concert on Saturday.

Meanwhile, I send you all my good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Mr. Horace Cayton
Hotel Chelsea
23rd Street and 7th Avenue
New York, N. Y.
M'ague ta Roya
Maraza E' Iou
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, N.Y.
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Dear Lang:

I did try to see you—but the crowd was too much. Further, I wanted an autographed copy of your book—but waiting in line—too much.

You did wonderful in your talk. I have not heard you try so long it was like old time, with a touch that you have improved.

I would like very much to have dinner or a drink—how can that be arranged? You are busy and I am gone right away. Perhaps you will phone me or you may phone me and we can discuss or

LARGE and SOUND-PROOF ROOMS
schedules.

Things are happening in this Negro-white world that are incredible—so many forces not the least of which is (pardon the phrase) the New Negro. I would like to talk to you about that.

Regards,

P.S. How can I get in touch with Maurice Hindle. I would like to see him again.
National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America
297 FOURTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Mr. Langston Hughes
C/O Harper
20 East 127th
New York 35, New York
Langston Hughes
c/o Harper
20 East 127th
New York 35, New York

Dear Lang:

What gives with Simple? Is it going to open on Broadway. Don't forget my first night tickets.

Let me know when in the near future you will have a free evening and I will cook you a steak and we'll have a talk.

Regards,

Horace Cayton

HC/ab
July 25, 1957

Dear Horace:

It certainly would be fine to spend an evening with you again and I am going to take you up on that steak as soon as SIMPLY HEAVENLY opens once more. It might be hard to believe but it is still taking up most of my time—selecting cast replacements; auditions for understudies; cutting script for possible recording of show album; conferences with agents, producers, sponsors of a proposed London production; and answering innumerable phone calls, mostly from actors who want to be in the show now that it is heading for Broadway. It opens at the Playhouse on West 43rd Street on Tuesday, August 20th. But in Broadway theatres the poor playwright does not have the privilege of inviting guests as one does off-Broadway. In fact he hardly gets a seat for himself. Opening night press tickets are all handled by the press representative, David Lipsky, 230 W. 41 Street, CH 4 - 5185, so I suggest you contact him. I have already given him a list of columnists on the Negro press, so he should be familiar with you. At any rate I hope to see you soon.

I send you all my good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
November 3, 1961

Dear Horace:

I have asked Alfred A. Knopf to send you a copy of my new book of poems, ASK YOUR MAMA: 12 Moods For Jazz, since I thought it might be of especial interest to one working in your field. So far as I know, in ASK YOUR MAMA the Dozens are used for the first time in formal poetry. John Dollard wrote a much discussed article, as you may recall, back in 1939 on this peculiarly Negro game as a form of release involving racial tensions, and William Elton commented on it later in American Speech. Otherwise I know of little having been written about the Dozens. Perhaps it might interest you to comment upon the poetic use of the Dozens in my book, and to permit what you say to be quoted. In any case, I'd be delighted to receive any comments you might care to make on ASK YOUR MAMA.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, New York
June 28, 1962
7207 Soquel Drive
Aptos, California

Dear Arne:

Will you forward this to Lang. I have lost the letter with his address.

Everything goes well. Will write at more length later.

Yours,

(Horace Eaton)
May 25, 1962

Dear Langston:

It was kind of you to send the autographed copies. I read Simple's Prayer with a new meaning. I am going to use it either in a talk or essay which I am preparing.

By the way, are you coming to Carmel? I am only 30 miles away and can put you up if you want to stay overnight. At least I would like to get down and hear you speak.

Yours truly,

3787 Soquel Drive
Aptos, California
February 24, 1963

Dear Horace:

Please pass on to your son, Julian (since I do not have his married address) the copy of my Negro History Play I am sending you, DON'T YOU WANT TO BE FREE? He may know some youth group in Atlanta that might like to present it. It's being done this year in Columbus, Los Angeles, Chicago, and maybe San Francisco....I guess you know ANSAC and United Negro College Fund are bringing Bloke Modisane over on March 1 (at my suggestion) for a tour. He comes to Morris Brown on March 19-20-21....so rescue him for a drink. Tell Julian Bloke sings click songs like Miriam Makeba, so see that he meets some of the swinging kids.....RE-gards to you-all,

Sincerely yours truly,

Langston Hughes
THE MARRIAGE OF SAINT CATHERINE
OF ALEXANDRIA
Anonymous woodcut. Italian, XVI century
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
Chealsea Hotel
222 W. 23rd St.
N.Y., N.Y.

Dear Long:

Thanks for the Wonder... I hope I have

sent for a review copy of the picture book

and will do a column on the two.

Give me a ring some time to come down for

lunch.

Yours

H[illegible]
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