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State Teachers College
Oneonta, New York
February 15, 1949

Dear Mr. Hughes:

I am a student in the State Teachers College here. As such I have been asked to participate in a panel discussion of the topic: "Leading American Authors Describe Teacher Personality" at the forthcoming annual conference of the Eastern States Association of Professional Schools for Teachers.

The participants in the sixteen panel discussions are all college students who are preparing to teach in elementary or secondary schools in this country. This year in our conference discussions we are attempting to learn what leaders in government, law, business, medicine, science, etc., think should be the personality traits of those who teach in those schools.

We are hoping to develop ourselves in those directions which will enable us to contribute the most to our society. We are seeking your help. Your answers to such questions as the following will be greatly appreciated.

1. What skills and mental characteristics should be cultivated most?
2. What moral qualities are of greatest worth?
3. What specific values should American teachers hold as most important?
4. Are there other comments which you would like to make regarding our preparation for teaching?

Thank you very much for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

State Teachers College
Oneonta, New York
February 26, 1949

Miss Evelyn Newton
State Teachers College
Oneonta, New York

Dear Miss Newton:

I have your letter of the 15th and feel honored to have you write me. However, since I am not an educator, I do not feel that I can say very much that would be of help to you.

It would be my opinion, having been a student once myself, that a good teacher would possess those qualities that would make her appealing to her students, understanding of the problems they face, and have the ability to get across to those she is teaching her subject matter in an interesting and informative manner. Naturally, to do this a teacher would have to know something of life as it is lived, and not merely as it is taught to her in her formal classes in school.

At the moment I am busy with my opera TROUBLED ISLAND, which has its premiere at the City Center here in New York on March 31. The music is by William Grant Still. From the activity surrounding the rehearsals it should prove to be an interesting event.

With every good wish for success in your work, I am

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
Mr. Langston Hughes,
20 E. 129 St.
N. Y. C.

Please forward
Caption: [Envelope] [Postmarked 1956 April 30], Josephine K. Newton [to] Langston Hughes
Image ID: 32460183
Mrs. Josephine K. Newton
8000 W. Scott St.
Pensacola, Fla.

Dear Langston:

I am applying for the job of dance instructor at Florida A & M. Univ. this summer. I have been asked by the Dean of Edue. to have three letters sent to him telling of my professional efficiency as a dancer and my character in general.

I would appreciate it greatly if at your earliest convenience you would write a letter of recommendation for me.
Dear Mr. Alden,

Enclosed is an addressed envelope in which to mail your letter.

Thanking you in advance for your kindness, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Josephine K. Newton

Hi & How are things with you.
[Envelope] [Postmarked 1957 March 5], Josephine K. Newton [to] Langston Hughes

Image ID: 32460186
Newton
103-13-22 W Ave.
East Elmhurst
Sandy's Land
N.Y.
a record or copy,
I would like
to do some choreography
for some of your
work if it is almost
with you.
Thanking you
in advance for
everything,
Lincs,
Josephine K.
Newby

Dear Langston:
How are you? I
imagine you’re quite busy
working as usual.
I wonder if you
could give me some
information? I know
that many of your
poems have been
put to music; could
you tell me where
I could get
Dear Josephine---So sorry to be so late with this. Today I'm about to take off for Ann Arbor to give a program of my poems at the University----first time there since the BARRIER.----Good luck, and regards to Johnnie.

August 4, 1956

Mr. Melvin O. Alston,
School of Education,
Florida A. & M. Univ.,
Tallahassee, Florida.

Dear Dean Alston,

Josephine Newton of Pensacola tells me that she has applied to teach at Florida A. & M. I am afraid this recommendation is rather belated. I have been out of New York a great deal recently working with a photo editor on a big PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE SEED, so my mail has piled up like a mountain.

Mrs. Newton was one of the leading dancers in my opera THE BARRIER as done on Broadway and on tour with Muriel Rahn and Lawrence Tibbett. She is a very fine dancer indeed, and a charming and amiable person. I think she would be a most competent dance instructor and an inspiration to students or others interested in the arts anywhere, and a stimulating addition to any faculty.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
Norman Curtis

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 E. 127th St.
N.Y.C.
Dear Mr. Hughes,

Perhaps you will remember me as the composer who paid you a visit at your home back in the summer of 1956. I had come east that summer to work on a project with Walter Lowenfels which I played you portions of, along with other work of mine. Later, along with Stanley Hall, we dropped in at a party where I first met my fellow Chicagoan Margaret Baroughs.

More recently I have been living right here in Manhattan and am doing work which I think would be of real interest to you. I am one of the producers, as well as the composer of all the music, of a musical revue call IF WE GROW UP—a revue about the problems of young people in the nuclear age—. We are using a teenage and fully interracial cast recruited from New York City high schools. Enclosed is information about the group including a review from the N.Y. Times. It is currently running weekend afternoons at the Actors' Playhouse in the Village.

Our work has has attracted the attention of CORE as well as various peace organizations. One skit from our show, the Lovin' Hatin' Blues, was recently performed at a CORE meeting at their headquarters on 125th st. and will be performed again on a program of theirs at Hunter College auditorium on Saturday evening November 10th.

I would be very pleased if you could attend one of our performances. Our schedule is as follows:

this weekend Oct. 13, Sat. 1:30 and 4:00pm.
          Oct. 14, Sun. 2:30pm.

Sat. Oct. 20, 1:30 and 4:00pm
Sunday Oct. 21, 2:30pm (this performance uncertain)

Saturdays, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 10- 1:00 and 3:30pm.

Since the theatre is usually almost completely filled (we sold out last Sunday and the Sunday before) I would suggest you call to let us set aside tickets—my number is listed above.

Best wishes,

Norman Curtis
June 17, 1963

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th St.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

As directors of the Next Stage Theatre Company we would like to ask you to lend your name to our organization as a member of the Advisory Board.

Perhaps you will remember receiving in the mail from us last year a notice of our first production to date: IF WE GROW UP. This original musical revue, with an all-teenage cast, ran on to a total of thirty one weekend performances last Fall. Enclosed is more information about the show and our group.

In explaining the nature of the Next Stage, whose corporate title is Audience Associates, Inc., we should begin by saying that it is an educational-charitable organization (non-profit status pending) dedicated to the creation and performance of high calibre musical-dramatic productions of particular significance to teenage audiences. Other aims include the following: to offer gifted teenagers and persons of junior-college age the opportunity to participate in all phases of professional theatre—acting, writing, stagecraft, publicity—regardless of race, religion and financial condition; to bring live theatre to culturally deprived young people of New York City by providing blocks of free tickets to schools, churches and settlement houses.

At the present time we are collaborating with the young people in the writing of our next show, tentatively entitled Unfinished Business, The Emancipation Proclamation One Hundred Years Later.

A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience, and we hope to hear from you soon. We would be most honored to be able to include your name on our Advisory Board.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Taylor Curtis
Director-choreographer

Norman Curtis
Musical director
June 19, 1963

Dear Mr. Curtis:

I am very sorry I must decline your kind invitation to become a member of the Advisory Board of The Next Stage. I am at the moment, rather than joining anything else, resigning from several boards and organizations whose meetings, correspondance, and involvements I am unable to keep up with and do my own creative work, too. But I am grateful to you for thinking of me, and I wish the Next Stage well in the interesting productions you are doing.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
24 March 1967

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York, New York 10035

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Next Stage Theatre Company is holding audition performances of our new musical revue, WALK DOWN MY STREET," at 9:00 p.m. on the following dates: Friday - March 31 and April 7, and Saturday - April 1 and April 8. We would be honored if you could attend one of these performances.

For the last six years our group has been concerned with the development of original, sophisticated, topical theatre material for teenage and young adult audiences. We have also been deeply involved in the selection and training of a company of young performers who could meet the demands of this new type of professional musical theatre.

Our efforts have been greatly rewarded. The newspaper and magazine reviews of our last two Off-Broadway productions, "If We Grow Up" and "Unfinished Business!" were excellent. Over twelve thousand teenagers and adults have seen "live" performances of our work in the New York City area. The above figure, however, does not include audiences who have heard our radio presentations or audiences who have seen our work performed on local and network CBS television channels in various parts of the country. These experiences have clearly shown us that there is a real hunger for our kind of theatre among young people and a willingness to support it at the box office.

We hope you can see this show. Please let us know if you can come. Performances of "WALK DOWN MY STREET" will be held in our studio theatre at 215 West 98th Street (N.E. Corner of Broadway), Apt. 7C.

Sincerely yours,

Norman and Patricia Taylor Curtis
Directors
January 29, 1958

Dear Mr. Hughes,

In spite of the delays and disappointments -- the theatre seems founded on them, doesn't it? -- I'm still very hopeful that one day soon we will be able to get a production for TAMEOURINES TO GLORY.

I've got someone interested in the idea, so do you think you could have your agent send me a copy of the script to the above address? I would be able to return it within a few days.

Thank you and hope to see you very soon.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Michael Shurtleff

20 East 127th St.
New York 35, N.Y.
February 5, 1958

Dear Mr. Shurtleff:

I am just getting over flu which accounts for my delay in answering your recent note. But I phoned Miss Davis at the Harold Ober office the day it came and she promised to send you a script. I hope you have received it by now and certainly I am delighted that your interest in TAMBOURINES TO GLORY has not waned. Did I tell you that I made a short novel from it and it has recently been accepted for publication next fall.

SIMPLY HEAVENLY is about to go into rehearsal in Los Angeles with the comedian, Johnny Lee as "Simple"; Helen Humes as "Miss Mamie" and Isabelle Cooley as "Zarita". It sounds to me as if it might be a very good cast and a good production. It is to be done at the Carmel Theatre in Hollywood.

With cordial regards to you, as ever

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
Dear Mr. Hughes,

I have just received a delightful postcard from your wife. It is very charming and I am delighted to hear from her. She speaks of your recent trip to Mexico and her pleasure in seeing you again. I hope you enjoyed your time there.

She mentioned that you have been working on a new book, and I think it would be a great idea to collaborate on this project. My husband and I would be more than happy to contribute our skills and expertise to your work. We are both eager to see your finished book and look forward to working with you.

Please let us know if there is anything else we can do to assist you. We are always here to support and encourage your creative endeavors.

Best regards,

[Signature]

P.S. I附上了一张小插图作为你新书封面上的插图。
like to wish you a pleasant holiday season.

Sincerely,

Margery and Harry Niblock
11, Esmont Court, Thackery St.,
London, W.8

November 20th, 1959

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I do not know how to thank you for your generosity in sending me both MASTERS OF THE DEW and TROUBLED ISLAND - and how much I appreciate and value the personal inscriptions you were kind enough to write. Miss Cunard will have told you of my preoccupation with Haiti. I was there for three weeks (all that could be afforded owing to currency regulations and other matters) in July and August 1957. It was as if I recognised the island and its people. I cannot understand this at all, simply it is so.

I hope that I may keep in touch with you and that I shall hear from you but I know that you are a very busy man. I am unable for a few days yet to get a copy of TROUBLED ISLAND. As I understand that the first impression was sold out immediately - I was very glad to hear that, though it means I must wait.

I have so many things to say to you that it might be wiser not to say any of them in case it takes too long. I much admire your libretto and wish that I could hear the music. From something Miss Cunard said, I think you are seldom if ever in this part of the world - Please do not forget us if you should come. It would be the greatest possible pleasure to meet you. I know very little about Haiti in relation to what there is to know, but I think (and dream) of little else and it has been my main study for the last three years.

It was suggested to me on Sunday last by Edric Connor (do you know him? he came from Trinidad) that MASTERS OF THE DEW would make a magnificent film. Obviously, yet there are reasons why I should prefer to get it on television. For one thing, TV handling of the story would be more conscientious. We do not know to whom the television rights belong - can you help me there? I would be much like to make the adaptation - I am always seeking opportunities to present Haiti to the British public - and so far I have had no success whatsoever.

I believe that I am rather a good adaptor. I have adapted CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY for sound-radio in five parts of 20 minutes each - this is being broadcast on Tuesdays at the present time, we have done two installments and three are to come. We have a fine cast, Edric Connor is playing Stephen Kumalo and I am very happy about that, as the series is an educational one, for the leaving-school age, 15 and it is doing just what we want, catching young the imagination and sympathies of the British.

I assure you that I would treat your lovely translation of MASTERS OF THE DEW with the greatest respect; but it is no good starting without permission from the copyright owners. Can you find time to fix it up for me or let me know what to do?

Miss Cunard is a wonderful friend. I have met her only once, an unforgettable occasion, in company with Anthony Thorne who wrote an enchanting book about Haiti, THE WARM PEOPLE; but I have been in correspondence with her ever since and she has given me any amount of help and information. She told me that you would be extremely sympathetic to a lover of Haiti and a great admirer of your singularly gifted race. But I think I had better wait to hear from you before I commit
myself to any further eulogies—though you need not doubt they are sincere. I will not, for the moment, embark upon the heroic topic of Roumain himself. I will just once again thank you for your very generous presents to me. If there is anything I can send you from here, anything I can do for you, kindly let me know.

In the mean time, with all best wishes from both of us, my husband and myself, I am,

Yours very sincerely,
Morna Nicholas.

Langston Hughes,
20 E 127th St.
New York City,
U.S.A.

Send not this letter

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.
November 30, 1959

Mrs. Morna Nicholas,
11 Esmond Court,
Thackeray Street,

Dear Mrs. Nicholas:

I have just returned from a lecture trip to Trinidad to find you gracious letter awaiting me. I am delighted that you are pleased to have the books I sent you, and certainly if and when I come to London (no plans at the moment—but STREET SCENE for which I did the lyrics may be produced there in 1960) I will be happy to meet you.

Concerning TV and film rights to MASTERS OF THE DEW, the American publishers of my translation of the novel, Reynold and Hitchcock, are no longer in business; nor is the Liberty Book Club that brought out a second edition for its membership. However the author of THE GREEN PASTURES, some years ago, told me that he had acquired the motion picture rights to the original French novel which he wished to film with de Rochemont, but so far nothing came of this. He may be addressed:
Mr. Marc Connelly,
25 Central Park West,
New York, N. Y.

But last year a Mr. David Hanna and a Miss Germaine Tessier told me that they had contracted for the dramatic and picture rights to the original novel in Paris. So I do not know who is correct. But they may be addressed as follows:
Benagosa Productions, Inc.,
4 West 58th Street,
New York 19, N. Y.

Or the author’s widow may be contacted:
Mrs. Jacques Roumain,
Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

And perhaps from one of them the correct information may be obtained. Only if my English translation is used would I share in stage, film, or TV rights. But in any case I’d love to see the book so used. And at least once every six months somebody writes or phones me about such use. I give them the above information—and nothing further ever seems to develop. But maybe someday the novel will reach film or stage. I hope so. I wish you luck. Certainly it is a lovely story.

With cordial regards and all good wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
To: MR. RAY NICHOLAS

Street and No. 2492 Eighth Avenue
Care of or Place New York City.
Apt. No.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO RAY
HOORAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LANGSTON
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2. In any event the Telegraph Company shall not be liable for damages or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message, whether stored or transmitted or received or delayed, whether in process of transmission or in process of delivery, or in any form. In any event, the sender shall be liable for damages or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message, whether stored or transmitted or received or delayed, whether in process of transmission or in process of delivery, or in any form. In any event, the sender shall be liable for damages or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message, whether stored or transmitted or received or delayed, whether in process of transmission or in process of delivery, or in any form.

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6. No responsibility attaches to the Telegraph Company for messages sent at the sender’s own risk and not covered by the Telegraph Company’s insurance. The sender shall be responsible for all losses or damages which may be sustained by the sender, in consequence of the delay in the delivery of any message, whether transmitted or received or delayed, whether in process of transmission or in process of delivery, or in any form.

7. The Telegraph Company will not be liable for damages or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message, whether stored or transmitted or received or delayed, whether in process of transmission or in process of delivery, or in any form.

8. No employee of the Telegraph Company is authorized to vary the foregoing terms.

9. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to any of the foregoing terms.

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- **SHIP RADIOGRAM**
  - For messages to and from ships at sea.
Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

To The Nicholas Brothers

Care of or Apt. No.

Street and No.

Place

Good luck to you and your usual syncopated success

Langston Hughes
ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistake or delays, the order of a message should always be repeated, that it be telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half of the unreported-message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on the face of the message, at an undelivered message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the order of the messenger and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unreported-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars, unless mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the reported-message rate shall cause the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specifically noted; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines.

2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any messages, whether caused by the negligence of the servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of one hundred dollars, not exceeding in any event the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount the sender of each message represents that the Company is willing to be charged, and no message shall be deemed to be transmitted or delivered at any rate below the rate at which the message is authorized for transmission, and unless the reported-message rate is paid for in full and advanced.

3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward the message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach the destination.

4. Whenever as otherwise indicated in connection with the sending of individual places to the first names of the Company, the amount paid for the transmission of a domestic telegram or an incoming cable or main message reverses its delivery within the following limits in place of the or more localities in which the Company has an office which, when limited by the limits of the Company, is received through the agency of a railway company, within two miles of any city or town or within the limits of the Company as follows: If the sender of the message desires to be charged by the Company for the cost of such transportation, it shall be charged at the rate of five dollars for each mile, for each million dollars, or if such transportation shall be equal to or exceed the amount of five thousand dollars, then the amount of such transportation shall be charged against the sender of the message.

5. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward the message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach the destination.

6. The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in the case of any message except an intrastate message in Texas where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within forty-eight hours after the message is transmitted, or the sending of a message by which the Company will not determine or measures or statutory penalties where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within sixty days after the sending of such message. All claims shall be subject to the decision of the Company, and the Company shall be the judge of the order in which claims are to be paid, and the Company shall be the sole judge of the order in which claims are to be paid.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the fees for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to proof by competent evidence.

8. Special terms providing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

10-42

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- Defereed:
  - Main-language messages, subject to being deferred in favor of full-rate messages.
- Night Letters:
  - Overnight plain-language messages.
- Urgents:
  - Messages taking precedence over all other messages except government messages.

DAY LETTERS:

- A nerved service at a lower than the standard teletype rate.

SERIALS:

- Messages sent in serials during the same day.

NIGHT LETTERS:

- Arrived up to 2 A.M. for delivery not earlier than the following morning at rates substantially lower than the standard teletype or day letter rates.
This little THANK-YOU note
Requires no explanation—
It's just a little token of
A sincere appreciation.

Yvonne
Nicholas
Mr. Langston Hughes
c/o Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.
730 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

I am making a survey of the best books that have been written about the Negro. The choice of those books will be based upon the lists submitted by persons competent to judge the value of books on the subject. Your name has been suggested as one most capable of making recommendations. I shall greatly appreciate your kindness if you will give me a minimum list of fifteen books with the author and publisher of each, which in your opinion rank highest in their treatment of the major areas of interest or concern, such as the political, economic, vocational, social, religious, educational, etc. life of the Negro. It will aid greatly if you will rank them in the order of your preference. In view of the fact there may be two or more books of equal value, but which treat different phases of Negro life you may wish to give two or more the same rank which form will be quite acceptable.

I thank you for a reply at your earliest convenience and I am enclosing a self-addressed envelop for the return of the suggestions. In case there is an additional cost I shall be glad to assume whatever expense that is incurred by the service.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine R. Nichols

Catherine R. Nichols
634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York City
February 19, 1945

Dear Miss Nicholas:

Mr. Hughes is away from the city on a lecture tour and will not return for another month. He is now making appearances in Alabama and Georgia. Will you wait until then for an answer to your letter of January 19 concerning the survey of books about the Negro?

Yours sincerely,

Marjorie Greene
for Mr. Hughes

Miss Catherine R. Nicholas
2647 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati 6, Ohio
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, N.Y.

29 December 1964

Dear Mr. Hughes,

It was a great joy to see you again in Berlin at the time of the Conference of African and Western Poets. My wife and I especially enjoyed the evening we spent together after the performance of the Yoruba play. Yesterday your kind gift arrived and I should like to thank you very much for these two books which I did not have and which I value highly. It is certainly a most kind and gracious gesture on your part. I hope that if you are in Berlin again you be sure to visit us.

With all good wishes,

Most sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Professor Dr. Charles H. Nichols
Director, Department of Literature
My dear Mr. Hughes,

Many thanks for your kind note and for the copy of your article which appeared in the New York Post. I hope that on your next visit to Berlin we shall be able to make you feel much more at home than on your last visit. In any case, my wife joins in all good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Nichols

Professor Dr. Charles H. Nichols
Director, Dept. of Literature
Caption: [Envelope] [Postmarked 1943 July 9], Constance C. Nichols [to] Langston Hughes
Image ID: 32460214
July 6, 1943

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Ave Apt 1S
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I was in the other day to see the Acting Editor of OPPORTUNITY concerning a short story of mine which she intends to use as soon as she gets the space. While I was there I showed her some sonnets that I had written. She had no place for them but suggested that I get in touch with you. She felt sure that you could find a market for them.

I am from Columbus, Ohio. As way of slight introduction, I want to say that I used to write to Zell Ingram at the time that you and he went to Haiti. In fact Zell said I was the only person in the states who seemed to remember that the two if you were down there. You used to put notes in the margins. So much for that.

I have been reading poetry in and around Columbus for years, mostly yours and mine. I have learned your 'Let America Be America Again' and recited it on several occasions. I gave a talk one evening using your 'I, Too Am America' as the theme and everyone was thrilled, not by my talk but by the analysis I took the liberty to give of your poetry.

I have had any number of my poems published locally. I won second prize in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority national poetry contest several years ago. Lately, I have been working on the sonnet form, to keep the beauty of the rhyme pattern yet to inject a certain social significance into the theme. These ten have been carefully edited by my sister who did some extensive studying on the sonnet at Ohio State University. She has made me revise and revise until she was finally satisfied with each of them.

I am working in Trenton, N. J. for the present and I will be able to come over to New York and week end or any morning during the week, just so I get a train back by one PM.

Please, please say that you can help me.

Sincerely, Constance C. Nichols
Trenton 6, N. J.
Caption: [Envelope] [Postmarked 1943 Oct. 8], [Constance] C. Nichols [to] Langston Hughes
Image ID: 32460218
Mr. Langston Hughes,

Thanks so much for your letter and poems.

With a few revisions my poems were accepted to be published in "The Negro Quarterly." Tell [illegible].

Thanks for your criticism and advice. I deliberately chose the ancient connect form as a setting for modern ideas [illegible] because I felt certain a little mixing of the good of several ages will do no harm to the poem form or the ideas but both might be enhanced by their blending together. Since my use of what seem like outdated poetry phrases. When I come to see you when you get back to New York? I promise not to be any bother.

Constance C. Nichols

Oct 6, 1943

Trinity C., N.J.
May 8, 1953

Miss Eleanor Nichols
Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc.
35 West 32nd Street
New York 1, New York

Dear Miss Nichols:

Thank you very much indeed for sending me an advance copy of THE PICKING ORDER by Mark Kennedy. I look forward to reading it with interest, but unfortunately cannot do so just now since I have two pressing deadlines to meet on books of my own. However, I shall certainly mention it in my annual Christmas book column on books by or about Negroes in the CHICAGO DEFENDER for which I write.

Certainly I wish the book a sales success.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
GEORGE NICHOLS 3RD
B. G. SHEVELOVE

November 24th, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Hughes,

Thank you very much for sending me your new lyrics for "A Young Gal's Blues". Burt Shevelove and I are both very anxious to discuss them with you at any time it is convenient for you. Would you call us first, so we'll be sure to be in.

My best to you.

[Signature]

FIFTY-FIVE WEST FORTY-SECOND STREET • NEW YORK 18, N.Y. • LACKAWANNA 4-8335
November 26, 1947

Mr. George Nichols 3rd  
B. O. Shavalove  
55 West 42nd Street  
New York 18, New York.

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Thank you for your note. I am leaving for Chicago this afternoon for some speaking engagements in the middle west, but I will be back in a week and I will give you a ring then and make an appointment to stop in to see you. When we get the lyric in final shape, I will contact Kingsley so that we can fit it up to music.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,
1106 Gault Place, N.E.
Apartment #1
Washington 19, D. C.
April 12, 1960

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

I am quite flattered and pleased that you are interested in seeing some of my poems for consideration for possible publication in a proposed ANTHOLOGY OF NEW NEGRO POETS.

I have pulled out twenty pieces from my group of poems and I will type them up and mail them this week. Therefore, you should receive them around the first of next week (the week of April 18th).

Thank you for your letter, and again thanks for the invitation.

Very truly yours,

James E. Nichols

JAMES E. NICHOLS
L106 Gault Place, N.E.
Apartment #1
Washington 19, D. C.
April 18, 1960

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Enclosed for your perusal and for consideration for publication in the proposed ANTHOLOGY OF NEW NEGRO POETS are 15 of my poems. They are all written in the traditional, lyrical style and range in length from a quatrain to a 32-line poem.

If these are not suitable, please advise--for I have literally hundreds of long and short pieces that might fit into such an anthology. When the project becomes "firm", and if my poems are considered favorably for inclusion, I would appreciate additional information as to planned distribution, biographical information needed from me (if any), etc.

Incidentally, I was guest speaker at a Negro History Program sponsored by the Colored Women's Club of Salem, New Jersey (my hometown) and my topic was "Negro Poets and Their Poems." In my speech, I spoke of Jupiter Hammond, Phyllis Wheatley, and, of course, you. I quote one of your poems, two of Dunbar's, and many of my own.

I am now writing and editing a little paper entitled "The Poet's Voice," which has a circulation of about 300. It's a nice little paper, I think. I shall send you a copy under separate cover.

Again, thank you for your letter and for inviting me to submit my poems. I sincerely hope I will be included in such an Anthology as proposed.

Sincerely yours,

James Emanuel Nichols

Enclosures -- 15 poems
May 24, 1960

Mr. James E. Nichols,
4106 Gault Place, N. E.,
Washington 19, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Thank you very much indeed for letting me read your poetry, and for sending me THE POET’S VOICE, a delightful publication which I am keeping for my shelves. The manuscripts not selected I am returning to you under separate cover. For submission to the potential publishers of the proposed anthology, I have chosen the following of your poems:

GIFTS
INFINITY
MY MASTERY
THE SUICIDE
I BEG TO DISAGREE
WHEN WINTER COMES

And when there is more news to report, I will let you know. Meanwhile, all good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
4106 Gault Place, N.E.
Apartment #1
Washington 19, D. C.
May 26, 1960

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

I am pleased indeed at your having chosen several of my poems for submission to the potential publishers of the proposed anthology. The poems listed: INFINITY, MY MASTER, THE SUICIDE, I BEG TO DISAGREE, AND WHEN WINTER COMES (I feel) are delicate and fine lyric pieces. However, you listed a sixth poem, entitled GIFTS, which, in your letter you credited to me. According to my records, I submitted no such poem; so I would suggest that you compare this title against your other submissions and give credit to the poet (or poetess) who wrote this.

I do not recall whether or not I sent you a copy of the May issue of the Poet's Voice; therefore, I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of this issue. You are cordially invited to appear in this paper at any time. It would add stature to our publication if a poem of yours appeared between its covers. I have all the confidence in the world in THE POET'S VOICE and am pleased that it is steadily growing in popularity. It now enjoys a circulation of 400 copies--150 of which are circulated to high schools and junior high schools around the country.

Again, thank you for reading and selecting my poems. Good wishes.

Sincerely,

James E. Nichols
Mt. Pisgah A. M. E. Church
4008 Locust Street

October 30, 1940

Mr. Langston Hughes
666 St. Nicholas Place
New York City, N.Y.
% Apt. B-53

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Perusing the local press, I find that you and Mr. Richard Wright are devoting your time these days to formulating a new all-colored radio variety show.

Perhaps you recall the occasion of your address at the Harlem Library a month or so ago, after which I submitted for your criticism, a rather lengthy poem entitled "Of Life And Death", which you read aloud that night to a gathering of friends in your apartment.

Recalling this, you may remember that while discussing the poem with you the following day, I expressed a desire to write fiction for the "slicks" and scripts for radio.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to re-introduce myself to you, and to ask for a spot, however small, for this sometimes able, always willing and ambitious young man in the preparation of these programs.
Mt. Pisgah A. M. E. Church
4008 Locust Street

REV. E. K. NICHOLS
Pastor
4006 Locust Street
Phone, BARing 1053

I am not conceited enough to ask for any
salary. I am asking only for the opportunity
and honor, of working under yourself and Mr. Wright.
I feel that the experience and training of such
a connection would be of inestimable value to
me in shaping my career as a writer.

If you think there is any possible
service I might perform, whether typing scripts,
some form of creative work, or taking small speaking
parts, I shall be happy to return to New York, either
at once, or whenever you suggest.

Sincerely,
Neal Franklin Nichols

Formerly of
141 W. 135th - NYC

P.S. Kindly overlook the
stationary. NEW
1854 South Central Avenue
Los Angeles, California
November 29, 1940

Mr. Neal Franklin Nichols
4006 Locust Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Your letter has just reached me here where I am working with the Hollywood Theatre Alliance in the preparation of the Modern Negro Review.

Before I left New York, I talked with Mr. Gale, who is desirous of placing a Negro program on the air, but so far, no business negotiations have taken place, and I am not now working on any such program; nor, so far as I know, is Mr. Wright. But I shall keep your letter on file, and when I am in the East, in case anything of the sort comes up in which you could aid, I will be happy to let you know.

I felt that your poems certainly had some very good literary qualities, and I hope you will find this channel for the furtherance of your talent and desires.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

LH/FMD
[Telegram] 1945 Oct. 3, Neal Nichols [to] Langston Hughes

WESTERN UNION

N278 NL PD VIA MVA=NL PD VIA MV & HB RDD( NOT AT 9 W 124 ST):
=LOSANGELES CALIF OCT 2 LANGTON HUGHES. CARE THE HARLEM

104 WEST 136 ST= Ed 4-6909

JUST RECEIVED WORD OF YOUR TELEPHONE CALL INTERESTED
EXPECT RETURNING EAST SHORTLY PLEASE WIRE DETAILS
EITHER IN LOSANGELES OR PHILADELPHOA:

=NEAL NICHOLS 1760 EAST 22 ST.

1760 22
October 4, 1945

Dear Mr. Nichols:

I happened to be in Philadelphia and wondered what had been of you, so I called your parents to find out. I was wondering whether you ever got into radio work, which I believe is what you wrote me you were interested in. I myself did not have anything particularly for you to do, but there is a kind of boom on things Negro in the amusement world just now, and probably more a possibility of making some headway in that field at this moment than usual.

I am leaving for a lecture tour in a couple of weeks but will be back in New York about the middle of November, so if you are in the city, drop around.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Mr. Neal Nichols
1760 E. 32nd Street
Los Angeles, California
March 1, 1949

Mr. Hughes:

Enclosed please find the poem, "Just Mammy's Way", as requested for you by Mr. Smythe last week. I hope that this copy is satisfactory.

Sincerely,

Pearl Nichols
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th St.
N.Y., N.Y.

E
Caption: [Envelope] [Postmarked 1962 Feb. 16], [Ray Nicholas?] [to] Langston Hughes
Image ID: 32460236
Invitation [Postmarked 1962 Feb. 16], [Ray Nicholas?] to Langston Hughes

You have

[Signature]

Gathering:
471 W. Bank St. Place
apt. 4

To

A Christening

By

Mr. Irving Anthony

Date

Feb 25, 1962

Time

10 a.m.

Place

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
127th St., 5th Ave.
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th St.
New York 35, N.Y.

Achk by card
informed of you

Cong. card
28th Aug
8-28-62
Ray Nicholas
1385 5th Ave.
N.Y. 2, N.Y.
You are cordially invited

to be present

at the Christening of

Rhea Renee Nicholas

on July 22, 1962

at 12:30 o'clock

at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

109 St. - Fifth Ave
[Invitation] [Postmarked 1962 July 12], Ray Nicholas [to] Langston Hughes

Caption: [Invitation] [Postmarked 1962 July 12], Ray Nicholas [to] Langston Hughes
Image ID: 32460241
March 16, 1954

Miss Elena Nicola
2833 Morris Street

Dear Miss Nicola:

A letter from Mrs. Irene Summersett, 209 N. 53rd Street, Philadelphia, Pa., has come to this address indicating your interest in contacting Mr. Hughes. I am writing to let you know that Mr. Hughes is at present absent from the city on an extended lecture tour, but as soon as he returns to his desk sometime next month, Mrs. Summersett's letter will be brought to his attention and I know he will get in touch with you. Meanwhile, should you see Mrs. Summersett, please extend her best wishes and thanks for having brought you to the notice of Mr. Hughes, whom I am sure will be pleased to know of your interest in his works.

Sincerely,
April 3, 1954

Miss Elena Nicola
4833 Morris Street
Germantown

Dear Miss Nicola: I am just back from a month's lecture tour which took me all the way south to Florida, and I found a note from Mrs. Irene D. Summersett saying that you were in this country.

I would indeed be happy to meet you whenever you might be coming to New York City, and would be pleased to have you visit us here at my Aunt's home. The time could be any afternoon about four o'clock, whenever you are in town, providing you will let me know sufficiently in advance so that I may confirm the time to you.

Under separate cover, as a little welcome to you to our country, I have sent you two of my books which I hope you will enjoy.

With all good wishes to you for a pleasant stay in the United States, I am

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

lh
hs
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, N. Y.ork
[Envelope] [Postmarked 1954 April 7], Elena Nicola [to] Langston Hughes

Image ID: 32460245
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, N.Y.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1954.

Dear Mr. Hughes,

I do not have words to thank you for the beautiful gift of your books. I feel very honored, not only because they come from a famous poet, but most of all, because they come from a man, in the universal meaning of the word; from a man who lives, and thinks, and has dreams, dreams that will come true, because men, like you, will see to that.

Let me tell you that the simplicity and beauty of the Dream Keeper poems is marvellous; those poems speak to the soul. I am reading now Simple Speaks His Mind, and I enjoy it for what it means: the voice of a man who feels the unjustice and cruelty of his fellow beings.
I want to translate your works into Spanish, and have them published, so that everybody in Latin America can read them. For that I ask your permission, and I assure you that your mind and soul will speak in Spanish, with the same simplicity, power, and pride, they do in English.

I am very anxious to meet you. I will be in New York either the first or second week of May, but I will confirm the time to you in advance, as soon as I know the exact day.

With many thanks for your kindness, I am

Sincerely yours,

Elena Nicola
May 11, 1954

Miss Elena Nicola
4333 Morris Street

Dear Miss Nicola:

Just a little note to assure you that I shall be glad to see you whenever you come to town, and to tell you that I am delighted that you like my poems. Certainly I would be pleased if you were to translate some of them into Spanish.

You probably know that there was an edition of my poems in Spanish published in Buenos Aires by Editorial Lautaro in 1952, as selected and translated by Julio Galer. The book is called simply POEMAS by Langston Hughes. I will show it to you when you come to New York. I understand that it is just about entirely sold out, and since it does not by any means contain more than a sampling of my poems, there would be no harm in other translations being done.

I look forward to seeing you sometime this spring.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

lh
hs

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

Dear Mr. Hughes:

In the spring of 1945, if my memory is correct, Miss Elaine L. Lewis, the vice-president of the New York Folklore Society, invited me to broadcast a program titled "Poets are people," in which you were to speak about a Haitian musical play you were preparing then. Miss Lewis thought to avail herself of the opportunity to introduce me to you. Unfortunately I could not honor her invitation. This I regretted very much, for I would have been very happy to meet you.

The other evening I heard that you were now translating the Gouverneur de la rose, by Jacques Roumain, and I decided this time to take the liberty of writing you. As a Haitian I am grateful to you for the genuine interest you have shown for the pure and true art of Haiti while others are concerned about advertising Haitian voodoo practices and zombie tales. For your spirit of African solidarity and faithfulness, and in the name of Haiti I thank you.

May I take this opportunity to tell you about my own efforts toward bringing to light the genuine native music of Haiti? I have prepared an album of more than one hundred pre-1915 Haitian Creole songs and melodies which covers every folk activity in Haiti and reflects every aspect of the Haitian soul. Some of these pieces are very old, two of them belong in the colonial epoch. Mr. Bruce Wendell, the pianist, knows about this album. Actually this work is a denunciation of the fallacy of the voodoo practices peddlers. Of course, for this very reason this work will meet obstruction from certain quarters. I wonder whether you would find it convenient to take a look at it and make suggestions about it? There still are a few gaps to be filled in it, and the translation in poetic English of the Haitian Creole words of the songs requires to be made, but the work is advanced enough to give a good idea of its importance.

With my thanks and my compliments, I am

Faithfully yours,

Belhomme Nicoleau
8 West 117 Street
New York 26, N. Y.
Dear Mr. Nicoleau:

I was happy to have your letter and hope that I shall have the pleasure of meeting you sometime and seeing the collection of old Haitian songs which you have compiled. Just now I am about to go away for a vacation and I expect to be in New York again in the fall.

You probably know about Disc Recordings, 117 E. 46th Street, New York. They have issued a number of albums of folk songs of various countries and you possibly be interested in your music. The head of the firm is Mr. Moe Asch and if you would like to see him you might tell him that I suggested that you call.

As you probably have seen in the papers, my translation of Jacques Roumain's "Master of the Dew," has already been published and is receiving a very good press. In fact, just this past Sunday, October 3, there was an excellent write-up about it in the Herald Tribune Books with a fine picture of Roumain.

All my good wishes to you and the hope that we may meet in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Mr. Belhomme Nicoleau
8 W. 117th Street
New York City 26
Mr. Langston Hughes
c/o The Sanctuary
143 West 13 Street
New York, New York
Caption: [Envelope] [Postmarked 1964 Feb. 12], Belhomme Nicoleau [to] Langston Hughes

Image ID: 32460252
Brooklyn, February 8, 1964.

Mr. Langston Hughes
684 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York 20, New York

Dear Mr. Hughes:

"Mieux vaut tard que jamais." So a week later here I am wishing you a happy birthday and thanking you for the wonderful evening I spent at the Sanctuary last Saturday listening to Jericho--Jim Crow. But is not too bad that such a threat should be enjoyed only by a limited audience?

I am not quite unknown to you. In 1947 I wrote you about your translation of Jacques Roumain's "Master of the Dew" and also about my collection of old (pre-1915) folk songs and music of Haiti. You were kind enough to write me back--Aug.7, 1947--a very nice letter which included some suggestions about my musical album and "the hope that we may meet in the near future."

Since then everything has happened to this album--except publication. First, our friend Elaine L. Lewis, the former emcee of the program "Poets are People" (remember?), suggested that I presented this material in a book form. I agreed. I endeavored to restore each musical section to its ambience, to the folk activity which inspired it. I did it in French, and Miss Lewis was kind enough to translate a few sections for me. Then, as you know, she got married, became a mother and went to live in Ireland with her husband. But I managed to complete the manuscript in English--only to lose it with the album and all through a Jesuit priest to whom I had been introduced in 1951.

After much labor and heartache I reconstructed the entire work. The few persons who have seen it found it very nice, fascinating, etc. But each one suggested a different way to arrange the sections. Finally last year someone connected with the Young People Audience assured me that he had a plan for the publication of the entire work. But after a while he informed me that he had a ready publisher only for the children's section and the singing folk tales. Now, after I had reluctantly spent my time preparing this new work a misunderstanding developed between him and me and the matter fell through, it seems.

So here am I right back where I was in 1947 with a precious, indeed a priceless, material in my hands but without what it takes to push it through.

Sincerely yours,

Belhomme Nicoleau
470 DeKalb Ave.
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11205

N.B. This letter mailed to you at the above address was returned to me.