

Trappist, Ky,

July 27, 1967

Dear Carolyn:

Victor's beautiful book-- surely his most beautiful in every way-- arrived this morning and I have spent the afternoon reading it. And thinking of so many things. And looking over again at the catalogue of the North Carolina exhibit. Remembering also the picnics at which we had discussed this or that piece of the then "Pebbles" (I do think the new title is better).

What can one say? How express gratitude for Victor, and that he ~~was~~ was with us as much as he was, longer no doubt than we deserved. Or does such a statement make any sense? I suppose it can't. But you know what I mean.

I am above all glad that he was able to really round it all out in the form of these two testaments: the assembling of all his painting and printing, and then this bringing together of his ideas in a more effective way than any other, I think. It is a delightful book, and every word tells. Besides, it is so beautifully made-- and we have you largely to thank for that.

It is so good to have this book, in which the very tone of Victor's speech is actual. And of course he is with us, and we with him, not only through the medium of the book. So significant, too, the fact that all this really was ad maiorem Dei gloriam, perhaps more so than much that is professionally "religious".

Are you going to carry on with the press? I hope so, and I hope we will find many more pretexts for printing. Also I have tried to suggest to J. Laughlin the idea of a sort of collected works of Victor in one volume, or a selection, or in any case a volume.

I suppose things must be tiresome for you now. I for my part have been over visited and pulled this way and that, but the tide seems to be going down now. Later when we are all more free and ourselves, perhaps we can get together again. I will keep it in mind. Bob could take care of the transportation, one way or the other. It is of course always much simpler for me when people come here: my going out is always a great and complex operation. But we'll see what comes up.

Meanwhile, I think of you often, and of course of Victor whom I remember always and especially in prayer. Blessings always, and my very best wishes.

Tom