

Dear Laura,

Haven't sent final copy of script yet cause the Marton's still have it -- looking over the changes and all that.

I'm sure you know Old Times is at the Roundabout. Rumor has it that Pinter came to some of the rehearsals and was asked by Hopkins what the ending meant and Pinter took a pause and said: I don't know. Just do it. (I'm sure this same story is used for all his plays)

Please write and give me some guidelines on writing the Rockefeller letter. What should the main thrust be? Am I thanking them? Complementing them on their choice of theatres?

Also, I know you told me to write it myself but I'm finding that very hard, so couldn't you please write me a letter of recommendation for my NEA grant? Aw, come on, Laura, it's hard writing your own recommendation.

I'm working hard on my new play -- a good deal of which I formed while walking Terkel Dog and Harris Dog up the hills. I did in the end though have to discard their suggestion for including two dogs in the script. Remembering their odd insistence on naming the two characters Terkel and Harris, I have become doubtful of their motives and suspect they're only trying to get themselves on stage -- sly young doggies that they are.

Tell Allan I've bought a huge four foot long racquet and electric tennis shoes in preparation for my comeback (that oughta shake him up a bit).

(To be sung ~~operatically~~~~operatically~~) operatically) (I'm embarrassed)

HOPE ALL IS GOING WELL! GOODBYE! FAREWELL !

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

Mr. Dick
Playwright-out-of-Residence