

Fall
reply

██████████
January 30, 1972

Selma H. Fraiberg
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Ms. Fraiberg:

I am a teacher of the early grades and a feminist. I just finished reading your book, The Magic Years, for the first time. I don't know why it's taken me so long. It's a very good book. I enjoyed it thoroughly, except for the sections of Chapter 7 called "On Being a Girl" and "On Being a Boy" and two other references to sexual differences which, I believe, unnecessarily slight females.

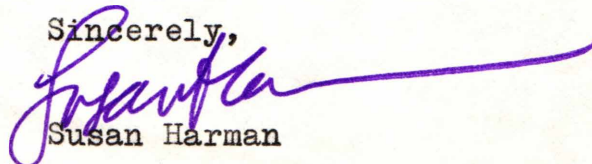
On page 132 you assume that both little boy and little girl assume that something is "missing" on the girl. It would seem to me, a priori, that each child would assume something odd about the other sex, children being as egocentric as they are. That is, the boy would, as you say, assume something "missing" from the girl; and the girl, contrary to what you say, something stuck on the boy. After all, children reason from inside out.

Additionally, there is strong de facto evidence that this is, indeed, the way little girls view little boys (unless prejudiced by grown-up, Freudian biases). The women and girls I know that I have surveyed on this point all say that, although boys seemed to have more fun than girls, it never occurred to them to envy a piece of their anatomy; only their lifestyle. Penises are, after all, odd attachments. They differ in color and texture from the surrounding skin. They truly look like afterthoughts.

On page 210, the ideal man is said to have "confidence and pleasure in his masculinity," and the ideal woman, "satisfaction and pleasure in her femininity". Why the difference?

Finally, the two ~~sex~~ specific sections on developing sexual identity, I strongly recommend that you investigate the good store of feminist literature before the new edition of your book!

Sincerely,


Susan Harman

August 17, 1970

Miss Karla Davidson
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.,
1350 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Miss Davidson:

I am sorry I do not wish to give permission for motion picture rights
in the title Magic Years nor rights to the book itself.

Sincerely yours,

Selma Fraiberg
Professor Child Psychoanalysis

SF/swb



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER INC., 1350 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019

LAW DEPARTMENT

August 3, 1970.

Miss Selma H. Fraiberg
c/o Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Re: THE MAGIC YEARS

Dear Miss Fraiberg:

We are producing a one-hour television documentary on the subject of early childhood and are interested in using the title "MAGIC YEARS" for said documentary and possibly some of the material in your book.

We would therefore like to offer you the amount of \$350 for exclusive motion picture rights in the title. For this payment, we would also like an option, exercisable one year after execution of the appropriate papers, to acquire exclusive motion picture rights in the book itself. For the motion picture rights, if we exercise the option, we would like to offer you the total amount of \$3,500 (against which the original payment of \$350 would be credited).

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you as soon as convenient.

Sincerely yours,

Karla Davidson
KARLA DAVIDSON

KD;rb

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PT/EA

21st February 1968

Mrs Selma Fraiberg
University Hospital
The University of Michigan Medical Center
Ann Arbor
Michigan 48104

Dear Mrs Fraiberg,

I am sorry that you will not be able to be in this country
at the time of publication of our edition of THE MAGIC YEARS
- it would have been nice.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Taylor



Mrs Selma Fraiberg

University Hospital

The University of Michigan Medical
Center

Ann Arbor

Michigan 48104

U S A

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Sender's name and address:

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PT/AS

22nd April, 1968

Professor Selma Fraiberg,
University Hospital,
The University of Michigan Medical Centre,
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104,
U.S.A.

> Dear Professor F.

The Magic Years

We are glad that you approve of our jacket design. I am very sorry to say that this has now been printed and we will, therefore, not be able to change it. However, I have made a note of your new position and we shall certainly correct this when we come to reprint your book.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Taylor



Professor Selma Fraiberg,

University Hospital,

The University of Michigan
Medical Centre,

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

U.S.A.

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AIR LINE
AÉROGRAMMES

File

ANNA MAENCHEN, PH. D.
10 GREENWOOD COMMON
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94708

November 25, 1969

Dear Selma:

Thank you very much for your instructive letter about Mrs. H. What a vivid picture of her analysis! It will help me very much indeed in picking up the trends.

Mrs. H. resumed her analysis with great trepidations. There is a 'push' and flooding in her speech. The marital situation is exactly as you predicted. The patient, frustrated, easily humiliated and very angry. She is afraid of losing control.

I too find her an interesting and good patient

Thank you for referring her to me. I'll try to do my best.

Cordially,

Anya M.

February 15, 1968

Mr. Patrick Taylor
Methuen and Co LTD Publishers
11 New Fetter Lane
London EC 4, England

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I am sorry that I do not expect at this time to be in London at the time of the publication of the "Magic Years" in a British edition. If I were to be there, I would be delighted to arrange for a television interview, but I think it is not possible.

Sincerely yours,

Selma Fraiberg
Associate Professor
Child Psychoanalysis

SF:vb

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PT/EA

1st February 1968

Mrs Belma Fraiberg
Dept. of Psychiatry
University Hospital
The University of Michigan Medical Center
Ann Arbor
Michigan 48104

Dear Mrs Fraiberg,

The Magic Years

We are planning to publish our edition of your book in June this year and we are wondering if by any chance at all you will be in Europe at that time. If you are it might be possible to arrange television interviews which would help promotion of your book immensely.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Taylor



Mrs Selma Fraiberg

Dept. of Psychiatry

University Hospital

The University of Michigan
Medical Center

Ann Arbor

Michigan 48104, U S A

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AEROGRAMMES

November 15, 1967

Mr. Michael Tietzer
Bellefaire

██████████
██████████

Dear Mike,

It was an absolute pleasure to hear from you and to learn of your growing interests in school. I do miss you and the general life at Bellefaire.

My work in Ann Arbor has become quite absorbing and I and my family have settled down rather comfortably at this point. Please let me know how things are going for you. I have always felt that you could potentially benefit greatly from the Bellefaire program. Have you been able to get out more? Is public school a future possibility?

Please give my regards to the staff and other children.

Fondly,

Mort

MC:sl

NOV 16 1967
SUPERIOR MAIL FOLD
C/O

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PT/EA

16th August 1967

Mrs. Selma Fraiberg,
Department of Psychiatry,
University Hospital,
The University of Michigan Medical Center,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48104.

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg,

The Magic Years

I am sure you are right - we don't necessarily have to make any observations on the differences in bringing up children in America and Europe. In any case it would be much simpler from our point of view.

I have yet to have any definite word from Curtis Brown about our offer - they say that they have had to refer to Scribner who have not as yet reacted. I shall certainly keep you in touch with developments.

Yours sincerely,

pp. Patrick Taylor.

Patrick Taylor



Mrs. Selma Fraiberg,
Dept. of Psychiatry,
University Hospital,
The University of Michigan
Medical Center,
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104,
U;S.A.

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10/9/52

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EA

7th August 1967

Mrs. Selma Fraiberg,
Department of Psychiatry,
University Hospital,
The University of Michigan Medical Center,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48104.

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg,

THE MAGIC YEARS

Thank you very much for your letter of 1st August addressed to Mr. Taylor who is at the moment on holiday. I will show him your letter when he returns and I am sure he will let you have his remarks as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Adams

Secretary to Patrick Taylor



Mrs. Selma Fraiberg,
Dept. of Psychiatry,
University Hospital,
The University of Michigan Medical Centre,
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104, U.S.A.

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METHUEN & CO. LTD. 11 New Fetter Lane London E.C.4. Telephone Finsbury Circus 8822
PUBLISHERS



August 1, 1967

Mr. Patrick Taylor
Methuen & Co, LTD, Publishers
11 New Fetter Lane
London Ec 4, England

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Your letter arrived shortly after my return from Europe and I am sorry that there was no chance for us to meet in London.

I am, of course, pleased that you are considering the Magie Years for the University Paperback series. A number of my colleagues in London had asked if there were any possibilities of a British edition.

From comments that I have received from my friends abroad, there are apparently not enough differences in British and American child rearing practices to justify any changes in the text. As you probably know, there are editions in Hebrew, Danish, Flemish, Dutch which have not required changes in the text. Nor do I feel that I would need to write an introduction indicating possible differences in the environment of childhood in America and in Britian. If there are such differences, I am actually not informed sufficiently and would probably be the least qualified person to write such an introduction.

Do let me know regarding your decision.

Many thanks for writing to me,

Sincerely yours,

Selma Fraiberg
Associate Professor
Child Psychoanalysis

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PT/EA

7th July 1967

Mrs. Selma H. Fraiberg,
c/o Children's Psychiatric Hospital,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48104.

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg,

The agents Curtis Brown have sent us a copy of your book THE MAGIC YEARS. We are looking into the possibility of putting it into our University Paperback series. I wonder if you feel it is suitable for a non-American market without any changes or explanations? Or do you think, for example, you might like to write a short introduction indicating the possible differences in the environment of childhood in America and in Britain or the Commonwealth?

Kenneth Heuer of Charles Scribners tells me you are in Europe; if there is any chance of your being in London we should be pleased to see you. I myself shall be away from 22nd July to 14th August, but our editorial director, Mr. Wait, will be delighted to see you.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Taylor



Please Forward, Urgent

Mrs. Selma H. Fraiberg,
c/o Children's Psychiatric
Hospital,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor,
Michigan 48104.
U.S.A.

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11 New Fetter Lane, London E.C.4 Telephone Finsbury Circus 3322



October 19, 1967

AIR MAIL

drs J J van Haaren
Glorieuxlaan 5
Vught N.B. Nederland

Dear Dr. van Haaren:

Thank you very much for your kind remarks regarding my book, "The Magic Years". I am so sorry that I am unable to contribute to your periodical. At the present time, my own writing and research schedule is so crowded that there is no possibility of my taking on even this most interesting assignment.

Cordially,

Selma Fraiberg
Associate Professor
Child Psychoanalysis

SF:vb

AEROGRAMME
LUCHTPOSTBLAD

50 JAAR

WEMMENT AFDRIJVEN

K.N.R.B.D.



U.S.A.

Mrs Selma Fraiberg

Children's Psychiatric
Hospital
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

~~adr.: Charles Scribner's Sons~~

~~597 Fifth Avenue~~

~~NEW YORK 14-17~~

PAR AVION / PER LUCHTPOST

EXPÉDITEUR / AFZENDER

drs J. J. van Haaren

Glorieuxlaan 5

Vught N B Nederland

NIETS INSLUITEN!

GEEN ADRESSTROKEN, SLUITZEGELS, PLAKBAND, ENZ. GEBRUIKEN.

INDIEN ZULKS TOCH GESCHIEDT, DAN WORDT DEZE BRIEF

PER BOOT / TREIN VERZONDEN

RUIMTE VOOR SLUITKLEP

OUVRIR ICI / HIER OPENEN

Vught 17 sept.67

Dear miss Fraiberg

Your book The magic years translated to De magische wereld van het kind that we have read with great interest and admiration inspired us to ask you to contribute to our periodical OPVOEDING that monthly appears and that in march 1968 will be devoted tot the teme of the magic in our life and culture. We are planning the following papers:

the magic in the man-wife relation -Mischa de Vreede
the magic in the slogans - Ben Bal
the magic in the domain of the teenagers- van Meerten
the magic in our religious behavior - J van Haaren
the magic years

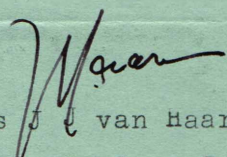
For the last we hope you will give your contribution in a paper of + 1300-1400 wee words that we should like to receive for date the 1st jan.68. (1-1-68)

Perhaps it is possible for you to write some case-stories and to give some lines of the structure of the magic in the early childhood years. Perhaps with some attention for the attitude of the parents and the nursery girls in the case of magic.

Dear miss Fraiberg we hope you have the time and the possibility for this paper. "ill you write me, as soon as is possible for you if we can count on your contribution-paper, this in relation with the necessary planning of our periodical. If you consent the editor will send you march 68 this thematic number and the honorarium for your paper.

With respect and hope

yours


drs J. van Haaren
Glorieuxlaan 5
Vught N B
Nederland

November 4, 1968

Mrs. R. H. Hawthorn

██████████ ██████████ ██████████
██████████ ██████████ ██████████

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Dear Mrs. Hawthorn:

Many thanks for your letter. I am glad you likedd
The Magic Years. I am afriad, however, there would be
no possibility for me to be a "Dear Abby" to tired
mothers. It would be a fine idea for someone, but I
am afraid not me!

It was good to hear from you anyway!

Cordially,

Selma Fraiberg

SF:vb

(Mrs.) R. H. Hawthorn

October 8, 1968

Mrs. Selma H. Fraiberg
c/o Chas. Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg:

After reading your book, "The Magic Years", I have definitely concluded that YOU would be the best one to whom I might turn with an idea that has been in the back of my mind for many years:

In all our Educational Systems, there is one major group of Americans who have not and (so far) cannot seem to be reached parents of young children.

We are beginning to touch upon the subject in special schools for UNwed Mothers, and in many high schools. However, there remains a seemingly unsurmountable task of reaching parents once they have begun the task of rearing their children! Family Counselling Services in most communities are helping those extreme cases on Welfare, but the average middle-class and upper-class American has no place to turn for answers to problems of early parenthood!

I am writing to you with this suggestion: Why not start a syndicated column (similar to "Dear Abby") in which mothers might write you questions pertaining to particular problems with their children. Your answers would then be read by millions!

Example: Dear Mrs. Fraiberg: My two-year old boy is beginning to fight his afternoon naptime. Both he and I need this quiet period, but since he no longer has a bottle feeding, it is difficult to keep him quiet for a nap. What would you suggest?

Tired Mother

Dear "Tired Mother": Many children will try "everything in the book" to avoid afternoon naps. A definite schedule should be set up whereby his nap immediately follows a quiet and delightful lunch. Make it a practice to take him to his bed right out of the high chair, and you should have little trouble. If he is already broken of the nap habit, I would suggest you firmly follow this rule (even if it means crying for a week); he will soon understand that you will not change your mind. I know of one mother who would never allow her child to cry in his crib. He was laid on the floor until done crying, then gently and lovingly placed in his crib to sleep.

It would be far better, I would suggest, to answer one question daily -- fully and understoodly if space permits -- than to do 2 or 3 each day with short answers. As children differ, some

Mrs. Selma Fraiberg

- 2 -

October 8, 1968

questions may require alternate answers, according to the age of the child.

I can remember, as I brought up my three during those first busy years, I constantly planned to read a book similar to yours, but never quite got around to completely doing so! So it is with millions of young parents. Now that I have time, the family is almost raised.

Please give this idea your thoughtful consideration. Will appreciate hearing from you and hope that your answer will be in the positive.

Sincerely yours,

Mildred E. Hawthorn

(Mrs.) R. H. Hawthorn

Erbeck
Superior Manifold
35506
June 24, 1969

Mrs. J. M. Belart
4 Sorgi Court
Plainview, New York 11803

Dear Mrs. Belart:

Thank you very much for writing to me about The Magic Years.
I am happy that you found it useful, and it is, of course, a pleasure to
hear from a reader!

Sincerely yours,

Selma Fraiberg

SF:mlv

Mr. & Mrs. I. M. Belart
[REDACTED]



Mrs. Selma Fraiberg
Director of Child Development
Children's Psychiatric Hospital
University of Michigan,
Medical Center -
Michigan -

June 10th, 1969. -

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg:

I am writing this letter to express my feelings about the wonderful ^{book} "The magic years" that you have written. It had made me very happy that you had thought about it. I have found that it is very easy to understand, it has the problems and solutions in each chapter, most important it explain to you why and the way children feel about things in such a simple language, I have long waited for a book like yours, thanks to Dr. Paul Kay from Great Neck, N.Y. I read it and because it help me so much I decide to write to you this letter:-

I also have something to ask you, please go on writing, do it in the same way because it is this kind of books that mothers are waiting and are in need today.

Congratulation again I hoping for a new book

I am sincerely

Very truly yours

Mrs. Alicia Belart

P.D. excuse my writing, I was not born in U.S.A.

September 11, 1968

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Dr. Selma H. Fraiberg
Children's Psychiatric Hospital
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Dr. Fraiberg:

We have been negotiating with Hoffman and Campe Verlag of Hamburg, Germany for the rights to the German edition of **THE MAGIC YEARS**. However, I am enclosing a copy of a clause in the contract which needs your approval before the contract can be signed. We would appreciate confirmation in writing from you stating that you have no objection to the inclusion of this clause 14. The terms of the contract would be as follows: DM 2,000 (about \$500) advance against 7½% royalty to 5,000 copies, 10% to 10,000 copies, and 12½% thereafter.

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie Cooke
Assistant to the
Science Editor

Enclosure:
Clause 14

14. The Proprietor further grants to the Publishers the non-exclusive right to arrange for the reading of extracts from their translation of the said work in broadcasts from radio stations situated on the Continent of Europe on the understanding that all monies received for such readings are divided equally between the Proprietor and the Publishers. The Proprietor however does not grant to the Publishers any broadcasting rights whatsoever in the said work in the German language other than those for straight readings and no features, radio plays, etc., based on the said work may be broadcast without the express permission in writing of the Proprietor and the Proprietor reserves the right to refuse permission for such broadcasts.

April 10, 1968

Miss Elizabeth Adams
Methuen and Company
11 New Fetter Lane
London EC4, England

Dear Miss Adams:

The jacket proof for "The Magic Years" is quite lovely. There is only one piece of information to bring the biographical sketch up to date. I am Professor of Child Psychoanalysis now.

Many thanks for sending this on to me.

Sincerely yours,

Selma Fraiberg

SF:vb

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PUBLISHERS

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Piers Raymond Patrick Thornhill Michael Turner *Secretary* L. A. Youthed FCCS

15th March 1968

Mrs Selma Fraiberg
University Hospital
The University of Michigan Medical Center
Ann Arbor
Michigan 48104

Dear Mrs Fraiberg,

I have pleasure in enclosing a proof of the jacket for the hardback edition of THE MAGIC YEARS. We would be grateful if you could let us have any corrections or comments as soon as possible. The paperback edition will have a similar design.

With many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Adams

Secretary to Patrick Taylor

Methuen's Manuals of Modern Psychology

Edited by C. A. MACE

The Scientific Study of Social Behaviour

MICHAEL ARGYLE

Psychology and Social Problems

MICHAEL ARGYLE

Mental Deficiency

A. M. & A. D. B. CLARKE

The Psychology of Jung

AVIS M. DRY

The Structure of Human Personality

H. J. EYSENCK

Teaching: A Psychological Analysis

C. M. FLEMING

Cognition

F. H. GEORGE

A Short History of British Psychology 1840-1940

L. S. HEARNshaw

Motivated Learning

MIRIAM HEBRON

The Perception of Causality

A. MICHOTTE

The Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence

C. I. SANSTRÖM

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W. SLUCKIN

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Personality Tests and Assessments

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The Structure of Human Abilities

PHILIP E. VERNON

Personality Assessment

PHILIP E. VERNON

Frustration and Conflict

AUBREY J. YATES

Methuen & Co Ltd

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SELMA H.
FRAIBERG

The Magic Years

METHUEN

SELMA H. FRAIBERG

The Magic Years

UNDERSTANDING THE
PROBLEMS OF EARLY
CHILDHOOD



The Magic Years

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEMS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

SELMA H. FRAIBERG

This book tells the story of personality development during the first five years of life and describes and discusses in simple terms the typical problems which emerge with each developmental stage. The practical illustrative material has been drawn extensively from the questions and problems which parents of normal children have brought to Mrs Fraiberg as a consultant.

The period covered is that when the foundation of character, personality, and a good adjustment to life is laid. These pages offer understanding and knowledge which can guide parents, teachers, and others in helping children to overcome the usual problems of each stage in growth. Mrs Fraiberg does not expect parents to be perfect, for she recognizes that they start inexperienced and often make mistakes. She stresses that it is the quality of understanding, often intuitive, of the parent who knows and loves his child that can most readily provide the right method at critical moments. Mrs Fraiberg writes with wit and humour.

PROOF. Proposed month of publication: JUNE

PRICE
36s net
IN UK ONLY



Photo : C. Bennette Moore

Mrs Fraiberg is Associate Professor of child psychoanalysis at the University of Michigan Medical Centre, Ann Arbor. She has spent the greater part of her professional career in the field of child psychotherapy. Besides her practice as a consultant she has worked in various clinics and agencies in Detroit and Ann Arbor and has taught at the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, and Tulane University. She has published widely in professional journals of psychiatry and has written articles for parents in *Women's Home Companion*, *Child Study*, and *Parent's Magazine*. *The Magic Years* is her first book.

February 28, 1967

Mrs. William E. Arnstein
1095 Park Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Arnstein:

I am so sorry that your first letter to me was never forwarded. Of course I remember you! I am very pleased to hear about your forthcoming book.

I am happy to give you permission to quote from "The Magic Years".

Sorry about the confusion!

Cordially,

Selma Fraiberg
Associate Professor
Child Psychoanalysis

SF:vb

MRS. WILLIAM E. ARNSTEIN
1095 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10028

Feb. 16, 1967

Dear Mrs. Fraiberg,

A few months ago I wrote your publishers--^LScribners--for permission, which they granted, to quote some lines from your book, *The Magic Years*, to appear in my forthcoming book, *Your Growing Child and Sex* which is being published by the Bobbs-Merrill Co. Inc. This book has been written in consultation with the Child Study Association of America. At the same time I wrote you a letter in care of the publishing house but I never received an answer. Therefore, I got your address from Helen Burgess--and although you may not remember me, I met you through her some years ago.

I am quite fussy about wanting the consent of the author too--besides the publisher--although I am using ^{only} 39 words in one chapter and again some 38 words in another chapter. Both of these wonderful quotes enhance my points and add considerably to the book. Therefore, since the publishers evidently never contacted you, or forwarded the letter I am writing you to get your consent too.

This book of mine is a rather modest attempt to help parents understand something about the sexual development, the sex education and the formation of attitudes and behavior of the child from infancy through adolescence.

Hoping that this will be ok with you, I am thanking you and will wait to hear from you.

Very sincerely,

Helen S. Arnstein