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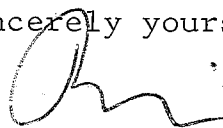
Professor Matthew S. Meselson  
Biological Laboratories  
Harvard University  
16 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Matt:

I have heard indirectly that Scientific American has pulled out of its book program which you were invited to contribute to a couple of years ago. I don't know whether or not you responded to their invitation and thus have an orphan book looking for a doorstep, but if you do, you might be interested to know that I have severed my relationship with Freeman to follow my editor, Art Bartlett, who was let go in a cost-saving shake up there. Bartlett now has started up a new company called Science Books International, and I am continuing my consultantship with him in this new venture. If you have given birth or are near to giving birth to the orphan, we would be most interested in considering its adoption.

I have tried to reach you by phone and I may be successful by the time this letter reaches you. I had a very pleasant time visiting with the MacArthur Foundation, where I found that the job they were offering, as I understand under your influence, was really unsuitable to my talents. They were wanting somebody who is a rather self-effacing secretary, overpaid I'll grant you, but not with much leeway to develop my own program. Indeed, it seemed I would be very much under the dictates of a bunch of wayward laureates and a rather crackpot son trying to gain posthumous revenge on his miserable father. As an existential experience, however, it rated A-1, and I had the pleasure of meeting Dave Bottstein's younger brother who is also in the running at the same for the position and who they interviewed simultaneously with me in a most gauche fashion I thought. That is Chicago for you; all slaughterhouse, machismo, and no class.

Sincerely yours,



Cedric I. Davern  
Vice President for  
Academic Affairs