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June 1, 1981

Robert Gottlieb:
Editor-in-Tyranny
Alfred Knopf
201 E. 59th Street
New York, NY
10028

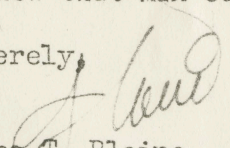
Dear Gottlieb:

I for one hope and pray that Mrs. Thelma Toole will secure publication of your letters to the suicide author you so cruelly and evilly rejected. After reading his novel, I am certain I can understand exactly why you rejected his brilliant and artistic novel.

It is tragic that Mr. Toole is dead, and that you deny knowledge of his manuscript. But until I myself can ascertain the true circumstances behind your act of brutal rejectance, there is a private oath that, in my life and novels, I would never permit you to be in any way--in the future--involved in publication, as I feel that you share a moral guilt in Toole's suicide, and as such a man, would not be worthy of honorable editorship, of anything I write.

One thinks of Dostoyevsky, in CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, and Raskolnikov, and how that man came up to him and said, "Murderer."

Sincerely,


Blaine T. Blaine
201 Naples
San Francisco, California

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