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Thelma D. Toole
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Mrs. Toole,

I read in Horizon that you would be consultant on the movie made from your son's novel, A Confederacy of Dunces, and I wanted to give you a suggestion for casting. Of course I'm sure everybody has been doing the same, but please give some consideration to my idea.

There is an actor currently appearing on the TV show, SCTV 90, which is shown on Nashville TV (WSM) Friday night, who immediately came to my mind when I thought of Confederacy made into a film. I should have done some research, but I don't know this actor's name. He is a huge man, about 35 years old whose comic timing seem just right for the part of Ignatius. Please go to the trouble of looking at this guy, or suggest it to the film's producer. The SCTV show is like Saturday Night Live from NBC, and I'm sure you can find out where it is shown in your area, etc.

While reading Confederacy I was constantly aware of how movie-like it seemed. I suppose this comes from the abundance of realistic dialouge. I could easily imagine it being done as a film directed by Robert Altman. It also reminded me of Catch 22, but returning to my suggestion, the most immediate thing to my mind was the way I could visualize the actor from SCTV 90 playing Ignatius J. Reilly. I feel like your son's book could become a really good movie, but it seems like it will be so easy for it to become diluted by the typical Hollywood choices.

I'm sure that you're very busy with things at this time, so I hope you will forgive this kind of solicitousness on my part. If you'll watch some of the work by the above mentioned actor, I'm sure you will see the striking resemblance to the novel's main character, and this character will surely be the essence of a film based on A Confederacy of Dunces.

Steve Short