

Tom ✓ *back to GTP*
BENNINGTON COLLEGE
BENNINGTON, VERMONT

SEP 27 1973

Thursday

Dear Gail,

Game plan is as follows: Sontag to arrive late afternoon on Thursday, October 4, just in time enough for me to get her here from the Albany airport for supper, apparently. I should probably take her to your house to let her leave her stuff in her room and unwind a bit, hopefully being amused by YOU! Then I will drive you both to dinner at the Rainbarrel, a tightly organized affair at this point which includes Jo Rider, Nick Delbanco, Stephen Sandy, Jane Ford, Steven Harris, Bernard Malamud, and Alvin Feinman if he can overcome his anti-hoi-polloi hauteur about media star Sontag. (Richard Tristman, I might add, is coming with me to the airport, since he knew Sontag at Columbia.) Then we will go directly to the Carriage Barn, I imagine. She has not yet revealed to the panting multitude what she will speak about, preferring, according to her agent, to "play it by ear". This will be followed by an on-the-spot reception for the students, in which they may press up to her and ask her questions about Any and All Subjects, which she is particularly good at. Then Bernard is having a very private party for her, to which you and Tom are invited. If you want to leave the party early I'll drive her over later. However, let me remind you that you're the main reason she's coming here for half her usual fee, since I dangled the prospect of meeting you carrot-like before her eyes when I went up to Dartmouth to see her speak last April. One mentally examines your wardrobe for the perfect costume.... You look good in those torso-fitting shirtwaist-type things, but you mostly wore those when it was warm. Naturally, I am tearing my hair out in my desire to set the right tone for myself. My new formal blue Forties/Mao jacket? Or my more casual slate-blue blousey turn-of-the-Fifties smock? Possibly my gamine French-boy's pullover? Alas, the burden of Chic!

Love,

Camille