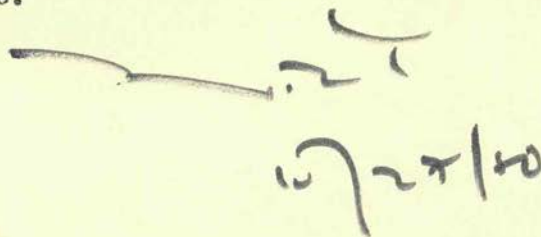


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Dear Kit: I've been meaning to say---and hoping to say in person--- what you must anyhow know: how glad and grateful I was for your so generous review of Stillness last week. It's strangely the case, as I muttered to you on the McCullough lawn last month, that reviews in Boston/Washington/L.A., etc. matter far less to this incipient homebody than some hometown reaction. And yours was judicious yet kind in the extreme; I'm more pleased than it's simple to say. (So were my daughters, who found me grinning back at them from an innocently opened Banner.) You're right; it's a roman a clef with no people to identify except in general terms---but the specifics of place have come to mean much to me, and I'm glad you made the North Village out as book's hero. It is, in a way.... though I feel less well disposed to it after a two-day seizure without electricity than in that Indian Summer spell last week.

Well. Enough said. It was, as always, a pleasure to see you---and thanks for letting me read you into the bargain. This brings love.



Handwritten signature and date: 10/27/50