

Friday, July 21

Dear Amy,

I wouldn't care so much what you believed if it wasn't tied to the way you plan to make a living. You have chosen a field of study that requires a Ph.D. and does not guarantee a high-paying job when you get through. That sounds like a lousy investment, and that is one reason why I don't care to help you any further. Another reason is that I've already given you a lot of financial support and so has your mother and you have contributed very little. I do realize that it is rough to go to school and work at the same time, but you have managed to avoid work during school breaks, too. You should be getting loans, and if supporting yourself for a year or so is the only way to qualify, that's not too great a price to pay. People have been known to survive such ordeals.

I do not think you are dumb, but intelligent people do dumb things too. I've done my share. I just don't believe in the collective consciousness. The only one who could possibly benefit from meditation is the meditator, and only because they have nothing to distract them from their thoughts. But you don't have to sit on your ass to achieve that. I do good thinking in the shower in the morning and while I'm jogging. But thinking comes naturally for me. Other people have to work at it, I suppose.

I do enjoy your writing. Good writers are not that common. The enclosed memo from my boss is an example of someone who seems to write with his foot (to use an expression of one of my old ATL professors at MSU). I've written a letter to the director of the Department of Management and Budget and I've filed a grievance against my boss. If the Director doesn't do the right thing, this matter is going to be in the newspapers.

Carol and I will be on vacation the week of July 23. We don't have big plans, but we'll probably spend some time at her parent's cabin on Higgins Lake. We formally close the deal on the house July 31.

Roger's address is 927 East Grand River.