

1674 1/2 St.
Benwood, W. Va.
Feb 24, 1961

Friend. Al,

But how can I be sure you are a friend? For all I know it might be something entirely different writing...hiding behind the postage stamp....behind space. I would have liked to have been a little more scientific about your claims....investigated them first hand. But I recognized that while you might have something to fear or hide from a frustrated neophyte, I recognized the possible truth, that I might not be able to tell much actually from first hand analysis.

You are unfair. This by your own words. You resent and hint anathema at such trifling things as my caution and your style of writing is so vitriolic that I wonder that anyone could insult you. Yet I hesitated to say anything that might hurt your feelings. I have commented about the reasonableness of statements but there has been no intention to tell you off.

I am tempted though. Surely you are not so naive as to think that I should accept everything anyone says. And there is no point in threatening to tell me to go to hell just because I do not agree.

In fact those are the little things that cast the doubt in my mind, more than the wealth or lack of reason. I can understand that you would want to share an experience if you had something big, but when people get big they just do not have the urge to tell the less fortunate to go to hell. And I presume that is what you mean when you say you are tempted to say the obvious.

Almost grudgingly now you tell me that the mind lives undendingly. *How do you know?*

Why? How do I know that you know. What are jivan-muktis. You do a little name-dropping. If I thought anything could be deduced from reading about Jesus or Buddha (since they wrote nothing) I would not be writing to you. I cannot ascertain if they existed. The Catholics claim that their peccs run clear back to Peter, but that claim does not mean a thing to me. I do not have the time to prove it, nor to prove the true origin of the Massens....since I have no assurance that knowing the unbroken chain of heredity would provide any qualitative knowledge of the first link.

Sometimes I think you are just an evergrown beatnik with a Russian sense of humor. Do you mean that your wife does not believe in the magnitude of your nothingness? My wife (amazingly different) knows me to be hypocrite that I am. I keep telling her that I am but a mite of the Almighty