

Jerry Mayer,  
74 Wallis Street,  
Woollahra, NSW, 2025

14th September 1971

Mr R. Boyd  
290 Walsh Street,  
South Yarra,  
VICTORIA 3141

Dear Robin,

It was so nice seeing you again last Friday. It is a great privilege to work with you on your book.

The manuscript was collected by the typesetter on Sunday night and I hope to have a few page proofs for you in about two weeks from now.

As you may remember I suggested the insertion of a line of space here and there, in the Collings story, to separate Ramsay's thesis from Mrs Collings' interview and that from the rest of the story about Hope. You then quite rightly pointed out that there should not be breaks else we would sever the continuity. Nonetheless I was concerned with the ~~length~~ length of the story and the different characters appearing in it and so as I was marking the manuscript for the typesetter it occurred to me that I could "brighten it up" visually by dropping the text of Koe's letters and the correspondence between Hope and Collings to 9 on 10 point body Plantin. I think this may also help the reader to separate visually the main story teller of the moment from stories by others he is quoting and, at the same time, preserve the continuity. However, in order to drop the letters by 2 points it necessitated slight editorial changes in the first sentences of one or two letters. Furthermore, to preserve consistency, I had to use the same style in the "Blowey" section with a small extract from a journal and in one other place which I can't remember. I do hope you will agree to this change. I feel certain it will work out right both visually and editorially. Should you object to it, please let me know as soon as possible. # /

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Another point I feel we should perhaps give some more thought to is the use of the "whom" on the first two pages. I discussed the matter with a few people and they were of the opinion that the reader will either not notice it at all or else will take it for a typographical error. I tend to agree with this argument for I consider your example of what you are portraying just a little too subtle for the average reader. (Remember, I was tricked by it.) Perhaps we should drop it or else do something more obvious in that line prior to the first "whom". What do you think?

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Colin Whyllie. This is how his name is spelt on page 6 but six pages later his name is spelt as Wylie. I dropped the "h" from his ~~page~~ name on page 6. Am I wrong?

Your name on page 77 is spelt as Robyn Boyd. Is it intentional or should I correct it?

With kind regards,

*Jimmy*

c.c. Andrew Fabinyi

*Ed*