

2035 Channing Way  
Berkeley

4 March 1990

Dear Peter,

Just wanted to write and let you know how much I appreciate having been included in your Christmas plans. Dinner was wonderful - even though it's taken me a long time to get around to writing, the taste of that ham, those sweet potatoes (yams?), all those mustards, the wine, the conversation, lingers on.

Not much has changed in my life. Still at the cafe but still looking for something with a little security, health and vacation benefits, all that.

My apartment is slowly but surely shaping up - it's finally reached the point where I can have an occasional guest over without too many warnings and apologies. It has been an ongoing struggle to try to convince my roommate to move his stuff from my room into one of his (five months now!) and I'm just beginning to see a little progress in that direction. So finally I'm ~~starting~~ starting to feel just a wee bit at home here, but I think that at this point, in view of how long it's taken (and things are still far from "normal"), even if he cleared everything out - the litter, the clothes, the furniture, the boxes, the pictures on the walls - this very minute, the ~~damage~~ damage would be permanently etched in my consciousness, my pride, and I would be permanently left with a feeling of impermanence here, of not quite being welcome. And why do I continue to put up with it? Well, I do have a friend, a good friend, who's trying to get rid of

one of his roommates so I can move in.  
But everything takes so long...

Well, I hope you haven't minded listening.  
I'm sorry I don't have your \$150<sup>00</sup> yet  
— I think it's just a fraction of what I  
owe you — but will try to at least start  
making payments soon. Though I don't  
think I've said anything before — how foolish to  
assume that things are understood between brothers —  
your initial generosity and continuing patience  
are really appreciated. Thanks again for everything!

I hope everyone is well and happy. My love  
to all of course. Do you think you could drop  
me a ~~love~~ card with Sarah's and Chris's  
addresses on it? ~~That's all~~ Or I can  
just call.

Love,  
Uncle Bill