

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

LITERARY, THEATRE AND FILM AGENTS

43 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2LF

Tel: 0171-405 9351 Fax: 0171-831 2127

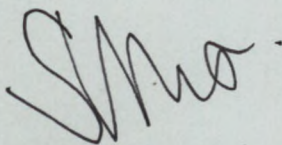
25 March 1998

Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon
OX5 1HF

Dear Hilda

Just a note to acknowledge receipt of the second copy of the script. I'll be sending it to Penguin, Weidenfeld, Bloomsbury and, possibly, Granta!

Best



SIMON TREWIN

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

LITERARY, THEATRE AND FILM AGENTS
43 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2LF
Tel: 0171-405 9351 Fax: 0171-831 2127

Friday, 03 July 1998

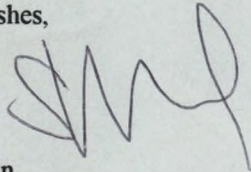
Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon OX5 1HF

Dear Hilda,

I am sorry to say I am still coming up with negative responses - that said I have not in any shape or form given up hope and feel confident we will get there with time.

I will come back to you with news and hopefully a request for the altered copy before too long..

With best wishes,



Simon Trewin

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

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Wednesday, 19 August 1998

Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon OX5 1HF

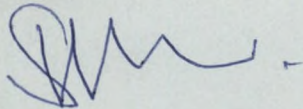
Dear Hilda,

Peter Carson and Profile is a very good idea indeed.

I will get on to it - if you would like to send me the newly revised version than I will use that.

Thank you for your patience...

With best wishes,



Simon Trewin

A Life of ones Own

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

LITERARY, THEATRE AND FILM AGENTS
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Tel: 0171-405 9351 Fax: 0171-831 2127

Tuesday, 15 December 1998

Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon OX5 1HF

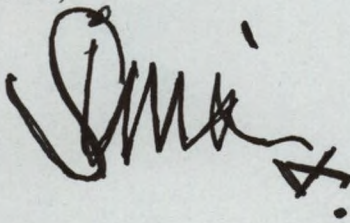
Dear Hilda,

I am so sorry to be enclosing this letter from Chatto - damn her eyes!

It was so good to see you and we will find a grateful home for **A Life of One's Own**.

Have a great trip to L.A and keep the faith!

With best wishes,



Simon Trewin

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

Hilda Bernstein
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Kidlington
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March 16, 1999

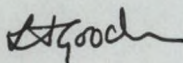
Dear Hilda

Many thanks for the Miro card. Funnily enough I was hunting down the Miro Nocturne painting the other night and I am much taken with this series. Miro's paintings seem to have taken on a peculiarly pre-millennial air at present!

Unfortunately, although I managed to overcome my opposition to Grantza, they were unable to overcome their opposition to the project! The usual reasons – fascinating story, difficult market etc, etc. It is now with Peter Carson and I have my fingers crossed!

We will persevere and I hope (sincerely hope) to get there before too long.

With all my best wishes

pp 

Simon Trewin

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Hilda Bernstein
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Kidlington
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OX5 1HF

March 25, 1999

Dear Hilda

I am enclosing Peter Carson's letter about A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN.

I am sorry to be enclosing yet another rejection letter but I will, as ever, replace my thinking cap and see what we can come up with next.

With all good wishes

pp St Good

Simon Trewin

(Carson's letter not enclosed, and never sent)

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

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Hilda Bernstein
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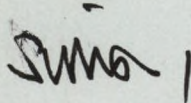
July 30, 1999

Dear Hilda

I am very sorry to have to tell you that I am leaving Sheil Land Associates today after six years here to pursue other avenues. It has been a terrific experience and I have made a great deal of friends - both within the agency and amongst the authors whose work I have represented.

I only wish I could have sold A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN before I left but it was not to be. I am returning your original copies and I have kept a couple of photocopies here on my shelves. I will pass the file to my Chief Executive Sonia Land and ask her to be in touch with you.

With all good wishes,



Simon Trewin

Letter hand 20/8/99

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

LITERARY, THEATRE AND FILM AGENTS
43 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2LF
Tel: 0207 405 9351 Fax: 0207 831 2127
Email: info@sheiland.co.uk

Sonia Land
Chief Executive

Direct Email:
sland@sheiland.co.uk

Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon
OX5 1HF

9th September 1999

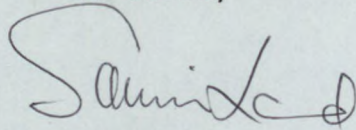
Dear Hilda

Thank you for your letter of 20th August 1999.

I am sorry to say that we aren't taking on any new clients at the current moment in time and sadly cannot allocate you to a new agent. However, we are more than happy to gather any relevant information on A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN that may help you find a new placement.

We wish you all the very best in finding success with A PLACE OF ONE'S OWN.

Yours sincerely



Sonia Land

HILDA BERNSTEIN
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
OX51HF

Sonia Land
Sheil Land Associates Ltd
14 September 1999

Dear Sonia Land,

Thank you for your letter of 9 September.

The information that I would like from you is the file concerning A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN - that is, all the letters from publishers to whom the book was submitted. I understood from Simon Trewin that he had tried quite a considerable number, so you will appreciate that unless I have this information I can hardly proceed in trying to get the book published.

While I readily accept that you do not wish to continue acting on my behalf, I would like to point out that I am hardly a new client. I have been with the agency for a long time. Mic Cheetham handled my last book.

Cordially

Hilda Bernstein

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

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Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon
OX51HF

15th September 1999

Dear Hilda

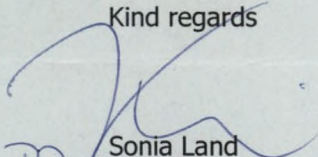
Thank you for your letter of 14th September 1999.

I can only apologise for our mistake in addressing you as a new client. Before we sent our letter of 9th September 1999 to you we searched through your old files and found only the submission information and replies for A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN along with your original synopsis. Since your letter we have made further enquiries and found that your last contract was in 1989 for THE RIFT which was published in 1994 and that you were indeed a client of Mic Cheetam's. I suspect that before Simon left he cleaned out all the old files and he may have done the same with yours, hence our gross error.

The information we have is that A LIFE OF ONES OWN was submitted to Profile Books, Chatto and Windus, Granta and Weidenfeld and Nicholson. I wonder whether you would like us to read A LIFE OF ONES OWN again and come back to you with some comments or would you rather terminate your relationship with us at this time.

I apologise once again for our terrible mistake and hope you are willing to consider this new proposal. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards



PP
Sonia Land
(dictated and signed in absence)

Sonia Land
Sheil Land Associates Ltd

Hilda Bernstein
57 Lock Crescent
Kidlington
Oxon OX5 1HF

22 September 1999

Dear Sonia Land

I am pleased that you are prepared to read A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN again. It would be useful to see if you wish to continue trying to find a publisher.

However, either your records are faulty, or else Simon had removed some of them. I know that he had tried more publishers than the four mentioned in your letter. He thought it a book worth publishing and said he was determined to sell it.

It was certainly submitted to Peter Carson - Simon said he would send me a copy of his letter, but I did not receive it. According to Simon, Virago rejected it because it was 'too lacking in commerciality.' Nicholas Perrin at John Murray wrote that he very much enjoyed reading it, found it moving and intimate - but didn't think they could sell enough.

I believe it was also rejected by Bloomsbury, and there may have been others. So you see this will not be an easy book to place, but whether you wish to try is up to you.

So I am sending this copy for your consideration.

With good wishes

Hilda Bernstein

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Sonia Land
Chief Executive

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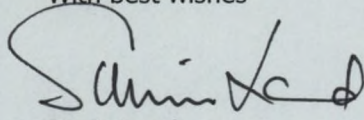
5th April 2000

Dear Hilda

Since our correspondence at the end of last year I have tried A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN with several publishers as I was hoping they would be interested in the social political aspect of your work. Having tried the most likely candidates I am sorry to say that I don't have any offers to publish largely because they cannot visualise the market for such a book. Books in this genre need to be superb to break through in the marketplace and usually the author is a well known public figure.

In this case the publishers couldn't muster the necessary enthusiasm for A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN and unfortunately I feel I have exhausted the possible outlets where I felt we had a strong chance of finding a publisher. I am therefore returning the manuscript with my apologies for not finding it a home. As a client of this agency I will of course consider any other works you have to offer and, if you agree, will retain a copy of A LIFE OF ONE'S OWN in case any new opportunities arise in the next few months.

With best wishes



Sonia Land

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