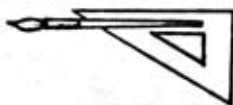


Frank D. Foster



July 20, 1975

Mr. Byron Macdonald
12300 Vonn Road
Apt. 5301
Largo, Fla. 33540

Dear "By":

Enclosed are photo prints of cartoon subjects "Batman" and "The Raven", originals of which I have had, along with others since we all lived in New York on Christopher Street in Greenwich Village during 1937 and 1938.

It is very important that you, Brad and Pete can remember seeing my "Batman" drawings at that time, and if so, write me to that effect.

Competent attorneys in Boston are gathering all the information possible from me relative to the fact that I actually originated the character "Batman" prior to its publication by others. (I am sending "The Raven" along to jog your memory. If you recall, I named the hero and heroine after Peter and Nancy - his girl at that time.

During 1937 and 1938 I was trying to peddle my ideas around New York. At that time Julian Marson gave me a lead to see somebody at Munsey Publications in New York City. I submitted my portfolio to them, which included these two cartoon strip ideas. They kept "Batman" and the others for study and gave me approximately a week's work with their studio while they discussed the drawings for possible publication. At the end of the week they returned all the drawings and said they could not use them and I went my way. Very shortly thereafter I got a mural job, again through Julian Marson, at the World's Fair in Long Island, and the cartoon drawings were put aside. Some months later, "BATMAN" came out as a continued story, the character being almost identical to mine and using the name "Batman". We all discussed it at length several times, but since I was working at the World's Fair, all was pushed aside in favor of food and rent.

I would appreciate it if you forward the two extra copies enclosed to Brad and Pete as we don't have their addresses.

I am anxious to hear from you as soon as possible.

Frank

August 4, 1975

Dear Frank & Ruth:

The arrival of that package did rather surprise us and couldn't figure what you could be sending us, but after opening we understood.

I definitely do remember these drawings as we had lots of discussions concerning Batman and Frank's short time working there.

Brad, Pete & I were living in Brooklyn at the original interview, I think, but moved to 128 Christopher shortly thereafter. We had many discussions pro & con concerning this, in New York, Washington and on the Vineyard & trips to & from.

Have given Brad his packet and am holding Pete's temporarily as he had another heart attack while at Montauk and will not be back in Kentucky for another week or so.

It was as always great to hear from you all and we did have hopes of getting up there this summer, but plans were changed as Teda had a chance to work for the school system here for a few months.

Did get up to Montauk for the 4th this my brother Frank has a place there & Pete & his family were there for the month.

Our son John was married in Feb. and we acquired a twelve year old granddaughter. They are building a house now in Atlanta and we are the "designers" for same so we will be making trips up there quite often. Janis is home for the summer & working, but will be returning to FSU next month as a junior.

Hope the information is of help to you and you can collect a bundle.

This is rather a messy letter, but no one around night now to type it for me.

Love to you both
PJ