
LETTERS

BROTHER BULLINS:

I am glad I had the chance to read the Black Theatre issue of TDR. I was so enthused by it that I showed it to many of my Brothers and Sisters who were also happy to see authentic Black literature in print at last.

*Gwen T. Jennings
General Learning Corp.
New York City*

THE EDITOR:

"We are not amused" at your latest issue of the "learned" journal, *The Drama Review*, nor are we shocked, or even curious.

We are, however, disappointed, disgusted, and somewhat depressed. It would be really depressing if the influence of your little publication should be anything more than fringe. In its present state and with its current viewpoint, I doubt if it is likely to do much to advance the American theatre, which is, of course, what it should be doing.

It is sad to have to admit that grown men in positions of potential influence have not yet discovered what most college freshmen know, which is that sex is only one of the many beautiful adventures this life affords. Little boys entering puberty find pornography daring no doubt, but a magazine representing higher education should appeal to minds more advanced than those of adolescents.

Where is the bold, new challenge, the courageous thrust, the Olympian lift which the drama of our time can offer? Certainly

an invitation to talented people who are seriously interested in the theatre.

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there is not much to be gleaned from fad-bound, fringe-limited *Drama Review*.

When we want girly books, if ever we should feel so impotent, we can turn to publications beyond your ability to compete with. We are on the verge of cancelling our subscription, but would like to see another issue or two before making that decision.

Albert Johnson
University of Redlands Theatre
Redlands, California

THE EDITOR:

Yesterday as I passed through the Periodical Room of our library, I noticed the latest issue of TDR. What was the meaning of the cover picture? I never found it! Demands were too repulsive.

My condemnation did not assert itself until I had reviewed enough of it as a critic (and as objectively) to feel justified in my present decision.

In asking for a cancellation of our subscription, I'll offer this explanation. In one of our reference books, *How to Understand Sex—Guidelines for Students* by Wayne J. Anderson, Ph.D., we find, to our mind, an *acceptable* directive not only for our students but for all of us:

"Since this relaxing of censorship, the nation has been flooded by books dealing with sex and violence. . . . It is entirely possible, and this is evident in counselling contacts with individuals of various age levels, that preoccupation with cynical and 'earthy' 'dirty' books about sex can cause the reader to gradually look upon man as an animal whose chief satisfactions are derived from gratifying biological needs. The concomitant result of such a developed attitude may often be a feeling of disdain for the higher things of the mind and the spirit, those parts of the human soul that motivate both man and woman to create a world of beauty and refinement. . . ."

Sister Mary Lorenz
Mount Mercy College
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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