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4008 Ramsey Avenue Austin,
Texas, 78756 USA,
December 22nd, 1988,
512- 452- 0537

Dear Joseph,

Thanks for yours of the 17th arriving here on the 20th. I, as usual, hasten to reply.

Yes, I have a copy of Ed Yarick's obit. But, as usual, it has little in it that gives vital statistics. No cause of death. Only the "usual" after a long illness. "I have heard various rumors of this--- cancer--- heart attack--- liver disease--- kidney ditto, etc etc. All foul rumor of course. I know Ed drank somewhat more than was good for him. My guess is he kicked in as the result of a cancer complication. Dost thou have any info?

Thanks also for Mrs Yarik's address. I shall write to the old galanon and as soon as Xmas gets its ugly bloody commercial head out of the way.

Re the ~~10th~~ death date. I called my mate who lives outside the town of Southampton in England. I know he has the Inchymise ~~ucked~~ away somewhere. But, as usual, when I want something, a bloody gremlin threw some sort of road block in my path. No answer to my call. All I can guess he was down at the local ~~pub~~ ~~bar~~ lapping pints of Guinness. He usually does repair to the local inn to down a few before taking to his bed. I shall try again. Cant understand why Chapman didnt get back to you. He usually is very prompt in answering-- at least he is with me, and that endears him to me more than somewhat. I do know he has several projects going --- all calculated to enrich him considerably--- so I feel sure Chapman will get back to you.

I am now solidly reconciled to spending my Xmas alone. I have been informed by my luvly son-in-law that he will pick me up on the afternoon of the 24th, bring me over to his place, where I can be harrassed by the little sods who are my grandsons--- dont I love it though-- and will bring me back to my home on Xmas Day around 10, when he will repair to HIS folks for Xmas dinner. I am not invited--- he says. Up his however, my other son-in-law, one time married to my oldest daughter, is coming out Xmas Day afternoon, with some turkey and fixings. So that takes care of that.

I recommend you read THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME. Victor Hugo author. It is the usual morality play, good finally triumphing over evil--- unluckily that doesnt always happen--- and well worth reading. Quasimodo is the central character in the novel, the half wit hunchback who yearns to be treated as a normal man, but is subjected only to taunts and teasing because of his repulsive physical appearance. Secretly he yearns for the love of Esmerelda, a wild gypsy gurl -- and I can tell you they do get pretty wild. She in turn is lusted after by a corrupt and horny priest. It has all the trappings of havelock Ellis and Masoch-ade

You have a god point re centering your news letter around a personality. But my experience has been that a GENERAL theme is more drawing than a theme centered around one man. A good illustration of this is when Bart Horath came up with what he regarded as a "BRILLIANT" idea. He suggested bringing out a single issue of MUSCLE BUILDER with nothing in it but how to build the biceps. This was done and it was a news stand failure. Joe toss that one out the window with unseemly haste.