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SendTo: CN=Joseph Freeman/O=ARRB @ ARRB
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From: CN=Laura Denk/O=ARRB
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ComposedDate: 01/09/1998
ComposedDate_Time: 11:50:48 AM
Subject: Re: Odds and Ends

I loved *Wings of the Dove.* You should definitely go see it, but it is sad, so be warned. Let me know how you like it. I started The Dispossessed last night -- I really like it so far, but I'll let you know more as I go along. I like your interpretation of the freak snowstorm, but you overrate the effort involved. Do you think the gods (God) reward slogging out miles? I don't know. . . . In any case, we continue to have some weird winter weather here. On the issue of our blond, ex-navy friend in the office down the hall. He seems to be doing okay, even though he is sad. I'm really proud of him and I would like to talk to you about it sometime -- maybe you were right, after all, but I can't really tell you why in an e-mail. We'll visit. . . . How is little (big?!) Finn doing? I'm so glad that your reunion was joyous! I love coming home every night to a smiley dog face and a frantically wagging tail. After vacations, I usually even get a dog hug and a few really intense sniffs. :-) It is the best part of being a person. I think I'll militate to go see *As Good As It Gets* this weekend & then try to report back on Monday. Until then -- have a great weekend and thanks again for the cool books! :-)

To: Laura Denk/ARRB
Cc: From: Joseph Freeman/ARRB
Date: 01/09/98 11:35:48 AM
Subject: Re: Odds and Ends

Glad the books pleased you. If not the perfect recognition of your achievement, they are at least sincere! I honestly don't remember them, even in terms of their basic plot lines, so I have no recommendation on which to read first. Chances are you win either way. As for the freak snowstorm, I think it was the gods' way of acknowledging your triumph: Frost has some lines that describe paradise after death as a place where the bravest of the living, to their surprise, discover that valor reigns, "even as on earth"; finding that, even in heaven, "the utmost reward of daring should be still to dare." Similarly, the gods found it just that a year of hard work, filled with obstacles, would be crowned by a struggle with yet more adversity, thereby making the triumph that much sweeter. Someone else said: "A wise man [or woman] struggling with adversity is a spectacle on which the gods might look down with favor." So it was with you. As I have done already, I recommend "As Good As It Gets"; if you're either a Helen Hunt or Jack Nicholson fan, it's hard not to like it (however implausible I found the whole idea of a potential romance between the two). Thanks for the tip on "Good Will Hunting" -- my guess is we'll wait and rent it. Carolyn has set herself against "Amistad" so I would have to go alone and, given that I have to see "The Boxer" by myself, also, I hate to say the former may slip away from me... but you really liked it, right? Anyway, let's compare notes next week on newly-seen movies. Do you like English period pieces? I've been wanting to see "Wings of the Dove" w/Helen Bonham Carter, but haven't. Have a great weekend! Hope you're taking that time off from running that you talked about...

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