

7 January 1997

To: Brian Lamb
of C-Span and C-Span 2

I do not know if you will actually read this since you must be terribly busy, but I hope my thanks to you for this "oasis" of balanced information. Most of all thank you for Book Notes and About Books. Your interviews are so satisfying because you so often ask the questions that come to my mind as I listen to the conversation. I am currently reading Paul Hendrickson's The Living and the Dead because of your interview which introduced us to a very interesting, thoughtful man.

As for About Books, it is a real joy to a book-a-holic like myself. I am fascinated with writers, how they do their work, but also how the whole book publishing, selling business works which I have never had the opportunity to learn about before. I've begun to learn a little about what editors do from the different people interviewed. I hope some time you can have 3 or 4 editors in a joint discussion of their work.

Lastly, I especially want to praise you, your staff, etc. for your plans to focus on de Tocqueville's travels in America and his book Democracy in America. I have long had

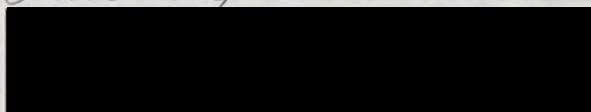
O-Books

that book on my mental list to read. When I saw a week ago on the internet your plans I decided now is the time, I bought the George Laurence translation and am finding it fascinating reading and very stimulating & thoughts about this wonderful, but also troubled country. I also intend to get the book Tocqueville in America which you discussed Jan 1 (I fortunately heard that discussion on a re-play as I was watching past About Books all day on the first, Since I am on the west coast I often miss your early morning segment except when it is re-broadcast.

I hope that I can get together a group of reading friends to gether later this year to discuss the meaning Democracy in America has today. But if that doesn't work out, I'll be with you on C-Span and in the privacy of my inner self reading and thinking

Again Thank you Brian. I was worried that we might lose some of our C-Span time so I called our cable company and was assured they had no such plan. But I will keep my eye on them.

Continue giving us this place for fair expression of opposing ideas
Sincerely


San Diego, Ca 92122