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May 4, 1978

Dear Etha and Douglas,

Warmest thanks for your letter of April, 1978, and the record of Stephen's masterpiece. Unfortunately our record player, a late model GE, somehow refused to behave and got stuck repeatedly, making repairs and adjustments necessary.

This will take place just as soon as we can manage to take time off from weeding and other garden work prompted by 51.50 inches of rain since Christmas of 1977. Never in the 28 years of our experience up here has there been such a blessing!

Hence, please excuse the delay in our acknowledgment and critique of Stephen's work and in the meantime receive our kindest regards and best wishes.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul", with a large, stylized flourish above it.

PB:m