

Letter

May 17, 1978

Dear Christopher Kilbourne,

Please excuse my tardiness in answering you, but I've been out of town for ages.

was that
Since the last I heard the sports editor of the Harvard Crimson was turned down for a job as a researcher here, I agree that jobs are hard to come by, when they're available at all. I really don't know much about employment in journalism, burying my head in the sand and hoping I won't get fired myself.

I will do the following: send on your resume and clippings to MsChris Walford, head of research at SI. Give her a call in a couple of weeks and see if she's hiring, and if so get an interview.

You might also call Time Inc. Personnel, and arrange a company-wide interview; Time, Fortune, Money, Life, People, Etc.'

Another thing to do is to score an ounce of cocaine and fuck the whole thing. As a last resort, get your teeth capped and look into "broadcast journalism."

I personally plan to run guns in Angola. No one reads much these days. SI and Fortune are the last of the "text" magazines at Time. The new Life will be all photos, and People is unspeakable, quite literally. One of the reasons I quit university teaching was because it was evident that the job market for B.A.'s in English was a shrinking one, and I can't imagine it ever growing again. A miserable fact that shouldn't discourage you, however. I've never heard of an English major starving to death. All those books like the Odyssey serve as instruction manuals in that it's necessary to live by one's wits.

Sorry to be so gloomy, but on the other hand, any job these days is a triumph, a victory over the forces of no-think. You're to be congratulated for even trying. Call Walford in few weeks, and good luck.

J.D. Reed