

March 20 1967

Dear Tony:

You are the first person who ever picked me out as an authority on music. I cannot even play a mouth organ properly, though I can play bongo drums, I admit that. All I know is that I like Country Music when I hear it, which is rarely. I like Johnny Cash, but I guess he is not from Kentucky. Here in the monastery we have sung Gregorian chant which is an ancient form of Catholic Church music.

What can I contribute to your scrap book on Kentucky facts? Maybe you want to know about our monastery. It was founded in 1848 by some monks from France and the building was built by the monks during the Civil War. This ancient building is now being entirely remodelled on the inside. The monks are well known for their dairy farm which produces a special kind of cheese. They keep silence among themselves in order to think more deeply and to keep their minds on God. This is an occupation which other people tend to overlook.

I have been in this monastery over twenty five years now, which means that I have lived in Kentucky half my life. I like it in Kentucky and I am very glad to be a citizen of this State.

Wishing you luck with your scrap book, God bless you

Sincerely yours,