

11 August 1972

Cyril Connolly, Esq.,
48 St John's Road,
Eastbourne.

Dear Mr Connolly,

I am extremely sorry to hear of the reason for your absence from home. I have been trying to fix up dates for the two judging sessions and have managed to find out that both Dr Steiner and Miss Bowen would be able to come to London during the week beginning 18 September.- ideally on Monday the 18th or either 21 or 22 September. I am of course not sure of your feelings but I imagine that this is the earliest possible time the Judges could meet as you may still have books in your possession yet unread. Dr Steiner is going to Chicago at the end of September and does not return until 12 October, so that the second meeting cannot be held until after that date. He agrees to any time after that; but when I rang Miss Bowen she seemed rather uncertain about October though we have provisionally fixed on Monday the 16th.

I would be very interested in your feelings on the following: Normally the procedure has been for the Judges to bring down the titles to approximately 10 at the first session and at the second session to 6 (announced immediately) and the winner which is kept absolutely under traps until the announcement at the dinner on 23 November. Ideally the short list of 6 should be announced in mid-October in order to give a month's 'public speculation' on who the winner might be.

I do apologize for troubling you with details of this kind at a time like this, but I would be happy if you would let me know in your own time.

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Edwards