

15 October 1971

Mr. Saul Bellow,  
University of Chicago,  
1126 East 59th Street,  
Chicago  
Illinois 60637

Dear Mr. Bellow,

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your letter to John Gross. I believe that John is writing to you about this matter, but on behalf of the Organizing Committee I merely wish to report the result. When the votes came back they were two against, yourself and John Fowles, with the other three judges in favour. As a result the vote clearly came out on a majority. Again on behalf of the Committee I am very sorry that the vote was necessary, but it did seem an important matter which had to be cleared up before any announcement of the shortlist or winner could be made, as obviously the same principle must apply to the shortlist in terms of eligibility as to the winner.

Also thank you for replying so promptly, which greatly lessened my difficulties, because I was then able to release the shortlist to the press. At this stage no public announcement has been made about the eligibility, as it would merely draw more attention to the winner, but it will probably be necessary nearer the time.

Thank you for your patience in this.

Best wishes,

Yours,

Marilyn Edwards