

March 8, 1966
11:30 P.M.

Dearest Patricia:

Phone me before you go to school in the morning. That will free my day for maximum adaptation. Otherwise I'll need to know when you'll get home in the P.M. so we can make contact. All I need is your preference of the time we should go to dinner. Any time after 6:00?

"Bucky" Fuller is a phenomenon! The world can stand only a few such at any one time. Many of the things he presented today I've known & used for years though I've expressed them differently - such as his limited number of stable geometric forms: tetrahedron, octahedron & icosahedron. These have been known a long time. Also the fact that when you reduce the size of a tetrahedron by moving one face downward toward the apex without changing its orientation, it remains a tetrahedron but just gets smaller and its edges change by linear reduction, its surfaces according to square units of area & its volume according to cubical content on a basis of 8. In this he was making a special example of a universal principle that applies to all objects, no matter what shape - namely that if you enlarge or reduce any object without changing its shape, its edges vary according to linear dimension, its surfaces according to the square of a linear dimension & its volume according to the cube of a linear dimension. This he could have presented more simply than he did. The

principle involved is to me the most significant part in the entire universe, because it influences & in a sense determines everything else from the behavior of molecules to the design of ships & planes, the evolution of plants & animals, the existence of systems of internal organs (digestive, nervous, excretory, etc.) in animals that must be more complex the larger the animal is (other things being equal.)

Fuller is an astoundingly brilliant & fascinating man from whom one can learn much (especially by spending a semester on what he tries to cover in 3 hours) — and ~~he~~ can be entertained much of the time because of the man's sense of humor. (Observe that he's not been willing to tie up with anyone else. It would cramp his style.) However, in the overall, I'd say that he still is a fantastically brilliant small boy having a lot of fun playing with the things that specially interest him and he is terribly ignorant of a lot of things any good biologist ^{ecologist or sociologist} knows. His statements are full of so many contradicting & unresolvable components that it would take a semester working with him to fill all the holes & reconcile the present irreconcilables. He takes astounding liberties with the meanings of words and simply blandly ignores the consequences (or isn't even aware of them.) In some meeting Chris Broadwell attended, "Bucky" said that the scientists understand him best but that they literally "show" him with protests, complaints, criticisms, etc. He thinks everyone could be a "Bucky" Fuller & do such things as he does which just aint so! It's better for him to do & others to learn from him. But I'll hear him every time I can from now on! See you tomorrow — Love — Carl.