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7th July 1994

Albie Sachs PO Box 3684 Cape Town 8000 South Africa

Dear Albie Sachs

I know that David Edgar and April de Angelis have sent you an early draft of SOFT VENGEANCE and I'm sorry that you haven't been kept informed of it's progress. It is, after all, the story of your life! Let me fill in some gaps.

SOFT VENGEANCE was commissioned by Chris Parr, Head of Drama at BBC Birmingham, as a play for BBC 2's Screen 2 strand. If we get the 'green light' shortly from Screen 2's Editor, George Faber, we will get into production in September for transmission in the Spring of 1995, possibly to coincide with the anniversary of the first South African Elections. That's quite a fast turnaround on a TV play as you probably know and reflects the enthusiasm that has greeted the project so far. Both Peter McEnery and Kevin Billington, who directed the television version of JAIL DAIRY, are very keen to be involved in the project.

Since sending you the very first rough draft David and April have completed a new draft (still called draft 1) which is currently being considered by George Faber. I'm sending it to you now as I think it goes some way towards addressing the concerns you expressed in your fax. I'd be grateful if you would read the new draft so that we can all talk about the same animal when we meet on the 18th.

And who am I? I'm the Producer! I hope you don't mind my gatecrashing your airport assignation but I couldn't miss such an opportunity to meet you.

Very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

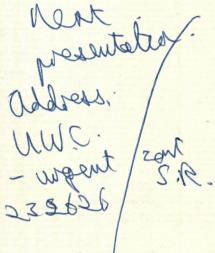
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Dear Albie,

Thank you very much for your thorough reply concerning the script of 'Soft Vengeance'. There was plenty of food for thought there. We are certainly paying attention to your main concern over the characterisation of Albie. Possibly his 'combatativeness' has arisen in our attempt to dramatise the story. Drama proceeds through contrast and conflict and that would have perhaps created an Albie that is a little too sharp and rude. We will certainly try to achieve more of a balance between characterisation and the necessities of plot in the next draft. The central aim of the piece was to contrast the survival strategies of the Jail with that of the hospital. The former required 'masculine' qualities to ensure survival and the latter 'feminine'. I suppose we wanted to show Albie's progression from the first to the second strategy and so 'reserve' the dreamier, romantic qualities for later in the piece.

We have now completed a second draft and feel that we have come more to grips with the women characters. Melba we are particularily fond of and enjoy her warmth, humour and charm immensely.

Thank you once moree for your letter. We will give careful consideration to all your points, some of which we've touched on here. If a meeting is still convenient for you then we would be glad to meet you on July 18th. Could you give us more precise details; flight arrival time etc. DAVID EDGAR'S FAX NO: 021 414 5998 4PRIL DE ANGELIS' Tel. No. 081-986-6617

18 July- ARRIE BA 056 ex Josula 6620 A.M. Yours Sincerely, he trych April De Angelis David Edgar 9430 au BA Fridmanin Desti Dependere Lounge germinal 4. at 9430

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Albie Saehs

Flac to South Africa 021-255626 For Lusan: fairly urgent i). Please tell Jony Heard that I will gladly prepare some notes as requested. 2). Ban you keep English and aforkaans papers for me? 3) Would Gard Steinberg befree to lunch with me on the day of my return? D'll be at arthurs till after hunch. "The tour has started very, very well. Went for a long jeg with the general! Fore- albée

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