

MEMORANDUM

To: GREG SMITH

From: MICHAEL KLINGER

Date: 18TH OCTOBER 1978

Subject: "CONFESSIONS FROM A HAUNTED HOUSE"

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Dear Greg,

Have you ever had this experience: you are walking down the street talking to someone and suddenly turn round to find they are no longer there? I seem to be living through that experience with you right now.

You go through the courteous motions of sending me material from time to time; I make my comments in writing, and verbally, but for all the notice you take I really need not have bothered.

You might as well retitle this latest piece "CARRY ON CONFESSIONS WITH THE CAT AND CANARY". It has all been done before. Yes, it is mildly amusing, but in the same way as the 'Carry Ons' have died, I am afraid that so, too, will the 'Confessions'. This is just another nail in the coffin. I don't think it has one spark of originality, nor does it have any of the elements which made the first 'Confessions' so entertaining and successful with the audience for which the series is designed.

I can only refer you to my previous comments, written and verbal, and once again to my letter of the 31st August. I enclose a copy of the latter in the hope that you will read it this time; if you read the original, it certainly does not appear to have made any impression.

I am sorry to sound so dispiriting, but, you see, I still think we could have a big money spinner in our hands and, as I told you, I would like to go back to square one. Maybe the time has come for a round table meeting to discuss where we go from here.

In the light of what I have said, I do not think there is any point in commenting in detail on the script. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

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P.S. Since dictating the foregoing, I have had a long conversation with you on the telephone and told you everything I have said above. You neither disagreed with me, nor put forward any alternative argument or suggestions. Frankly, Greg, I feel as though I am operating in a vacuum. I cannot see much purpose in shouting in the wilderness and wish to goodness someone, you, would reply constructively.