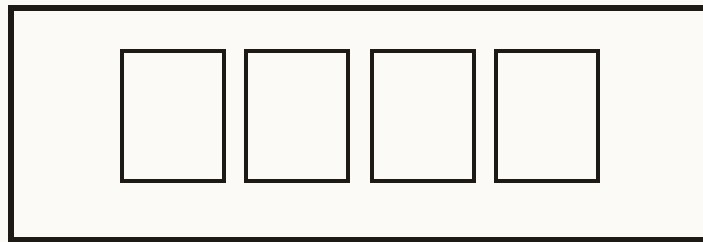


LAST CRUSH

ENVELOPE 2

THE CELLAR OFFICE CABINET



Sealed. Do not open until you have the four-digit combination from Envelope 1.

Inside: Dolores's third letter and the contents of Walt's steel cabinet: his private ledger, business letters, an invoice, a telephone bill, two pages from his address book, three index cards, and a barrel inventory.

San Antonio
November 6, 1989

Dear Detectives,

The cabinet took me two tries; I had the numbers in the wrong order the first time. Ruth stood in the doorway and would not come in. I have sent you everything that was inside except a bottle of port, which I left, and a photograph of Cal at his high school graduation, which I kept.

You will find a telephone bill. Ruth gave me that herself, before I asked. She said "You think I don't know what people are saying. I was on the telephone with my sister. Bells don't lie." She is right that they do not, but check it anyway, because that is what I am paying you for.

You will find his ledger. Walt kept two sets of books his whole life: the ones Ruth saw, and this one. Read it slowly. There are things in it about Cal, and about Denny, and about Dr. Sato and Hollis Teague, that Ruth did not know and that I did not know, and one thing in it that made me put it down and go outside for a while. You will know it when you get to it.

You will find three index cards. One is a table of letters that Walt called his radioman's table. He kept notes to himself in code from the day he left the Navy until the day he died, and it drove our mother to distraction. He told me once that he had used the same key word his whole life, and when I asked what it was he laughed and said it was the first word of the name of the only thing he ever loved more than Ruth. He meant the vineyard. The second card is in that code. It took me the better part of a week and a pot of coffee, and I am not going to tell you what it says.

The third card I do not understand at all. It is a childish thing, Cal's, from when he was ten or eleven, and I do not know why Walt kept it in a locked cabinet with his business papers. Keep it. Walt kept everything for a reason.

There is also a barrel inventory, which I include because it was in the cabinet, not because I know what it is for.

Marisol asked me today what the sheriff's file said. I told her it said accident. She said "Good," and then she said "I mean, good that it's over for Ruth." I am sure that is what she meant.

Sincerely,

Dolores

P.S. Once the card gave up what it said, I drove to Blanco and did what it told me to do. What I found is in the next envelope, sealed with a number the same trail will lead you to. I am not going to spoil Walt's last piece of cleverness by writing it here.

9/2 Boot order, Cavender's San Marcos. Mari, Denny, Cal, me. \$412.

9/8 Block A Chenin picked. 9.2 t @ 19.8 Bx. Clean.

9/12 Block B Cab picked. 14.1 t @ 23.9. Best B since '85.

9/16 6 cs '86 Res to D. See my note. Off the books.

9/21 E.S. says declassify ALL of Block C. Sell bulk to

Pedernales Ridge @ \$410/ton. Cab is going \$900.

Pedernales is HER client too. Ask why.

9/26 E.S. lab rpt on C came. VA 1.4. I don't believe it.

C is my best block. Getting my own samples.

9/28 Paid Cal's marker to R. Ozuna. \$6,500. LAST TIME.

Told him. He didn't hear me. He never does.

10/1 New bottle Cellar Port in the decanter. Doc says two

glasses a night and no more. Two it is. Never washed

that decanter in 10 yrs and I'm not starting.

10/2 Called Baird. Lantana wants an answer by the 20th.

10/4 H.T.'s lawyer's letter. Baird says settle. My offer:

pull the dam, easement on the creek. H. gets his

water back and Lantana's bank gets its easement.

Everybody wins but Hollis won't believe it.

10/6 Lantana letter came. \$2,150,000. A subdivision.

God help me. Cal will never forgive me. Ruth

might. It's the heart. Doc says 2 yrs, maybe 5.

Can't leave her a vineyard and a mortgage.

10/9 Fan motor in tank room replaced. Hill Country Elec.

\$340. Stood there for the test. Runs like new.

10/10 Told Baird: addendum for M. Do it right, do it

in writing, and do it before I lose my nerve.

15 yrs. I owe her more than a handshake.

10/11 Called Dee. Told her Sunday. She'll be the

only one who doesn't yell.

10/12 Pulled C samples myself, back rows. Sour rot.

She's right. My mistake. VA is worse than her

number. \$410 is a gift. Apologize Fri.

10/12 M. cold all week. Won't look at me. She saw

Baird's letter on the desk Tues, I'd bet the

place on it. Should've told her first. Sunday.

10/13 H.T. 4:30 office - SETTLE. Signed. Put it away

with the rest until Sunday. Party 6:30.

Tell Cal tonight. Tell Ruth Sunday. Tell M. Sunday.

Then Dee. Then it's done and they can hate me

in comfort.

(remaining pages blank)

LANTANA LAND COMPANY

8911 North Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 3200 · Austin, Texas 78759 · (512) 346-9100

October 6, 1989

Mr. Walter D. Brannock
c/o Thomas J. Baird, Esq.
Baird & Whitcomb
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1100
Austin, Texas 78701

*Answer by the 20th.
Tell them all Sunday.*

Re: Letter of Intent - Purchase of approximately 212 acres, Blanco County, Texas ("Cypress Hollow")

Dear Mr. Brannock:

This letter sets out the principal terms on which Lantana Land Company ("Buyer") proposes to acquire the above property from you ("Seller"). It is not a binding contract of sale but reflects our good-faith intent to proceed to a definitive agreement.

- 1. Purchase price.** Two million one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$2,150,000.00), cash at closing.
- 2. Property.** All of Seller's approximately 212 acres on Ranch Road 165, together with improvements, the winery facility, equipment, inventory in tank and barrel, and the Cypress Hollow name and marks.
- 3. Intended use.** Buyer intends to develop the property as a single-family residential community under the working name "Cypress Hollow Estates," retaining the existing winery building as a community amenity.
- 4. Contingencies.** (a) Survey and title acceptable to Buyer. (b) Seller to remove the low-water dam on Cypress Creek prior to closing. (c) Seller to deliver at closing a recorded conservation easement over the Cypress Creek frontage, not less than 150 feet in width, in a form acceptable to Buyer's lender, and to resolve to Buyer's satisfaction any pending claim by the adjoining downstream landowner.
- 5. Employment and other matters.** Seller has advised that an addendum regarding M.R. will be delivered under separate cover by Seller's counsel. Buyer is agreeable in principle.
- 6. Timing.** Buyer requests Seller's response on or before October 20, 1989, with a definitive agreement within 30 days thereafter and closing on or before January 31, 1990.

We are enthusiastic about this property. Please call me directly with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Gerald T. Kemp

Gerald T. Kemp
Vice President, Acquisitions

cc: T. Baird

TEXAS FARM BUREAU INSURANCE COMPANIES

Blanco County Office · 412 Main Street, Blanco, Texas 78606 · Robert L. Lindley, Agent

February 21, 1989

Mr. Walter D. Brannock
4410 Ranch Road 165
Blanco, Texas 78606

Dear Walt:

Enclosed please find your policy No. TL-4471-0928, a twenty-year level term life policy in the face amount of **\$250,000**, insured Walter D. Brannock, primary beneficiary Ruth C. Brannock, contingent beneficiary Calvin W. Brannock. The policy was issued **at your request following our meeting of February 9**, and I want to thank you again for your candor about the Lanoxin. It made the underwriting slower but it made it honest, and the rating came back better than I feared.

Annual premium is \$1,412.00, due each February 15. As we discussed, you asked that the premium notices come to the cellar office and not the house. I have so noted the file.

Nancy and I look forward to the harvest party.

Sincerely,

Bob Lindley

Robert L. Lindley

HILL COUNTRY ELECTRIC

Licensed & Bonded · TECL 11402
207 W. Pecan Dr., Johnson City, TX 78636 · (512) 868-7100

PAID 10/12
INVOICE No. 8917
Date: 10/09/89
Terms: Net 30

BILL TO: Cypress Hollow Vineyard, 4410 RR 165, Blanco **JOB SITE:** Cellar bldg, tank room

DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT
Remove and replace tank room exhaust fan motor, wall unit E wall. Dayton 1/2 HP 115V 1725 RPM, new belt, new switch. Test run 30 min. Operating normal. Customer present at test.	1	242.60
Labor, journeyman	2.5 hr	87.50
Shop supplies		10.00
TOTAL		340.10

Technician: **J. Molina**

Customer acceptance: **W. Brannock - runs good**

Aug. 22, 1989

Walt -

My stock tank has been dry since June and you know why. That dam of yours. Forty head watering out of a trough I fill with a truck while you make wine for people in Austin.

Jim Haskell says I will win and I believe him. You had a chance to be neighborly about it and you were not.

You will be sorry you didn't settle.

- H.T.

He's right about the tank. Call Baird. - 8/23

Southwestern Bell Telephone

Statement of Account

Statement date: **OCT 16 1989**

Account: **512 833-2201 402**

Page 2 of 3

BRANNOCK WALTER D 4410 RANCH RD 165 BLANCO TX 78606 Billing period SEP 16 - OCT 15

ITEMIZED LONG DISTANCE CALLS - DIRECT DIALED

No.	Date	Time	Place called	Number	Rate	Min	Amount
1	SEP 22	7:14P	AMARILLO TX	806 355-0142	E	38	6.84
2	SEP 25	9:02A	AUSTIN TX	512 477-2100	D	11	3.41
3	SEP 29	7:31P	AMARILLO TX	806 355-0142	E	51	9.18
4	OCT 02	10:12A	AUSTIN TX	512 477-2100	D	6	1.86
5	OCT 06	7:05P	AMARILLO TX	806 355-0142	E	44	7.92
6	OCT 08	2:40P	SAN ANTONIO TX	512 736-0418	D	22	5.06
7	OCT 11	4:22P	SAN ANTONIO TX	512 736-0418	D	14	3.22
8	OCT 12	8:50A	FREDERICKSBG TX	512 997-3310	D	4	0.88
9	OCT 13	3:15P	JOHNSON CITY TX	512 868-4021	D	7	1.19
10	OCT 13	11:10P	AMARILLO TX	806 355-0142	N	42	5.46
11	OCT 14	7:02A	SAN ANTONIO TX	512 736-0418	D	9	2.07
12	OCT 14	8:15A	AUSTIN TX	512 477-2100	D	3	0.93
13	OCT 14	8:31A	AMARILLO TX	806 355-0142	D	19	5.32
14	OCT 15	6:40P	SAN ANTONIO TX	512 736-0418	E	31	5.58
TOTAL ITEMIZED CALLS							58.92

Rate periods: D = Day (8AM-5PM Mon-Fri) E = Evening (5PM-11PM Sun-Fri) N = Night/Weekend (11PM-8AM daily, all day Sat, Sun to 5PM).
Times shown are the time the call was connected, Central time. Duration rounded up to the next full minute.

Calls placed from extension telephones on this line are billed to this account. Business line 512 833-2202 is billed under separate statement.

"Bells don't lie." - R.

Palmer Feed - Blanco - 833-2203	P	Sato, Dr. Evelyn - 214 W. Main, Fbg	S- T
Pickett, Joanne & Earl (Ruth's sister)		office (512) 997-3310	
4412 Bowie St, Amarillo 79110		home (512) 997-6621	
(806) 355-0142		Seguín Moreau (barrels) - Napa	
Pedernales Ridge Winery - Fbg		(707) 252-3408	
(512) 997-8800 - ask for Ed		SW Bell repair - 611	
Purcell, L.D. (Sheriff) - 833-4141		Teague, Hollis & Bettye - Teague Ranch	
home 833-0977		RR 165 - 833-2917	
Pruitt, Denny - bunkhouse 2204		Travis Co. ME - Austin (512) 854- 9599	
mother: Ida, San Marcos		Tonkawa Cooperage - Demptos rep,	
(512) 396-2288 (hospital: 396- 7100)		Lockhart (512) 398-4401	
Pastor Ashby - 833-1140			

KDXRQ YGPCA FSCAP
PPTOF APCQR VJWNR
WIIW
10/13 - W

Card 2 of 3 - "Radioman's table" - front

RADIOMAN'S TABLE · W.D.B. · USS Bataan 1951																										
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
A	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
B	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
C	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B
D	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C
E	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D
F	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E
G	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F
H	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
I	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
J	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
K	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
L	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
M	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
N	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
O	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
P	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Q	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
R	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
S	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
T	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
U	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
V	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
W	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
X	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
Y	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
Z	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y

KEY: _ _ _ _ _

Write the key under the message,

over and over. For each pair:

ROW = key letter (left edge)

find the CODE letter in that row

read the PLAIN letter at the top

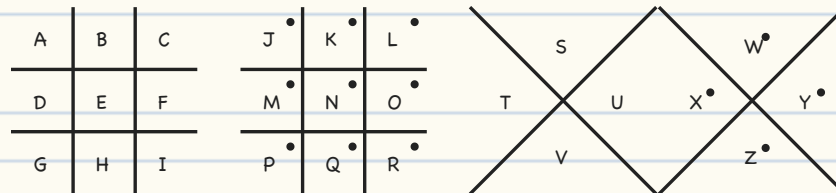
of that column.

To code: row = key, column = plain.

Same key since '52. Don't be clever.

CAL'S SECRET CODE - 1965 - DO NOT SHOW MOM

no dot = first grid dot = second grid



Each letter = the shape of the lines around it. Write the shape, not the letter.

Example: = C A L

(on the back, in blue ink:) "Kept it. Might need it. - W"

CYPRESS HOLLOW VINEYARD · BARREL ROOM INVENTORY · FALL 1989 (page 2 of

3)

Racks run 1-12 from the tank room door south. Four barrels per rack, numbered 1-4 top to bottom, left to right. Serial is the cooperage stamp on the head.

RACK	BARREL	COOPERAGE	SERIAL	CONTENTS	FILLED	TOPPED
7	1	Seguin Moreau	SM-1907	'88 Cab, Block B	11/1/88	10/2/89
7	2	Seguin Moreau	SM-1911	'88 Cab, Block B	11/1/88	10/2/89
7	3	Demptos	D-2260	'88 Cab, Block B	11/1/88	10/2/89
7	4	Demptos	D-2263	'88 Cab, Block B	11/1/88	10/2/89
8	1	Seguin Moreau	SM-1922	'88 Cab, Block B	11/2/88	10/2/89
8	2	Seguin Moreau	SM-1925	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
8	3	Demptos	D-2271	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
8	4	Demptos	D-2274	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
9	1	Seguin Moreau	SM-1931	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
9	2	Demptos	D-2278	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
9	3	Demptos	D-2281	'88 Cab, Block C (reserve lot)	11/2/88	10/13 - W
9	4	Demptos	D-2284	'88 Cab, Block C	11/2/88	10/2/89
10	1	Tonkawa	T-0412	'87 Cab, Block A/B blend	11/8/87	10/2/89
10	2	Tonkawa	T-0415	'87 Cab, Block A/B blend	11/8/87	10/2/89
10	3	Tonkawa	T-0417	Cellar Port (solera)	1983	10/1/89
10	4	Tonkawa	T-0419	empty - to be rinsed	-	-
11	1	Seguin Moreau	SM-2040	'89 Chenin (Block A) - new	10/8/89	-
11	2	Seguin Moreau	SM-2041	'89 Chenin (Block A) - new	10/8/89	-
11	3	Seguin Moreau	SM-2044	empty	-	-
11	4	Seguin Moreau	SM-2045	empty	-	-

Racks 1-6 on page 1, rack 12 and the library on page 3. Topping schedule is the first Monday. - MR