

A.M.Heath & Company Ltd
6 Warwick Court
Holborn
London
23 September 1949

Dear Mr Hatherton,

Thank you very much for the manuscript which I received last week. I have passed it onto Allen Lane, the editor at Penguin who confirms that it is exactly the sort of thing that they were looking for.

Great news, I'm sure you'll agree.

Penguin are preparing the contracts and plan to publish *Across the Void* early next year. There will be some edits and revisions, obviously; which they will need you to attend to urgently.

They will contact you and arrange for you to go to their offices to sign.

Once you have signed the contract there is an initial advance of £120 waiting for you. Perhaps we could meet for a drink at White's once the contracts are signed?

I look forward to a long a productive working relationship.

All the very best,

Robert Dinsdale

Robert Dinsdale

A.M.Heath & Company Ltd
6 Warwick Court
Holborn
London
9 November 1954

Dear Mr Hatherton,

Anthony Conville of Conville and Walsh, literary agents has contacted me with some rather concerning allegations.

He alleges that characters and situations depicted in the Across the Void series are based on the life of a real person; a Miss Theresa Northmoor.

Miss Northmoor has her own plane and following a distinguished war career has flown a number of adventurous missions including for postal services. Some similarities I'm sure you'll agree with your hero, Gideon. It is made more serious as Miss Northmoor has herself published a series of novels about her exploits and experiences.

They allege plagiarism, threaten legal action and demand that you issue a full and public apology and sign over a significant sum of royalties to Miss Northmoor. The claim is that you are adversely affecting sales of her books.

Harry, please tell me you don't know anything about this woman, or even better haven't met her or read her books. Their letter cites specific incidents which are seem too close to be coincidence, although we may have to argue exactly that.

I have had communications from Penguin enquiring about any new ideas you have for the next book, but

they are likely to put everything on hold if something like this becomes public.

Please let me know what the story is.

Yours,

Robert Dinsdale

Robert Dinsdale