(X) ... → 9/6/94 mg

Personal memo from
JOSHUA LEDERBERG

Lily Kay
MIT.

SEP - 3 1994

"I was robbed" — Sylvia K.

I did look up that line in Arthur's book. Thank you for pointing it out.

I don't fully understand it, even as a gesture. An event like "The Prize" might give anyone pause to reflect about their own "claims", or more likely about "what if I hadn't taken time off for children" etc. At most it was a gesture — have you seen the contract in the actual press story? Remember the cliché is standard Brooklynese.

So was there more beneath the surface? Very likely, I suppose. Sylvia did manifestly enjoy the lab, the doing of experiments, but always under Arthur's very close oversight. She never participated very much in broad discussions... one just can't tease out how much was years of conditioning about her expected role.

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY NEW YORK 10021-6399

Personal memo from
JOSHUA LEDERBERG

A Kornberg

not sent

One of the injustices to women who started out in protected, subordinate positions was they were not stressed, so over the years skip not learn how to (perhaps to want to) engage in combative argument and discourse.

70 years of that, and how can one judge what the potential talents might have been?

Nevertheless, my own feeling is that in the book, and in life, Arthur leaned over backward to give Sylvia at least full credit.

The test, how he would have felt had Sylvia had the urge to work independently of him, in another lab: that never came up, to my knowledge.

For several years, I was happy that Esther worked closely with Arthur; but I am certain that at any time I would have been proud and relieved she had an opportunity for independent status.

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY NEW YORK 10021-6399