

# ROBERT FORSTER

January 12, 2005

Raoul S. Juneja a.k.a. DeeJay Ra  
Lyrical Knockout Entertainment  
'Hip-Hop Literacy' Campaign

DeeJay Ra,

Good move. I'm pleased to join my pal, Elmore Leonard, in supporting your 'Hip-Hop Literacy' Campaign. Leonard's *Rum Punch*, became Tarantino's *Jackie Brown*, which kicked off the fabulous 3<sup>rd</sup> Act of my career.

One of my recent favorite jobs was the TV series, *Karen Sisco* – based on another of Elmore Leonard's stories, *Karen Makes Out*.

An actor translates words into meaning, and I've been fortunate to be able to do that job for over 40 years.

My favorite book is one my mother gave me – *White Hyacinths*. It goes something like this: 'If I had but two loaves of bread, I would sell one and buy white hyacinths to feed my soul.' That passage inspired me – and so did these: Socrates' 'The unexamined life is not worth living,' and Thoreau's 'The mass of men live lives of quiet desperation.' Upon reading the Thoreau quote I remember saying out loud, "that's not going to be me."

Reading is the way we gain understanding about being human – words become meaning. For a REAL kick in the pants, check out Rudyard Kipling's poem called *If* – you'll never forget it.

Warmly,



Robert Forster