

**From:** Leah Reis-Dennis <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** jeevacation@gmail.com, Lisa New <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** following up: WA poetry release  
**Date:** Tue, 08 Dec 2015 15:33:09 +0000

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Dear Jeffrey,

My name is Leah Reis-Dennis, and I'll be heading operations for Lisa's new non-profit, Verse Video Education. She's asked me to be in touch with you about helping us get a release from Woody Allen.

First, I wanted to send along the rough stringout of footage from the conversation with Woody a couple of years ago on "This is Just to Say" by William Carlos Williams. This is totally unedited and uncut footage, but we would love the opportunity to turn it into something great.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c0bn1jjxeo0654g/uWZ6KBVbLS?preview=WoodyAllen+Basic+Clip+for+Viewing.mov>

If Woody Allen agrees to let us use the footage, he will be in distinguished company. To date, we have filmed conversations about poetry with dozens of distinguished Americans including:

Bill Clinton  
Al Gore  
John McCain  
Mayor Rahm Emanuel  
Mayor Tom Menino  
Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan  
Sir Mervyn King  
Former Secretary of the Treasury Larry Summers

The conversation would be part of a large multiplatform initiative that Harvard Professor Lisa New has under way to bring poetry into the mainstream, and, especially, into English Language Arts classrooms in the United States and around the world. The initiative, Poetry in America, includes a HarvardX online course, a television series we're creating with WGBH to be paired with PBS LearningMedia segments for the classroom, and, a series of online professional development courses we're creating for ELA Middle and High School teachers and for their students.

Let us know if Woody Allen might be open to our sending another release form his way. Of course, if he's interested in releasing the footage for only certain parts of our project, we're open to having a conversation about that, too.

Thank you, and I hope to meet you soon.

Best, Leah

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Leah Reis-Dennis  
*Poetry in America*  
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