Arthur Dove 2

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Dear Mr Phillips

Your letter is the most amazing sort of criticism that I have ever had. When you take the privilege of sawing my picture in half it matters not much to me but I should think that you should think better than sawing a picture in half. I have come to the point of not caring whether you are interested in buying it or not because my love went into the picture and if you cut my love in half that is your trouble.

Photographs of the paintings
were very fine but [[strikethrough]] the [[strikethrough]] I'll cutting off a portion of what has meant to be takes away something that you have no right to do.
I've been very grateful to you for what you have done for me, and I am being ungrateful for what you are undoing in a case like this.
I hope you will consider my frankness so that I can be still more frank in telling you that I think your cutting my picture in two was rather preposterous.
I would be glad to have any thing done that would lend toward the furtherance of the living of modern painting. But I do not see how that can be without a certain cooperation that means giving towards spirit which is should be enjoyed by all those who are concerned really in the love of making fine things. I don't understand your letter when you try to cut my picture in half. I think that's rather stupid.

Your ease in disposing
of part of my painting creates a difference from a horizontal to a vertical. I'm glad that I don't have to go through that any more-
I am beginning to feel with- for instance-
Brett's disclaim- about Lawrence that I am "beyond danger."
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