Mr. Schulz has some interesting similarities to (though no slightest derivation from) the late James Thurber. The little boys in *Peanuts* fight the same foredoomed battles against the female sex as do Thurber’s little men. Lucy and Patty, the little girls of *Peanuts*, have all the maddening, literal, self-assured power of the most frightening women Thurber ever portrayed. And both Thurber and Schulz share a well-founded reliance upon dogs as instruments capable of conveying a more-than-human mixture of naive hope and wise resignation.

In a world where, as Mr. Schulz said in Santa Rosa, anyone can have straight teeth but few can find the security Linus gets from the thumb in his mouth and the blanket held against his face, pediatricians might well keep Mr. Schulz’s wisdom handy. It will certainly help us in teaching parents. It might even help us to teach ourselves.

C.A.S.

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