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Mr. D. E. Crabtree  
Research Associate  
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Dear Mr. Crabtree;

I am trying to learn how to knap obsidian - easier for me to obtain than flint - and it has come to my attention that: -

- ① a heat treatment is a necessary preliminary (possibly why I'm having trouble), and
- ② you know more about all aspects of knapping than anyone else does.

therefore, I am writing to ask you what literature you would recommend, and how to obtain such. I understand that you have written several (many?) papers on the subject but my information covers nothing beyond 1972, and probably does not include everything before that.

My primary interest is the Maya and their eccentrics. I would like to be able to produce at least examples of the smaller sort, although I would like to try at least one of the larger, more elaborate models. Would I be correct in assuming that a flattish, branching object 10" long by 4" wide would be a core rather than a flake?

yours sincerely  
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