

98 BATTLE ROAD
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

March 12, 1984

Dear Kezia,

Ruth had hidden the parcel from you and brought it out only yesterday; but now I can at last thank you for your kind message and Nico's and for the delicious cake, the name of which I think I should know but which in my senility I cannot recall. Anyway, I assure you that I am not too old to enjoy and appreciate the taste. Ruth, with whom of course I have shared it (I have not forgotten the promise, "with all thy worldly goods I thee endow"), expressed her appreciation - as you might expect - by asking for the recipe!

The last decade has gone like a flash of lightning. I cannot understand what I could have done with those ten years - or in fact with the thirty that preceded them after my fortieth birthday, now forty years ago.

Feeling this anniversary to be only a harsh reminder of wasted time and promises not fulfilled, I had hoped to have it passed unnoticed; but old friends and Ruth would not pass it so, and during the last three days there has been much celebration.

To my surprise and, I confess it, to much more of my pleasure than I anticipated.

So far as I can see, my only accomplishment is to have survived so long; but friends like you and Nico have made me feel that it is worth while to have lived so long, and for that assurance I thank you and them.

We hope that all your preparations for the sabbatical will be made with your customary efficiency and lead to a happy and successful year beginning with a most happy celebration of your mother's eightieth birthday.

With thanks and love to both you and Nico from both of us always

Yours,

Harold

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

Telephone 609-734-8000

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

February 4, 1984

Dear Kezia,

We both want to thank you for letting us read the two lectures on your visit to Tibet and on Buddhist architecture in South-East Asia, which I am returning to you herewith as you asked us to do. We wished as we read that we might have been seeing the slides, which we had to imagine with the help of such collections as we have of pictures of Indian, Buddhist, and Chinese architecture and sculpture. I am sure that the lectures were very successful, and we want to congratulate you upon them.

It is good to know that you are both well, though busy, and that you have had such good news and charming pictures from your son in Munich. You seem to explain the "less optimistic" news from your mother by the fact that she will be 80 this spring; and as I read that it suddenly occurred to me that my lack of "optimism" may be due to the fact that I too will be 80 this spring. Anyway this unusually severe winter has not had a good effect on us. In December and early January Ruth and I were ill in turn and then together; and, although we have weathered those illnesses now, we are both very tired. Fortunately, however, Ruth is not at the moment depressed; and so matters might be much worse than they are.

At either end of our living room now there is a head of our lord Sakyamuni, who taught the Middle Way. As I enter or leave the room I am reminded of the detachment that I should have achieved and have woefully failed to achieve. I am still bound to the Wheel - for how many more incarnations? I wonder whether you know the poem about the Buddha by my teacher: "The best loved man who ever trod the ancient earth is he who taught that by denying wife and god man's peace is won, salvation bought...?"

With love and thanks to you and Nico as ever

Yours,

Harold

p.c. 27. 3.

98 BATTLE ROAD
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March 23, 1983

Dear Kezia and Nico,

There came in the same post today two cards and two messages from you, each of the cards graced by a "symposium", one Greek from Karlsruhe and one "pachyderm" from Baltimore; and I want to thank you for both at once and at the same time for the good wishes that both of them brought me. I do not know how you knew or why you should have remembered the date of my birth, which seemed to come 'round with ever increasing frequency so that by this time I should prefer to forget how often it has done so. Since I cannot stop the course of time or even decelerate it, however, it is pleasant to know that there are friends who do not mind my tarrying here for a while longer and it is especially nice to know that you are among that small and unfortunately rapidly dwindling group.

Apparently you are as busy as ever despite having been relieved of the burden of the chairmanship, and now I read that you are planning a tour of Burma, Java, and Tibet—and California. I hope that it will be a safe and pleasant one. Interesting

I am sure it will be, for you go at your always
do with open eyes and with mind eager to
understand and capable of appreciating what
you see. I trust that some time after your
safe return we may have the opportunity to
hear an account of your travels and
explorations and see through your eyes
what you will have learned directly.

I want also to congratulate you upon
your son's having won a prize for a film that
he made as well as upon his success in
finding a house in the suburbs of Munich.
Strange it is to put these things together in this
way, but probably he accomplished the former
more easily than the latter. It is good that you
will now be seeing him and your grandsons,
young George Maximilian, whose acquaintance
I am sure you are eager to make.

If there is interesting news in Princeton,
I know none of it. Ruth is not well, nor
tension and depression. Having returned home
after the new year began, and we have had to
avoid all social gatherings and refrain from
making any kind of plan soon for the immediate
future. She reads you each with pleasure,
however, and she joins poor Rose to that
which I send you with my thanks.

Yours, —
Harold

16.5.

P.C. 16.5.
20 July 17.5
p.c. 17.5

98 BATTLE ROAD
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

May 12, 1882

Dear Kezia and Nico,

Your card of the 8th arrived
only yesterday - postmarked, I see, May 10th; and
I want to thank you for it and also for your
very interesting account of your trip, which I
finished reading last night. The account
is impressive as well as being informative,
and I am amazed by the wealth of
details that you not only collected
but also absorbed. For me, whom even
a trip to Philadelphia or New York
exhausts, the extent of your travels
seems to be incredible, and the energy
that you expend so easily arouses
envy as well as wonder.

Ruth delivered the
typescript to the house of Nico

Mary having today as you asked on your
card to have done. Miss Haing was not at
home herself, but I trust that she
found the packet awaiting her upon her
return; and I hope too that the longer
will be able to read the note before
they depart for China.

Ruth herself has not been feeling
well, and we shall be fortunate if
she can come out of this depression
in time to enjoy tranquilly some of
this summer. If we do not see you
before you depart for Europe on June
2nd, let this be our message of bon
voyage et bonne route with good hunting
in libraries and museums and a happy
visit with your son and new daughter-in-
law.

With love from both of us

Yours, Harold



March 14, 1982

Dear Kezia,

There are not yet any flowers like this in Princeton, but the weather today promised - deceptively no doubt - that there soon may be. Anyway I send you this picture in lieu of real flowers to thank you for your card and your good wishes and to say how sorry I am that your telephone-call was unanswered. We have made no attempt to escape to milder regions but like good soldiers I have remained at our post. Ruth may have been out shopping

when you called, and I may have been in my office, where I have resumed my usual routine. On the eleventh, however, from four to seven we did indulge ourselves in truancy at a cocktail-party given by the Gellions. Otherwise we have not been absent at all.

We marvel at your industry, zeal, and efficiency. I am sure the dinner in honour of Buchner was both a culinary triumph and a social success, but we do not understand how you manage all you do - and all if it so well. It must be a special gift of the gods, but I am especially flattered by the amazing fact that with as

dinner for ten before you you
should have time to think of
us and energy to write after
having tried in vain to get us on
the telephone.

We both thank you with all
our heart and send our best
love to Nico and to you.

Yours, Harold

PRESSED FLOWER NOTES
100A-2

nutmeg papers inc.
west hartford conn.

98 BATTLE ROAD
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

December 17, 1980

Dear Kezia and Nico,

We want to thank you for your charming card and message and at the same time to tell you that we are much perturbed by two items of news that you give us. Your confession, Kezia, that you have not had a very good bill of health is especially disturbing. We hope that the visit to New Orleans and a week in the Bahamas will restore you entirely, however, and that having met that deadline of which you speak will raise your spirits so high that they will have a good effect on your physical health.

The other item, the conversion of your building into a "condominium" with all that this implies for you personally, is the kind of trouble one hears more and more from all quarters. We know how much you like your apartment and can understand how unpleasant it would be for you to be forced out of it; and so I am moved to hope that you will be able to "meet their terms", as you put it. On the other hand, I have a fear of the risks involved in buying apartments in these "condominia", and so I am moved to warn you to consider carefully the implications even if you find that you can meet the current terms. Remember that taxes and maintenance costs will

increase regularly and without warning and that,
if one day you should wish to sell, it may not be
easy to sell an apartment in such a building.
I should not presume to give advice about such
matters, concerning which I am sure, you both
are more competent than am I.

As for us, Ruth is quite well at the moment,
and I feel as if I might be getting a cold, which
I trust will not be infectious by mail. We
expect to go to New York to spend Christmas with
Ruth's brother and his family, but that is the
only expedition that we contemplate. Fifty-two
years ago this coming New Year's Day we set out for
New Orleans - but for a honeymoon and not any
convention -, and so that city has a special
significance for us. We hope that despite the
convention you may enjoy your visit there.

With love and best wishes from both of us

Sincerely



Leus mihi adiutor nunc meum
mitte in iustitiam tuam ad adiutorium meum
Domine ad adiutorium meum

Gloria patri et filio et spiritui sancto.
Si autem erat in precioso et nunc et semper et in secula seculum

You anticipated us, but this enabled us to thank you for your beautiful card and very welcome and interesting message. We have nothing to report like your peregrinations and many accomplishments, but we can say that at the moment we are both fairly well after a shared siege of "viral infection" after our return from California.

That trip was quietly successful, a purely private visit with Ruth's sister in San Francisco and a brief one in Southern California with her niece and my brother and sister-in-law - no "socializing" and no communication with academics, not even a visit to Berkeley. I returned to mounting mail, MSS, etc. which I have not yet excavated.

I hope that Cincinnati may

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and best wishes for a very Happy New Year
with love
from

Ruth and Harold

not be too strenuous and that your Bahamian island may be tranquil and curative and that later in the new year you may come to Princeton and let us have a glimpse of you. Above all, however, keep well and happy.

J.

ADORATION OF THE MAGI
Illuminated manuscript from a
Book of Hours, French, ca. 1400
The Art Museum, Princeton University
Gift of Harold K. Hochschild (79-36)