

# WILD BIRD BIG SUR

January 11th

Dearest Laura:

We have returned from Morocco to your little note....that Betsy's life is over. It has been a long, patient and valiant struggle and a marvellous illustration of the strength of the spirit. How wonderful you have been by her side - and how complete was the record of your devotion in your ENDURING NAVAJO. It is a rare record in life - one human being's faithful care of another - equal to your own for Betsy.

We are happy that in this midwinter moment, there is the spring pushing forth in the form of this "grant" to help commence your next venture of Canyon de Chelly. We will be interested, indeed, to hear about it (and I, secretly hope, that someday I can accompany you on one of your expeditions there) (Nat, if he read this, would say "hey, you can't leave me out".) Anyway, I'd love the restfulness of a trip without Nat's organizational qualities taking over. This momentary comment after 4 weeks of Morocco which was great - but exhausting..... I hope to write up a sketch of Christmas at Goulamine - where the Blue people came in over the desert on Christmas eve with a caravan of 70 camels..the sunset, the moon and the dawn - and everyone dressed in blue. No knowledge of Christmas, other than a



small group of French, German, English and ourselves  
ending the evening as we mounted the stairs to our  
rooms off an open court - singing out-of-tune  
"Oh, little town of Bethlehem".

Enough for now - out thoughts are with  
you!

Love, ....

Margaret



Miss Laura Gilpin,  
409 Camino del Monte Sol  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

87501



OWINGS - BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA 93920