

have the slips of mailing
somewhere and they could
be traced.

How is John? Is he still
in the nursing home, and
more important how are you,
these last months have
all been so difficult. I
know how glad you must
have been to be at your
own Villa Serena with
your friends near to help
and with all your own
things about you giving
back a sense of security
and peace.

We have just returned
to Austria and are so
glad to be here again —
there is really no place
as beautiful and pleasant

Feb. 21, 1962

Our Dearest Nell —
We think of you so
often and wonder what
is happening to you! —
and if you ever received
all the packages sent from
Austria — your coats? —
The Aprons? — and also
a package we sent around
Xmas with a small gift
and I included the rest
of the Austrian MUD which
you left here + which
seemed to do you good.
If these things all didn't
arrive we should look them
up and see why, I still

about it when we see you, for
it was really funny). The weather
at that time of year is rainy —
so we loaded the car and headed
for Sicily down the "Calabrian
Coast" — one hairpin curve after
another through rather desolate
country, like West Virginia, +
in two days of driving ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~most~~
to take the ferry across to
Sicily. Taormina is really
spectacular and has a
geographic beauty with Mt.
Etna in the distance and
crowned by its wonderful
Greek Theatre — which one
will never forget. But it was
very expensive as, we discovered
later seeing more of Sicily, it's
the only attractive place.
The dirt + filth of Sicily in
general started to really "get under

to live in, in Europe, which
we have seen.
Our trip was not intention-
ally long and extensive —
but it just turned out to
be, and the miles that we
covered are more than we
should have driven in the
United States — although
far more interesting.
We only started out searching
a peaceful warm place,
SUNNY and not so expensive
which we liked. Since
we knew Pontano, ^{in Sicily} ~~us~~ thought
we would start out stopping
at the same place we'd
been before there. We stayed
there over Christmas (which
the Italians celebrate very
noisily like the fourth of July
— we'd have to tell you all

and Sicily! The meat stores are so unappetizing that we lost our appetites and decided to flee from Sicily, before losing more weight.

Sicily is as corrupt as Southern Italy - and we drove round and round for another two days or three back towards Civilization - which we realized started just a few miles South of Rome.

We loved Rome & stayed a week there - & headed for the Riviera. Thinking to hire an apt. - get sun, bushes on French & do regular exercises & get Kurt's arm well which has been bad. We saw one sweet little apt in old Capri near nice - but it wasn't free for another fortnight & the sun wasn't on the Riviera only ~~of~~ grey

our skin" - and Kurt began to break out & get all the fleas which anti-being so low-spirited - would bring as special presents for us. We tried not to have her get in bed, but she'd slyly sneak in during the night.

Palermo, where we happened to land New Years eve, was a low ebb. Their custom is to throw glass & pots & pans and all other objects ready for the garbage heap out of their windows on the strike of twelve on New Years eve - besides firecrackers, fireworks and general shooting! We took refuge in our hotel & were not named - as many people really are in Southern Italy

is medieval and the 10 P.M.
eating lions + 12-4 closing
up of things is hard to
adjust to. But it has been
very interesting to see the
these Latin countries all
in one stretch, in retrospect
much to think about.
We both decided though
Austria is wonderful and
we're so glad we chose
it here. Tomorrow we go
out to Maria Schloß and
begin to begin to open
it - see Frieda after. Still
and all there is to do well.
stay in Salzburg for a
couple of weeks - or one
- according to weather +
what we find.
So much about us excuse the

By then - having lived
all this time in one change
of clothes - we decided
Avanti = Spain wouldn't
be too far - SUNNY + cheap
So round + Round again
the Costa d'AZUR - + Spainward
we were there three weeks
- loved the sun, the paradors,
the land - + enjoyed seeing
again Barcelona, Seville,
Cordoba - + unpacked on
the Costa del Sol near
Malaga. It took us
8 days to return - Europe
isn't so small after all -
Neither of us feel a "kinship"
to Spain as such, even as
to France, or Italy perhaps - it

length of all of this - but wanted
to catch you up with our doing.

Do write us a little note
soon tell dear, and let us
know by yourself, and also if
the things arrived -
We always send our love
and both embrace you very
warmly -

ever devotedly
Grace + Kurt

Give warm greetings
affectionate good wishes to John
from us +