

May 27, 1972

Blessed Nell,

I think about you this early Sunday morning, and am sorry about my silence which has been due to a sore eye and the busy visit of my brother, his wife, two children and maid from ~~Venezuela~~ Venezuela - marvelous to have them here. His daughter, now 3, is my goddaughter, and his son, 13 months, is a joy. In fact, they are lovely, and since none of them speaks English (except my brother) it was a good exercise in our Spanish to have them here. The eye is quite well again, but it drove me batty for a while. I finally persuaded all my colleagues I got the injury trying to photograph the Santo Domingo Fighting bulls too close-up.

This has to be brief. I have a great deal of dictation to get done before some unwanted visitors come this afternoon. I am trying to be nice about it, but damn....

Plan to return to Gethsemani around June 11 for about ten days, and certainly look forward to that. Had to cancel this month because of the injured ~~ye~~ eye, which made it impossible to read anyway, so the trip would have been wasted. It was nothing ~~max~~ - a little chemical burn, but was the devil to clear up. Now it is completely well.

All for the moment, Nell. Can you get rennet easily there? I have bought up the last four packets in Ft. Worth and there is no chance of getting more. My children are crazy about the old dessert called Slip, which you may know, and if I don't get more rennet, they will be deprived and disadvantaged.... or so they tell me. Mandy has it every ~~night~~ night at bedtime and so do the others, in fact.

Lili is due back next week. We hope to see her again.

All the children seem to be doing well in school - Susan and Mandy superbly and the boys all right. Susan is going to summer school so she can graduate in January, for the sole reason that she wants to avoid the "doings" of spring graduation, God bless her. She plans to go to Tours in the spring, for concentrated work in French and then on to the summer (1973) sessions at the University of Huy, though she is a bit young. But I feel sure I can get her in.

Well, I really must close this. Best love to you from all of us in this household.

John

