

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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THE DEPARTMENT OF PHOTOGRAPHY
EDWARD STEICHEN, DIRECTOR

11 WEST 53rd STREET
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

October 23rd, 1961.

Dear Nell:

I am so sorry that you are having so many trials, and I hope that this misfortunate time will pass quickly into the forgotten. Somehow, so often these days, my friends seem to have unhappinesses, and I feel like the common denominator in their woes. Very few escape....

On the beautiful side - the prospects of "The Bara Fata"; our Matisse show, an incredible joy; Mr. Steichen's miraculous spirit; the fact that Gene Smith has gone to Japan on a four month's assignment; Bruce Davidson's wedding, with his Frances looking like a Florentine madonna; the yellow chrysanthemums in our garden, beneath the birches.... And have you read Lurrell's "Esprit-de Corps,"

the only book over which I have laughed uncontrollably and aloud, since Mark Twain? And the sorrowful grandeur in Oscar Lewis' accomplishment, "The Children of Sanchez"?

You are very much in my thoughts, and I do hope that the upward surge is close by -

Affectionately always -
Grace