

Oct 31
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Dearest Nell,

You must never think that Mother+child caused pain for any of us. If anything, it is the light and window on beauty of our difficult year - difficult because of pressures in other areas. Schooling, housing, projects which were not realized, financial and business. All real. But both you and F. must not think that I am in distress because of the book. I am mainly distressed because I am rootless, without a garden * and caught (or seem to be) in an inability to act.

The year was not difficult to start out - but a miscarriage didn't help and then a house in Berkeley where we were to move and remodel caused infinite complications - I simply was caught in too many crosswinds. We didn't move and I guess I was geared up to go. Now I seem to think I'll never get out.

I explain all this more to show you that our dear Mother+child is one of the BEST Things of the year. Even with the difficulties which were purely technical, it is wonderful. a MIRACLE really, considering the work it took you to recover all the materials and re-print - and then all that it took at the printer here with three of us earning for it. To me, the only thing to ignore is the surface

* living in a flat both F + I dislike up a long interior staircase, without a place to walk out. We've looked for houses here + across the bay for several years -