

Khartoum, October 20 1977

Dear Dorn,

How the time has passed without writing to you! Health problems - as usual - is the price we pay for intruding in this country..... It is hard to tell if one is fighting against the nature of this country, or if one is pioneering in a positive way, driving the first nails to build a permanent structure..... Things are so hard, sometimes, and other times I wouldn't change this experience for anything in the world.

Last night I spoke to Alston over the telephone, and this is the third time I have talked to him about him coming to Sudan. I think he will come for Christmas, and then again next year. Of course, once he comes we will have a clearer idea of his work and procedure, etc. He didn't seem to be in a very good spirit, rather worried or a bit depressed. He was happy, though, about Benny being better now, and he was sure Benny would recuperate soon. I have just sent Benny a note but forgot to tell him that Alston sent him his love. So to you!! He doesn't write (he has promised me a letter with details etc. but told me yesterday he hadn't mailed it) but he cares a lot about his friends.

My friend the architect and I have been working quite hard in our project and are now officially recognized in the government as doing this book the three of us - Alston included.

How are you? And Chris? How are those magnificent columns of this Fall? Near me, in my study, I have that beautiful sepia photograph you gave me long time ago of "the madona" as I call it from your book "Mother and Child." So much peace, and generosity in it, so much love.

Now I will send this little letter with good news to you, and will write you again soon. All my love as always, Dorn.



★ Detail of Chinese Embroidered Shawl, XIX century. Courtesy of the Museum of the American China Trade, Milton, Massachusetts (U.S.A.), to benefit UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. ★ Détail d'un châle brodé chinois du XIX^e siècle. Reproduction autorisée au profit du Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (UNICEF) par le Museum of the American China Trade, Milton, Massachusetts (E.U.A.). ★ Detalle del bordado de un chal chino del siglo XIX; cortesía del Museum of the American China Trade, Milton, Massachusetts (E.E.U.U.). Contribución al UNICEF, el Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia. ★ Вышитая китайская шаль XIX века (деталь). Работа любезно предоставлена Музеем американо-китайской торговли, Милтон, Массачусетс (США), ЮНИСЕФ, Детскому фонду Организации Объединенных Наций, в благотворительных целях. ★ 十九世纪中国刺绣披巾详图,美国马萨诸塞州密尔顿市美中贸易博物馆特许联合国儿童基金会使用。

