

April 6, 1954

Dear Denise,

In the next week or two, Nell will have one of the American editions of "Mother and Child". Our plan here was to have an edition of 1500 copies but Harper & Company, who will market it for us, have told her after discussing it with the staff, that it should be a larger first edition.

We are paying for and own the plates and we have both felt that an English edition should be brought out simultaneously with the American edition, which comes out in September. Nell thought of going over with me and attempting to find the best publisher there herself, but it occurs to me that you probably alone, or possibly with the help of Sir Harold Hartley, could reach the proper people and interest them in the publication of her book.

As you know, Nell has given the greatest attention to every detail of it and the top people in Harpers, who have seen it, feel that it is going to be a work of very great value which will have a continuing market, as it will not be dated in any way.

While it is composed mainly of photographs, the reading matter in her own inimitable way fits in with the photographs so that it will make a most beautiful whole, which should have a rare appeal both to the artistic and those concerned with human relationships. The loss of our dear Bette I think has added something to the poignancy of its appeal. As you probably know, Nell feels that in this material world an appeal to the fundamental things of nature has a deeply religious significance.

I am sending this to you now, asking you to think it over and possibly talk in a preliminary way with someone in order to find out who might be the best people to approach to give it the greatest chance of usefulness. From the practical standpoint we could ship the printed book to go over for an English edition, or could ship the plates within a short time - or ship

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prints from the plates and have the written pages and binding done in England.

Harpers feel, and we agree with them, that there is no advantage in having them handle this directly as it would make another cut out of the net proceeds, but they will send a letter which obviously will cover technical matters in a way I cannot do.

We have also felt that a German or Continental edition could best be brought out in Germany or Switzerland and undoubtedly they would do excellent work with the plates which we have.

"Your old man" seems to be just as busy as ever. Please give our warmest regards to your parents and anyone else you meet who may remember us.

I hope you will call up the Faulkners at their home, Coldlands Cottage, Harold's Lea, Hoxley, Surrey Tel- HORELEY 1500.

With very much appreciation of your help,

Affectionately,

JVND/PL

Mrs Frederick B.P. Bryan
c/o Mrs. Horace Farquharson
21 South Eaton Place
London S.W.1, England

PS - Nell will write you more fully on hearing you can undertake this and send a copy of the Book.

JVND