

Readers' Letters 02

Editor's Note: The Readers' Letters files consist of correspondence between PB and his students, followers, fellow philosophers, spiritual leaders, friends and family. Most of these letters were sent to PB by readers of his books. They are in no particular order, and there may be letters by the same person in other files as well. Most of the letters in this file were written between 1937 and 1969. There is an index of proper names at the end of this file, although it is not comprehensive for the entire file.

PB had a tendency to make edits, write notes regarding his replies, or insert address information and meeting times on the letters themselves after receipt. We have noted PB's insertions and marginalia, but have not noted edits made by the original author, assuming that they were corrections made at the same time as the rest of the letter. To preserve both readability and the voice of the author, we have corrected spelling errors but have generally left grammar as is.

Less interesting letters have been summarized instead of fully transcribed. Please refer to the scanned PDFs for the full content, or to view all stationary headers, postmarks, unidentified markings, marginalia, etc. Proper names and dates have been written exactly as found in the original for each letter in this file; where we discovered multiple versions of a person's name, we have noted the full name either in the body of the text in {curly brackets} or in a footnote.

In many letters, there are words that are illegible or missing; in such cases we have included either our best guess or the word "illegible" inside {curly brackets}. In rare circumstances, we have added a word or phrase to a letter for readability, which are also noted with {curly brackets}; a footnote was added where we deemed it helpful. – Timothy Smith (TJS), 2020

L02.001

1 – 3

Envelope containing the letters from this file

Extract: None

L02.004

4 – 5

Envelope from Marolyn Freeman

Postmarked in London 7:15PM, 8 Jan 1962 from Teylinger Horstlaan 3,
Wassenaar, Holland

Extract: None

L02.006

6 - 19

Booklet from Engelina van Praag
Handwritten poetic booklet "inspired by and offered to" PB

Extract: "Golden for you White for others."

L02.020

20 - 21

A piece of paper separating letters, reads "P.B. personal/ - estate"

Extract: None, void page

L02.022

22 - 29

Letter from Marolyn Freeman
Undated letter¹

Dear Paul Brunton,

Once again, I have discarded a book length letter - I cannot send. I shall select an excerpt or two. Coming to you took as much courage as it must have taken to spend a night in the Pyramid. It is not easy to expose one's soul to another - no matter how obliquely or by what excuse.

One or two things I must tell you - Mrs Beach (a very responsive and sweet woman) asked me if I was a student of yours. I don't remember my reply - but later I asked myself the same question. A student? A disciple - in the sense of accepting of your ideas - a philosophy in a package? The answer is "no." Awed as I am by the truth and spirit of your work - your stupendous mind - my delight in the brilliance and clarity of your expression - this - alone, did not draw me as searching bee to its favorite nectar - It was the spirit of the man who had to find God. Unafraid, responding - driven. In this spirit, I recognized my own thirst - my own weakness - and pray dear God, my own strength. Something about the intangible you - caught my attention - and held it. You become the spring board for my own soul. Your flexibility and² endurance compelled a reaction that helped to empower me. Make no mistake about it - Solomon was much more important than his Wisdom or temple. The spirit is supreme - because it can be shared. Had God meant it otherwise - one man and one Book would have sufficed. Clouded with infancy and ignorance as

¹ A circled "4" added by PB himself at top center of page.

² Page 24

I am – something in my heart tells me that – and it makes no difference what knowledge or the world says – there are times when I must deny everything for that whisper in my inner being. To put it in that symbolic and exaggerated language with which I meditate (It is not a “literary style”) If the spirit be love and is true – then I must not be ashamed of love – that love be not ashamed of me.

I will spare you an account of my method of meditation – and concentrate on one other question. When the storm of a meditation has passed, where is the peace – the bliss – the serenity? Be still, you say, cease from all your labors – ye men that run to and fro upon the earth. I had been passing it by? Why? Because the Stillness – the cessation, the silence is paradoxical. It is not a stillness really – it is a pulsing, vibrant life – like the glowing heart that does not show on the unsmiling face. It's³ a joy – quietly expanding, in hidden exultation, fulfils itself and in that fulfilment stretches the heart to such an extent that heart cannot bear it and is conscious only of its pain. Indeed, we cannot look upon the face of the awesome and blinding God – unless we have the utter surrender of the pure heart – a heart cleansed of resistance. This silence is pregnant with the truth of being – Bliss is speechless – inexpressible, as we know it. There is in this absoluteness a new and complete communication – the still heart of God upon the throbbing heart of man – immediate understanding and unity – “Oneness.” In its serene expanding ecstasy it reaches out its hands and takes all things – all the foreverness of time and the horizons of space – all life – all beings into itself – absorbs all there is in its harmony – containing and re-creating them into One. Unconscious of any evil or disunity – as is the fragrant flower to any evil or ugliness that may look upon it.

Please don't be shocked – please accept this as it is meant – I speak in the only language I understand – I have tried to see God behind man – the spirit behind flesh – and say it.

The⁴ wise men of the earth – could probably tell you what is wrong with me – but they would be wrong – because they talk in riddles – they try to conceal the fact that they don't know what they are trying to say. I do – and thank god, so do you.

I'm beginning to see myself a bit more clearly – to know what I am – what I must do. I do not want you to feel any responsibility for me and my so-called problems – and I am grateful to you and for you.

We are off tomorrow for a holiday in Paris – I must get ready. My telephone number is Ambassador 0904 – there will probably be no necessity to use it again – But there it is, anyway.

The Gods will and have blessed you

I am sincerely

³ Page 26

⁴ Page 28

m 7.

(Marolyn Freeman)⁵

L02.030

30 - 47

Letter from M. F. {Marolyn Freeman}
Friday Morning
Undated letter

Dear Paul Brunton,⁶

I could not have been more shocked had you said "This is King David or a man from Venus"! I was practically on the street when the porter called me back to the house phone where several people were chatting over their mail. If I was abrupt, I thought I was dreaming – and, I dream too much.

Anyway, the object of this note is, if possible, to give you a preview – it is written hurriedly – but even then – might be more coherent than any other way. I can't take any chances of wasting my precious "Before you call I will answer" hour – with that stubborn inarticulate mood that sometimes confronts me.

Back in 1945, I reached the end of a road – I had to find a new way. I knocked on doors – one of the doors was yours. Search in Secret Egypt – I tried the formal technique of meditation – frightened myself by swooping away into space – saw three white⁷ turbaned Indians in the corner of my room and decided "That will do" – This is not for me – I have trouble enough keeping my feet on the ground." My meditations took the form of picking up a manna⁸ of thought and nibbling on it – as I went about my housework. All kinds of things began to happen. A year later we went to India I found myself pursued now – not pursuing – by my thirst and obsession. I had all of your books – I read them – in bits and pieces. I would read a few lines, lose patience, go off on a tangent thought of my own – and return later to find the same thing in your books. Many times I deserted you for the quick-help of a more emotional writer. At that time I held the secret opinion that you had a magnificent mind – and no heart. However, when the heat of other minds became overpowering – back I went to the calm, cool sit-down-and-stop-the-nonsense of P.B. (no disrespect, please) Little⁹ by little – I progressed – It was necessary to keep my eyes on the earth – my head out of the clouds – in the adjustment to life in India. I played bridge – I

⁵ "(Marolyn Freeman) added by PB himself.

⁶ Noted with a circled "5" above "Dear Paul Brunton," probably by PB

⁷ Page 32, noted as "2" at the top of the page.

⁸ Possibly mantra, but I think she means manna – as in "food from Heaven" -- TJS '16

⁹ Page 34, with "3" noted at the top of the page.

went to luncheons – cocktail parties – dinners – I entertained – went to club meetings – had a son. As time went on, keeping my interest in all these activities and my mask adjusted became more and more difficult. I had no one to share all this – no one from whom to ask advice – I talked to the stars – and my house plants – in my ecstasies, out loved and out-vibrated the roses in my vases – so often I was tempted to shock some of my friends – by asking them if they ever awakened at night to find someone standing by their bed.

In Madras, we had a large and beautiful garden – and house. A constant stream of Vice Presidents – Chairmen of the Board – house guests etc, etc. – all to be wined and dined – people – people – people. It became a torment – when all I wanted to¹⁰ do, was walk in my garden – talk to the tree lizards – eat ripe tamarind and write poetry – that embarrassed even me. I was like a hungry squirrel – scurrying to find a shady tree to eat my nuts – But the trees were bare and full of chattering crows and my treasures fell and rolled away on the ground. I begged God to take the fire out of my heart – even while I dreaded the thought of its absence.

Then illness fell – my saints – everything deserted me – 2 months and a million years went by – then, London.

I decided to relax – surrender myself to the god of circumstance – give up the struggle – which had gone on privately – and known to myself alone. Here – right here – now – this is where I am – where I deserve to be – where God put me. And this is where I want to be.

I know God is One. There is One Self – God – Truth – Life – love. That One is divine – expressing in and through bodies and personalities – all good – then, comes the¹¹ whisper of doubt – the graven images of what is divine and good – and what is not. I separate that in me and my world – the good from the evil. If spirit be one – if there be but one self – and He be God – then how can there be two – a good and an evil. Thus, I look up to the stars – standing higher on the bowed-down and humbled me. My thought standards become the measuring stick to separate the inseparable – to measure the immeasurable – to limit the Holy One.

I hear Paul Brunton say “It is in my books – read” – I do – then, I pick up “Imitation of Christ” which says – “He who does not give up all things and suffer is not worthy.” Doubts set in – great swarms of unknowing – a feeling of ineffectiveness – weakness and unworthiness. Everyone else seems better able to cope. I have everything I need – I’m fortunate I’m ashamed – I completely despise myself – I can’t trust my heart and imagination I’m¹² indulging myself – I’m trying to escape. Where is all my strength – all the wonderful gifts I’ve received – where have they fled? I can not become dependent on ecstasies – so,

¹⁰ Page 36, with “4” noted at the top of the page.

¹¹ Page 38, with “5” noted at the top of the page.

¹² Page 40

I'll shun them – I'll refuse to respond – I'll put my journals away. Let them alone. Give them up – If they are mine – nothing can take them from me – if not – I don't want them. In my moods of doubt – I find a need to give up every thought – every desire – to be rid of everything – all I want – with a very real and desperate sincerity is that my body, mind and heart shall do the Will of its Creator – no matter what it may be. I want to know I'm doing the right thing. I must know I am acceptable to my Beloved – and I no longer smile at Ramakrishna's extravagance in the temple – that he must possess His Goddess or die. I must cease hating myself – I must know whether or not I'm worthy – (Shades of Esther)

This¹³ all sounds very very tragic and despairing – it can't be all that serious. The minute I write it down it's unimportant – I'm silly – life is good – Beneath it all – flows a quiet stream that knows.

If Eden was – then Eden Is and if the Road detours through Calvary why should anyone be so foolish as to try to find a short cut. Ignore the Crucifixion – the Resurrection is more important.

Having mounted the steps of dramatic speech – and flowery phrase – I refuse to apologize – for in doing – I make a gesture toward truth – if I expressed it any other way it would not be me – and I grant you permission to smile – with me – about all my foolishness.

An hour of your busy time – you see I'll be there under false pretenses of problems I have no problem (well, maybe a couple).

Marolyn F.

P.S. no time to rewrite and correct mistakes – sorry

Next day

Post Script –¹⁴

What? Again? I can hear you say.

This is a P.S. to say I'm rather sorry I mailed my letter yesterday. It sounded so tragic and unhappy – a mood out of the day.

I must explain that over a period of years – my mental chattering away at you – grew – quite naturally and unawaredly (to myself) into a running commentary. I suppose you could say – I've made you (or you have become) a part of my consciousness. It was a surprise when I realized this some time ago. Fantastic and ridiculous as it may seem, it places me in a rather uncomfortable position – because the Paul Brunton I met so briefly was certainly no different (more wonderful – perhaps – no flattery) than the one I know mentally. The strange thing about it is – I am so accustomed to not seeing you – when I did meet you (I realized later –) I hardly looked at you.

¹³ Page 42

¹⁴ Page 44. Noted with a circled "6."

I'm telling this to you, because I want you to understand why I seem to barge in without formalities. Even though you may not know me, you are no stranger and I certainly do not mean to¹⁵ be disrespectful.

I'm stumbling around in the dark most of the time – and really know very little about the processes of thought. You must tell me, if my thoughts swarm around you like flies. I don't exactly know what I could do about it – but I would try. I might also add – I've examined this situation with my eyes wide open – I'm really not quite so scatterbrained nor helpless as I may seem. I think I know the horizon I'm trying to reach – even though I'm a bit vague about how. I'm not going to worry about that right now.

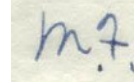
This is a difficult period for me – I'm growing up – I'll make out. Every hour brings its lessons and understandings. My letter mailing gesture worked its magic and I've been visited by a strange detachment – In this mood or state – I've looked in vain for my despair – my worries – they sleep – let the rest.

George is doing well.

I'm reading your books from the beginning – at present, it's "Discover Yourself" – because I detoured into Aurobindo's "Synthesis of Yoga" and a bit of Ramakrishna and Vivekananda.

Thanks for listening. I'm glad you are what you are – I'm grateful that God has made me a part of this wonder – and especially, I'm glad – that God is God!

Sincerely,



L02.048

48 – 55

Letter from Marolyn Freeman¹⁶

Undated letter

Dear Paul Brunton,

Although I know it is wiser just to keep quiet – even wisdom has two faces. I feel I must make some explanation for my "hysteria." Explanations are doubtless a sign of weakness because in explaining we assume others know and care what is happening to us privately. I started this, so it's my responsibility to do something about it. Sometimes we are impelled to do things we don't want to do – or maybe we impell ourselves. It doesn't matter – there's lesson in everything.

¹⁵ Page 46

¹⁶ Noted with a circled "F" and "from Marolyn Freeman" typed in red at top of page by PB.

Even though I am but one of the many who write to you for help, you may possibly be disturbed by my "hurricane." And puzzled – if so, I send this the quickest possible way – now that I'm beginning to understand it (vaguely) myself.

As a man who took the responsibility of writing books such as yours – you must know that the reactions will be as varied as the minds that read them. "Wisdom" and "Hidden Teaching" were particularly intense, painfully if starkly and beautifully disciplined. My mind is as sharp and searching as any other – but with all the envioning chaos and overwhelming activity in my physical life during the past ten or fifteen years – I couldn't find the time to properly concentrate on them. I sensed that the diamond was there – but how to get it – it was like trying to dig¹⁷ through granite with my finger nails. I didn't realize I might need the lighter touch – because I was already taking myself too seriously. Emerson, was and is (for instance) magic. Yet for some unknown reason I concentrated on you. I lacked the discipline and serenity to enter into the spirit of your later books – without even knowing what I was doing – my nature apparently dictated another way – I started concentrating on the personality. I must be honest. Right now – it matters not – what you think – I'm beginning to see a brilliant – blinding new land of truth, which makes any self pride completely unimportant. It has been a secret hidden process (from myself) – I could see myself in you – in analyzing you – I could know more about myself (& vice versa) I sensed moods, denials – doubts, defiances etc. etc. etc. – The world you wanted – and the world you were in – or forced (yourself) into – were in violent disagreement. Even your ecstasies over the sunsets, flowers etc. revealed to me (because I was learning a bit about myself) you had the soul of a poet – which was the last thing you would admit. At the same time, your chapter or two on C. Chaplin indicated a pointing finger to a desire for much less seriousness – (or perhaps a "need"). This reaction of mine until just recently, didn't reveal to me that the finger was pointing at me. Fun and laughter is a much easier approach to oneself and therefore – the world. Wisdom can be made digestible and edible under its mask. All my princes were turning into clowns and all my clowns were Pagliaccis. There was even significance¹⁸ in the fact that I've always carried with me two pictures – a print of Daumier's "Clown" and another of the "Satyr and Elves" by a Frenchman – Bouguereau or some such name – (can't remember). What is the world but a mask?

"God puts on his grotesque mask. (Face)

Too shy to give His life (self) (love) unasked (unmasked)"¹⁹

In an effort to keep afloat in a rough sea I read everything I could read, written by everyone – Knowing you had found the answer – I began my

¹⁷ Page 50

¹⁸ Page 52

¹⁹ In the original letter, an arrow points between "(Face)" and "(unmasked)."

“Conversations” It went on and on – intermittently at first – but constantly after I met you. All unknown to myself – I was building myself a golden Buddha (I forgot Buddha laughs) and I the chief worshipper (I can see now it was self-worship but that’s another story). There wasn’t anything really wrong about these thoughts – conversations – aspirations – it was just that they were a bit discomfoting – The robe didn’t quite fit – it was awkward – I examined it – many times – looked at myself – looked at my Buddha – etc. etc. etc. – Indeed it was a struggle with a self made angel – and I guess after while I began to believe my Buddha – could hear my prayers and had all the Powers I wanted a Buddha to have. I made attempts to throw off this discomfort – but like a magnet it drew me on. This has no reflection on you at all – But I see now – that erecting mental Gods is no different from the Biblical sin – It was inevitable that I should reap the results of my false thinking. And that is in essence – what it’s all about.

When²⁰ I recently aspired for “Truth” – I didn’t know what I was asking – It was an instinctive, desperate and blind appeal, I can see that now. I can see, also that this “Search for the so-called Self” is with most people a delusion and dictated by pride – the sacrifices – denials – accomplishments – give one a sense of worthiness – a nobleness etc. – which is nothing more than a spiritual pride – it makes you feel that you are something special – just a bit “different” or a touch “above” the common, ordinary masses: Ah – me! How Lucifer boasts. In a sense you build your own ego by belittling others. You think you are going up steps when all the time you are going down.

I write this to explain what I’m learning – what I had to learn and to tell you I’m on the mend. There are so many things to be done on my damaged self and so many many things to do for the Christmas season – Business & social – John’s school – shopping and Geo’s sister and family will be here from Brussels for the Holidays – as houseguests.

I would like very much to see you again – but not until I’ve had time to repair my broken bridges. If you are going to be in New York for a while after the holiday – then I’d like to talk with you²¹ – if not – then, I’ll have to wait – I’m not going to fret about it – or force it – This experience has blessed me in many ways – and one in particular – it has given me a new enchanting – clear – and hilarious way of seeing myself in everyone – and everything – and of the whole world in myself. I’m going to concentrate on being a Kay Kendall rather than Sarah Bernhardt – I’m better in the role.

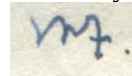
If you have the time and inclination, I would appreciate a telephone call, the first of the week – (not weekends) just to tell me you do understand.²²

²⁰ Page 54

²¹ This line was underlined and noted with an arrow and circled “1,” presumably by PB upon receipt.

²² PB drew an arrow pointing to this line in the letter with a circled “2” and a note saying “Phone MON urgent.”

Gratefully and Sincerely,



L02.056

56 - 61

Letter from M. F.²³ {Marolyn Freeman}

July 10 - Friday

[I wrote Oct 28]²⁴

Undated letter

Greetings -

I've written this letter several times - in bits and pieces - but have come to the conclusion I will not be able to get it into order - so will send it in its confusion. It will have been born out of great confusion and emotional-mental upheaval anyway - so you can keep that in mind. Traveling - moving etc. are always chaotic at best and this has been particularly so. I'm no longer interested in traveling and moving around -

I've been trying to make up my mind - about my letters to you whether I should make them just formal notes - etc.... there were so many things left unsaid - so very much I wanted to say, I think it is better that I say them - it might help to relieve some of this loneliness. For a while anyway, I'll just think on paper and hope you will forgive me if I ramble on. Much of it will be silly and foolishness and I hope you will destroy my letters when you have read them - I want to feel that I can say what I want to you - no matter how foolish.

The trip was swift and uneventful - a sleeping berth is a waste of time and money on the Atlantic hop - the night was so short - and day passed magically into day. We were met in Hamburg and chauffeured to Hannover. I have the distinct feeling of being in a foreign country. Not because the land and scenery is different - but foreign in mind. There is nothing German in my soul. No response - no feeling of warmth as I had for France, Italy, Spain - England and India. Hannover is sprawled out - low - (400,000) old, conservative - busy enough but slow paced. There is no lightness, no gayety - no smiles - sturdy - non-curious to a degree of indifference. Although the shops are full of things - people are well fed there is no sense of fashion or delight in life. I shall start German lessons next week - the language is a great barrier. Housing, also is a great problem. There just aren't enough houses to go around and within the city - they are handled by the Government on the point system. Points are given for length of residence, position, need and the like. This does not apply to buildings

²³ Noted with a circled "F."

²⁴ Handwritten note added by PB himself.

under construction so the Company has taken two apartments now being built and will convert them into one for us. Even at that, they will not be large and elegant – only adequate. I have spent the first few days here – with the architect – engineers etc. arranging partitions – selecting light and bathroom fixtures – designing closets – cupboards – shelves etc. I simply can't get myself interested in any of it. There is an emptiness about everything I do. The Apartment is supposed to be ready about Sept. 1st – it is on a Main street and just at the edge of Koenigswarter²⁵ Park – we are 4th floor front and will have a pleasant enough view. 3 bedrooms – a maid's room – storage and laundry – dining tiny terrace – two small baths etc. We could have a large house about 15 or 20 miles out of town – but I am in no mood for suburban living – besides there would be disadvantages for John's²⁶ school – transportation – servant problems and many others. The only way I can make this whole thing bearable is to consider it a long "visit" – or very temporary. Then too, if I am in town in an apartment – if you SHOULD happen to be passing through the town – it would be the simplest thing in the world to call on me. Maids are difficult to get – also – they have better hours and more pay in the factories. I dread the settling in – and must pray for energy to get it done with ease. I plan to start simplifying my life and discarding as much as possible as I unpack. It is unfortunate I didn't have time to do it when I packed.

The hotel is pleasant enough – and our suite large and luxurious – but it might as well be a hovel – for all the interest I can manage. John is restless without TV and his friends – G²⁷ gets in from office about 7 – so tense and nervous from the extreme pressure of the day – that we are all under great strain. There will not be as much social life and responsibility here as I had thought – it is quite different from our other assignments we are about the only Americans in the Company and there are only a few in the whole city – so I'll have more time – to²⁸ mediate²⁹ and if my heart and mind relax maybe I can even get some serious writing down. We shall see.

I can't begin to tell you how homesick I've been – how I've missed you – how desolate and unhappy I've been. I had no idea what a vast change had taken place within my being – until now. Of course it is not a complete change of mind – only a culmination of years of thought. It has suddenly all come in upon me with such a sickening force – that my spirit has been in a great wilderness. Sometimes we learn our greatest lessons from the most simple and silliest things. I probably shouldn't even tell you all of this – it will amuse you – but, I want to get it off my mind and avoid the possibility of any barrier to my reception of

²⁵ "Konigsworther" in the original.

²⁶ John (son)

²⁷ George (husband)

²⁸ Page 58, noted as page 2.

²⁹ "mediate," in the original but may have intended "meditate."

your thought and spirit. I have dreamt (or met) you) practically every night since I've been gone - sometimes vividly - and often during the day - you are suddenly there - a considerable amount of my mental and emotional turmoil - and the lessons I am learning from this move etc. - were set off by a very mundane and silly thought that presented itself suddenly to me. While I was sleepless over the Atlantic. In as much as you had been so adamant about not meeting or seeing anyone - I was really pleased when you made a concession and said you would maybe get in touch with the Denisons and Dorothy Arnold. I didn't think anything more about it until - suddenly this little devil gremlin flashed across my horizon - "Why should you be so willing to meet DA - could it be philosophers were only men and susceptible to glamour etc. etc. etc. et The whole thing were irrational and most unworthy and silly - but it gave me quite a battle for a few hours. Don't misunderstand - it was not in the way of casting doubts upon you - not for one little minute - and it wasn't inspired by envy or jealousy - as such.... envy - maybe in the sense that like a great mountain before me - was all the inadequacy - of my life - the upheaval. By contrast with DA - who was in a position to meet and have a sensible normal friendship with you - her beauty - aura of glamour - health superb self confidence - optimism - practical and efficient common sense - plus her spiritual mindedness and the freedom and time - pointed my own condition to a very exaggerated degree. What is more, I didn't even have the right to be worried about it. At the time, it seemed that here was one who had managed her life - as I SHOULD have managed mine - and in my negative frame of mind - I judged myself in weakness. Unworthily, I feared you would, by contrast, judge me - the same way. And that bothered me tremendously. Then, of course, as usual - I began to think about it - to try to understand why it had happened to me (the idea) - for I have learned - there is always a reason for these things and lessons -

I have learned so many things - I can't possibly write them all - You must understand that I have not lived, felt, thought nor acted in a normal manner for a long time. This is not so much an excuse as an explanation. In order to keep my balance and cope with the conditions and situations under which I lived - I had to live on nervous energy. When I first contacted you, I was already depleted in emotional, mental and physical vitality. I could not attempt to make progress - only maintain the daily status quo. Life began for me with lack and the past 15 or 20 years had completely undermined what little self confidence I had. I had and have had a steady diet of much more and unusual conditions than I could possibly manage - and I'm quite convinced - that no one else could have done one iota more or better. I don't care how strong or wonderful they might have been. Of course - most people would not have put up with it. I guess I was over sentimental and had an excessive sense of moral obligation to others - that plus the fact that I tried to make up for my own inadequacies by helping others. Of course, all this unhappiness drove me with-in to the search - and for that I'm grateful - I needed it - because I had lost all sense of proportion and belief in my

own Being. Out of all this came my appeal to you. I had to hope that you would have the understanding to sense some of my need and condition and to allow for it. My chaotic state was responsible for the atmosphere of contrariness – strain – tension – gauche – shyness – inarticulate – strangeness and lack of normalcy – that seemed to me to surround all our meetings and relationships. I never had an opportunity³⁰ to get acquainted with you nor to be myself. I have indeed been living in a nightmare. That last week, for instance – was dreadful – and even the last day. I was “beside myself” (as the saying goes) – Thursday night – the thought of saying “Au revoir” made me most unhappy. Yet, I was afraid to show it.

I don’t know how our meetings affected you – you said so little – explained so little – often seemed to act by impulse. Sometimes I had the feeling this was a task assigned by the Overself and that you went through the motions as a routine – detached – impersonal – untouched – observing results as a Doctor – a case. Please – I do not mean this to be unkind or critical – so do not take it in that way – I’m just trying to explain how I felt and reacted – all of this of course was colored by my negative attitude about myself. An attitude which I hope – has seen the last of its power. Don’t mind, if I ramble on in this way. I wanted so badly to talk these things over with you – but there just never seemed time for a mental or conversational exchange and it was so important to me – especially since I had to leave. When I was with you in person, I was lulled into a sense of serenity and foreverness that made anything else unnecessary. Now, I feel the need of the other background – I have reached here too quickly with too many things unsaid – undone – I do not know what Spiritual progress I’ve made – what I need – my next step – where and how I’ve failed – nor how you feel – what you think... I simply can’t see my way at all – and my whole life seems all tied up in complicated and impossible knots. Of course – this is the surface mood – for I shall turn in and KNOW that GOD is with ME no matter where I am. And that all of this is essential. That it will straighten itself out – that we are all responsible for the things that happen to us – etc. – and please don’t be too disturbed by all of this. I’ll get organized and settled down – with time – and it does help to tell you all of this. It is a kind of substitute for not seeing you. I will not write too many letters in this mood. So bear with me. I need your understanding.

A call from the office – I must meet someone and do not have time to finish this – so will cut out bits and pieces from the pages I have done before and include them.. There is so much more to say and what I’ve said is not properly said – anyway – here it is.

I just wish I had had a few more months to get acquainted and had been in a position to see you under normal conditions. Well, anyway – I’ll have to take myself in hand now – straighten myself out and start to calm my mind and

³⁰ Page 60, noted as page 3.

emotions. Apply that which I have learned and stop acting like a chicken with my head off.

Just to show you I am not completely demoralized – I will say that I’m beginning to realize I have not done so badly considering everything. The intense activity – the personality problems etc. – have been handled after a fashion – and, I’ll just have to stop feeling guilty that I haven’t written books – and set the world on fire. I guess that is what is behind all my sense of failure. God gave me talents – and I haven’t done much with them. I feel I should be using them and making my own way in the world – but maybe THIS was what He willed for me at the present time.

How are you – let me hear from you – when you have time.



The heat wave followed us - & it has been dreadful.³¹

L02.062

62 - 65

Incomplete letter from F. {Marolyn Freeman}³²

September 9

Good morning –

The leisure moment and the cheerful mood still evade me. Today, school started so I have a few minutes before I must go to the apartment to check on the progress. We are still living in the hotel and find it a bit wearing at this point. Our deadline for moving is one week from today. Built in closets and parquet floors take such a long time. John will go to the British School for the first term, anyway – It is the only English speaking school in Hannover and conducted for the children of the British Army – They accept Americans for enrollment only when there is a vacancy. As a matter of fact you can count the number of Americans, here, on the fingers of one hand (as the saying goes). Rarely do you hear any English spoken. This is particularly true of Hannover. Inland, conservative and non-commercial (comparatively) they haven’t had to adapt to the invasion of “foreigners.” The city was 85% bombed during the Catastrophe – as they call it and the memory and traces are still present. Some of them make an effort to be at least polite – while others don’t even do that. When I lamented (?) that there was nothing “German” in my soul – I didn’t realize there might be a need of something G in my soul. Something of their indifference – determination – drive et cetera. I have been trying to understand what there is about their character that makes them so aggressive – what vibrations rule this land. Maybe

³¹ Added by hand in the margin by the sender.

³² Noted with a circled “F” below the date.

it is a selfishness. So many of them seem arrogantly intent and self interested. At any rate – here I am – in the one country I’ve had no desire to see. There must be some reason for it – maybe not to Become – but to Overcome. You will gather (and correctly) that I do not like this place. I suppose it is natural to have some aversion to it. The language is such a problem and even though I take a lesson every day – my heart and interest are not in it.

The British School will not keep John beyond this year so I suppose he will go to Switzerland next year. He wasn’t very happy when I left him this morning – the Headmaster was a bit overwhelming with his brisk Oxfordian accent. John was quite disturbed when they told him he would have to eat with English table manners – what is more he doesn’t know how to play cricket!

Business-wise, the difficulties have been much greater than anyone anticipated. It is one of the few places the Company shares a partnership. This has caused and causes endless complications through the German representatives – labor Unions etc. The Shareholders Representative has assumed charge and responsibility temporarily – and everything is in a state of confusion – upheaval and demoralization. The housecleaning still goes on and no one seems to know quite how it will end up. All this naturally reflects in our personal lives. I do not know how to think or feel. Most of the time, I don’t even know how to turn it over to the Creator. So many of the things I thought I knew lose their significance under the distressing conditions.

Daily, the Genie arises from the bottle to torment and rule over us. It seems so hopeless. With detachment comes a certain amount of indifference and while this might work very well in most cases – it is tragic in the family relationship. My body is one place – my heart and mind another. My imagination turns in upon itself, defeated. Any positive thinking or planning for myself as an individual seems to automatically require (under the circumstances) thinking against someone else. It has made clear (in a sense,) how the power of thought affects others. Under the present conditions even detachment seems unkind and disloyal. The fact that my own weaknesses invited and have supported all this doesn’t solve the problem. I have had to face the fact that there is nothing noble about plain endurance and that the root of my personal failings is buried deeply in the unpleasant soil of Fear and lack of self confidence.

...³³

Granted³⁴ – I am able at least mentally (intellectually) to understand the dream like quality of all this – of you, myself and all persons – There still must be a physical life. One cannot live in this No-Man’s Land – suspended between two worlds. Books no longer supply my need. It is easy for men to say things – talk

³³ The second page of the letter appears to be cropped at the top and is not continuous with the previous page. There are about 4 inches of this letter which have been cut out altogether.

³⁴ Page 64

of abstractions – write all kinds of advice words give the illusion of being helped. I can pray to a mentally pictured Father – and imaginatively feel I am being helped – recognize the fact that miracles do happen and prayers are answered – but this is not the same thing as the actual experience of the “Presence.” The Presence that by its Self is your Life – removes all doubts – fears – and makes it so blissfully unimportant – how beautiful or unbeautiful you are – how strong or weak how important or unimportant – who or what you are or have or have not accomplished – even how worthy or unworthy you are. Simply because all things are beneath it – within the limits of the personality. I know “OF” this other condition and that you live in it most of the time (all), but I know also, that one must learn to make the WORD – FLESH. To bring this Spirit into expression in the material world. For a while, we have the feeling or impression of doing this – through prayers and meditations and the very activity – of a spiritual search – especially when things go well and life seems good – one can easily feel cheerful and optimistic. I know all these things – but it is only a half-way mark and a temporary thing – it is still dependent on “conditions” – it is still in the trial and error – in the blindness and ignorance. There is no light – no certainty – no knowledge nothing unchanging – eternal about it. This changing – conditioned world is not undesirable for in one sense it is the Only world we can experience

...³⁵

But I am reaching the Knowledge and understanding that this changing world is tolerable only when one sees and understands it from the Higher level – side of reality – from truth. That which IS – As the changing world represents that which is opposed to it – and is contained within it – by its not being. Maybe I’m not making any Sense (this is above sense). From this higher level of Being I can see that all these changing conditions – events peoples etc. etc. are seen for what they really are – because we know who and what we really ARE in Spirit – In Truth. We are in the world physically but not OF it – in that we Move through it – It cannot affect us wholly because we observe all else as outside (or within, as the case maybe) the SELF and do not see nor identify and Know the self by or with the different conditions – persons limitations etc. – of existence.

I know I ask for the world with a fence around it – but it is no more than that which in the higher realm – belongs to me.

...³⁶

L02.066

66 – 67

Incomplete letter from Margaret

³⁵ The second half of page cropped and taped onto another page. This section is not continuous with the previous section. This part of the paper might be the beginning of the page originally.

³⁶ Subsequent lines are missing.

Undated letter

...³⁷ I do not apologise for this long letter because "it had to be" and it is only at very crucial moments that inner things take "form" in this way.

Good-bye – answer this letter or not, as you wish – I shall understand if you only reply in the silence.

...³⁸

I write this, as I always write to you, out of an affection (if it can be called such, for it has in it but few of the elements of what one usually calls "affection"), a feeling which seems always to belong to another life, another time – it blossomed and had its realization somewhere in the past and now all that remains of it, is a faint "memory," which constitutes an unbreakable "link" but which has no definite "form" in our present lives! It is so strange and yet so real! Sometimes, too, these things cause a feeling which is akin to dissatisfaction, a feeling that one would like to draw out into the light of present day something buried in the dark and hidden recesses of time, but the utter inevitability of certain forces seems to nip in the bud all these feelings before they have hardly had time to become conscious and for the most part one goes on living a "reality" within an "unreality"! And over and above everything, absorbing all things into its vast and unfathomable mystery is the eternal and interminable... WAITING!



L02.068

68 – 69

Incomplete letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

Undated letter

...³⁹ I do not say nor feel this as a self-indulgent enjoyable martyrship. It is unpleasant to have the illusions stripped away, but essential. I am quite willing to acknowledge what I see – but there must surely come a time – when all this exposure ceases and when hope and faith reveals the beauty and joy and peace of the Self. This unhappy, weak picture of the Self, which I hold in my mind – must certainly destroy itself eventually. I have served Mammon long enough. But what to do – There are others to think of. I can't think my way clear. I can not find a calmness that endures long enough to receive guidance. If guidance comes – I'm not certain of its source – it might be wishful thinking. I know I

³⁷ Previous lines and possibly pages are missing.

³⁸ Letter is cropped and glued together here, so this paragraph is not continuous with the previous one

³⁹ Previous page(s) missing.

must take a stand somehow – I must accept or believe Something. I know and understand the theory. To practice it is a completely different thing. All these ideas remain ideas unless they can be proven. No one else can do it for you. That is one of the illusions nursed by comparative thinking – or the necessity of relative thinking. How can I possibly find my true self – (or to be more exact) my Self – for the Self IS TRUE) – by looking out and comparing myself with someone else – or judging myself under certain conditions – or by certain standards. I am not someone else and my Self does not act nor react to the limitations of events etc. Only the surface person does this. But this understanding cannot be a vague theory. At this point – ignorance becomes a pain. I know I am asleep. How can I awaken? I know this consciousness is sleep. I can sense it – feel it. And yet, I don't want to rush off to an ashram – into a trance. It seems to me that is as much a dream of being awake as this ignorance is a dream. You have said it is not a dream – but Like a dream. Do we merely dream we are awake – or is there a true “awakeness” –

Again, I am making no sense – I ramble on – I have too much work to do, to concentrate. To know you are asleep and yet not from an awakened state is like knowing what you do NOT want and yet not knowing What you DO want. One does not automatically reveal or follow the other.

Bear with me – I flounder – but help will come – God is no less God because I have not learned to see.

You asked me to record my Mystical Experiences – do you mean my dreams, Visions – moods? I am not sure – you seemed to assign such things no importance. I dream of you often – I have strange moods – and of course think of you constantly. How are you – what of your trip to Switzerland? A week from today – I should be at

48 Konigswortherstrasse (Etag 3) 3rd floor
Hannover –
No telephone for two weeks

More – later –



L02.070

70 – 71

Letter from M. Freeman⁴⁰

About 4 – PM – around Nova Scotia

Undated letter

⁴⁰ “M Freeman” noted at top of page by PB himself.

Lunch is completed – white clouds surround us. Soft music plays somewhere in the background and everyone seems to be sleeping except John who is coloring. As for me – I’m pursuing my favorite and forever will o’ the wisp. It sounds gushy – but I guess I can afford to indulge myself a bit. The morning went smoothly – the limousine arrived – my reception committee saw us off and here we are – But how can I be here – when so much is left behind. In this case – the detachment was a veneer – a merciful anesthesia – I guess – to help me get away. If my soul was bound before – it is chained now. And the ego struggles against the conditions & circumstances that are quite obviously meant to disintegrate it. That relationship, which should have been a peaceful & joyful thing – somehow seemed to draw a contrary atmosphere – and I found myself being someone who was stranger even to myself. My heart is revolting against the half finished sentences – the stolen & inadequate time – the uncertain & inarticulate silences – there is so much unsaid – unexpressed – undone – I guess it is my own fault – my own uncertainty – doubts – my shy bottled up Self – all I want to be is cheerful – outgoing & confident like the Dorothy Arnold’s in this world – it’s rather a shock to learn how inadequate I am or⁴¹ at least seemed to be, physically. It’s a surprise also – because it has been exaggerated & intensified – with you. Why – should it be so? I feel the need to pray – to be sure He loves me – to know I have a chance to make the goal – and I need the courage to hand the whole thing over to the Creator and know that he at least knows what is in the cards for everyone. It means “go quickly” and do that which I have earned that I may sooner earn that which I so much want to do & be now. I guess I’m just afraid – my meeting with you was just an unfulfilled dream and that I will not have the opportunity to dream again. I’ll just have to know that He who dreams – is dream & dreamer and that which we are in reality cannot be snatched away –

I miss you



L02.072

72 – 75

Letter from M. F. {Marolyn Freeman}⁴²

sent c/o Grindlay

read August 9⁴³

June 27 1960

⁴¹ Page 71

⁴² Noted with a circled “F”

⁴³ “Sent c/o Grindlay read August 9” added by PB himself.

Hello,

It has been almost a year since I left the States – many months since I’ve written or heard from you. It has been a year of darkness and desolation for me. Time does not seem to have awarded me any progress, understanding or healing. The constant upheaval and presence of several oppressive personalities (within the company) have almost destroyed my spirit and made our sojourn here unendurable. This has been intensified by the anxiety caused by the growth and trend of the “indulgence problem.” It affects our health, social life and work. I have been unable to pray or see my way – my faith wavers. If it were a simple case – it could be approached openly and its cause discovered and a solution found. Its foundation must remain its secret and although it is true (as you said) that it is of the personality and ego – the blessed state of egolessness is not that easily attained. In the meantime, I watch a soul destroying itself and am helpless. Peace we may have if we are fortunate but freedom to enjoy that peace is not possible so long as others suffer. What is the answer? Running away doesn’t solve it – all I have been able to do is cease to resist it (or try) accept it as my Karma and God’s will. I do not say this in a spirit of pious, suffering superiority – I’ve learned enough about my own ego to know one spirit cannot pass judgement on another. As a goal, virtue has no value. Preoccupation with my own spiritual welfare doesn’t seem to be getting me any place – the urgent question is what can I do to help with something more practical and immediate than platitudes. I have little inclination for Yogi trances and not enough will power to calm my emotions for meditation. Writing pleasing words and ideas in books is merely callisthenic for the intellect without the wisdom to “make it work.” Admitting⁴⁴ one’s ignorance and weakness doesn’t automatically change it. I’m learning the blunt truth of {St.} Paul’s remark – not the hearers of the law – are just before God – but the Doers of the law shall be justified. The mere desire or intention to keep the heart free of resentment fear – criticisms – judgements – and the like is not enough – besides, how much real will can a man have – ? Where does self surrender and interest in the results of one’s efforts fade from faith into a passive resignation? Sacrifice may be the law of life – but I am not convinced that true sacrifice is synonymous with pain and suffering and unhappiness. That IDEA is the LIE – If God be God (Good – without any wishful thinking on the part of limited individual heart) and if the nature of God be Joy and delight (Aurobindo) then sacrifice can’t be anything but the giving of joy and life (light) – of the Self. And it hasn’t come to me as yet – not because I am not worthy as the next soul – but maybe I’m not ready. Enough of this lament, however. More words⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Page 74

⁴⁵ St. Paul the Apostle

⁴⁶ “more words” written in the margin next to this paragraph.

John is in school in Switzerland – in Aiglon College (English) in Chesieres-Villars – next month he will be home for two months and then returns in September – He is settling in quite well which of course pleases me.

Where are you, how are you and forgive me for unburdening myself – my desire to avoid this is one of my reasons for not writing.

I'd like to hear from you

M⁴⁷

L02.076

76 – 79

Letter from M.F.⁴⁸ {Marolyn Freeman}

Jan 7 – 60

Hello –

I hope this will reach you before you leave Australia. I have not written before because, frankly, I've been in such a dreadful state of mental and emotional upheaval – I couldn't write anything cheerful.

I can't begin to explain the hectic life we've been living here – personality problems – the continued "indulgence" – etc. etc. etc. I live at 25% efficiency – I can't pray – "hope" is just a word – I see my appalling pride and selfishness and at⁴⁹ the moment of sight – know that even seeing these things in myself are subtle forms of Ego – there is nothing to endure and no one to endure it – This is a cold abstract way to look at life – and while fascinated by such an aspect of truth – It is not my way – I can't escape this physical world and its problems by trying to ignore them – and I don't want to –

Where do you go from Australia may I write directly or must I go through the London address? Underneath all my confusion is a dreadful loneliness for the One I cannot see – I'd like to hear, at least your whereabouts, and how you are – if you have time.



L02.080

80 – 85

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

Königswortherstrasse 48

Hannover Germany⁵⁰

⁴⁷ Signature is typed and not signed.

⁴⁸ Noted with a circled "F."

⁴⁹ Page 78

⁵⁰ Location was added by PB himself.

Greetings -

This will not be a letter proper - just to acknowledge your new address.

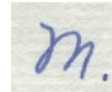
I wasn't terribly surprised to hear you had left the States. I've never seen Australia, but I met a woman once on a P&O ship who lived in New Zealand and she thought it was paradise.

My life proceeds as usual - my outer time is hectic - chaotic - with duties and responsibilities piled up all around me. My inner condition is strange and confusing. Like "Osiris" - I'm chopped into 40,000 (or was it 14?) pieces - with no time or wisdom to do anything about it. A⁵¹ quiet, devastating earthquake has struck my soul and left me helpless. The emphasis of thought has been shifting - when you find yourself in that Wilderness that remains when the ego's illusions desert it - and when a certain amount of detachment forces you to look at the world through other eyes than the personal (desires - ideas - needs etc.) - you are surprised to find no antagonism nor resentment - no concentration on the faults of others - no "me" that judges all things relative to itself -

It isn't a resignation companioned by hope - This is where a solid grounding in formal yoga and meditation would be helpful. When the situation gets too bad, like a child with rosary - I sleep with my⁵² beads around my arm and warm my heart with a blue glass.

As usual I've said nothing but then - words disappear like clouds on a windy day -

If you have time, I should like to hear from you - where in the Far East do you plan to go - Do you stop in Kobi, Japan? When may I look forward to seeing you again -



He⁵³ who is drunk (rather than drinks) by the black chalice of (?) the Impersonal (?) sees and knows all are the self and knows the good (god) in all.

The heart wears many faces - which shows its fickleness

Each one a mask - which proves its faithfulness⁵⁴

L02.086

86 - 91

⁵¹ Page 82

⁵² Page 84

⁵³ Post Script begins here.

⁵⁴ "The heart wears many faces - which shows its fickleness

Each one a mask - which proves its faith fullness" written on margin of last page of letter.

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}
Konigswortherstrasse 48, Dritte Etage⁵⁵
Undated letter⁵⁶

Hello –

“Margie’s” letter arrived the day I moved and helped to sustain my strength in the hecticness of moving, packing, unpacking, adjustments, moods, and constant changes. So long as you are in the States – it would simplify matters to get letters from “Alva” – It is a friendship of long standing and because of our “interests,” no one is interested in reading her epistles except me. I don’t know why I didn’t think of it before.

I have wanted to – and should have written weeks ago – but there is so much that can be said in person, only – and I have been concentrating all my energies on the apartment – in an effort to get it finished and out of the way. Because it is a new building and because I⁵⁷ didn’t have time to pack properly in New York – the task has been doubly difficult – my full time “sleep in” – housekeeper, however, is a gift from Heaven and I’m very grateful for her. It takes so long to get anything done here in the way of draperies – upholstery etc. – (and is fantastically expensive – especially to Americans) so – I’ve been trying to do all these things myself. Business, personal and personality problems have been (and still are) far greater here than any other place we’ve ever been – add that to the language problem and you can imagine – the reactions – reverberations and confusion of our lives. There is no such thing, as yet – as a quiet, peaceful moment – (we live right on a traffic circle) – I have hopes that it will eventually smooth out – John goes to the English⁵⁸ school – but finds English Math measures and table manners – a hurdle. We are planning to put him in a school in Switzerland next year – He is maturing so rapidly – and needs other influences. The only problem will be homesickness – he has never been away from me. I’ll probably spend half my time down in Villars –

There are vast spaces of emptiness, indifference and detachment growing up in me – at times discomfoting – but always instructive. Sometimes, I have the dreadful feeling of having failed somehow – but maybe this is because I’m so obsessed with myself – it’s so easy to make one’s weaknesses, virtues. Every day my heart breaks itself, mends itself and weaves the essence on which it grows. Every day another bit falls away, another Self walks right over the pieces and doesn’t notice. You can know it is a dream only when you are awake.

Those who restless dream must soon awake Immunized to thorns. The hidden roses pluck

⁵⁵ “Telephone 18647” included at top of letter with address.

⁵⁶ “apparently mailed October” added by PB himself beneath address with checkmark.

⁵⁷ Page 88

⁵⁸ Page 90



When I hear where you are – for the winter – I’ll send my new essay on
Tantric – Do you go to India?⁵⁹

L02.092

92 – 95

Letter from M.F. {Marolyn Freeman}⁶⁰

July 21

Undated letter

Hello –

I’ve gone Back to the “old habit” of continual mental conversations “at you” – and as I told you before – with so many thousands of things to say – my mind goes blank when I try to find the end of the string – I have decided the best way to get over this hurdle – is not to write “letters” – just “writings” – and send them from time to time – they will “repeat & wander – and contradict etc. etc. but that’s the way my mind is working these days. I won’t send any today – I’m in a rush and must go out soon – but feel the need to contact you – just to say hello – The silence is so noisy – I didn’t realize what a release – and source of expression my writing has been – until I stopped it some weeks ago – I guess it has been a substitute for a great many things – I find; that unless I can write – as ideas – come to me – I⁶¹ get so innerly frustrated & nervous it makes me almost physically ill –

At the present time I cannot tell you the chaos & upheaval – the shattered illness at the very core of my Being – I’m hoping the cloud will pass over, so that I may write more cheerfully – never have I passed through so difficult a move – nor so slow an adjustment. I’ve been ill in body – and anguished in spirit – please, please forgive me – if I hurt you – with my last letter – It did not occur to me until later that it may have sounded like lack of faith in you – and that was and is – the last possible thing – Everything so overwhelmed me all at once – and exaggerated & intensified everything else – my last day there was so frustrating – I wanted to finish my errands alone – and spend the time in peace with you – Dorothy⁶² A. is one of my best and oldest friends – we’ve been like sisters in our understanding and I’ve always admired her – that last day – when she wanted to

⁵⁹ This sentence written in the margin of the last page: “When I hear where... Do you go to India?”

⁶⁰ Noted with an “F” at the top of the page.

⁶¹ Page 93

⁶² Page 94

help me select a hat – which I really didn't want and insisted on shopping with me – while I enjoyed being with her – the tremendous confidence and positive optimism under the circumstances – served to devitalize and exaggerate my own chaos and weakness – Any other time I could have responded properly – Anyway – it doesn't matter – forgive me if I hurt or annoyed you – It was a weak and "little" way to see and express it – I hope you have contacted her – she is cheerful, beautiful and worthy –

I⁶³ am struggling with insomnia and have acquired the habit of holding the prayer Beads you gave me – I have needed the thought and vibrations – I hope they have –

I'll write again in a day or two – with writings – and some of the lessons I'm learning –

I keep hoping I'll get a note from you – yet – I don't really expect one – I know you are busy – but would like to know how you are & where you go when your plans are made – you'll have to be moving soon – won't you?



L02.096

96 – 100

Letter from {Marolyn Freeman}

August 21st

Hello,

I have waited to answer your so welcome and appreciated letter until such time as I could "say" something. Time for quiet and thinking is simply not available – so I'll just give you a summary of events. Besides, all my thoughts et cetera seem to be nothing but words, words, words – in my present mood, they have no meaning.

If I remember correctly, this was about the time you were to move again – I wonder where you are located now.

I was rather startled to read in the Herald Tribune (we get the Paris edition) about the earthquake in Montana⁶⁴ – because just two nights ago, I dreamt about a large earthquake in the Pacific.

How to tell you what has been happening in my life. I wish I could be cheerful and gay about it. How can one be nonchalant when swallowed by Jonah's Whale – or when one's soul is in Its Armageddon? I still have enough flippancy to be dramatic about it – in words. My construction has lagged behind

⁶³ Page 95

⁶⁴ The 1959 Hebgen Lake earthquake also known as the 1959 Yellowstone earthquake occurred on August 17.

my destruction. Facing the stark fact that only my own weaknesses are responsible for my problems (even lifetimes) has stripped me of illusions. I have arrived at the point now that seems (at times) to make even all this hunger "To Know" - To Be - just an excuse to keep from entering into and living a day by day normal life. My consciousness struggles with a dreadful inertia - I walk through a field of poppies - It is incongruous that I could be so asleep and yet so frantically busy physically. It's a rather horrible dream and nothing makes any sense.

What to do - I can't even find - or desire to cling to any feeling of my own worthiness. What does it matter - one's personal or individual goodness or worthiness. I see that it doesn't really enter⁶⁵ into the picture at all - not at all. It is or has been as though some force or power had determinedly drawn away all my feeling of being an individual or a person - I'm adrift on a great vast ocean. What have I done or Not Done - that has caused this condition. My desire and effort has been consistent and the best quality I could manage. That is not enough. I have been stupid and afraid of life

Rock bottom - bare essentials. There is a GOD - A POWER - Greater - Unknown. Because that Unknown Power is benevolent - I have been helped. There is nothing personal about this - therefore it has nothing to do with being worthy or unworthy in the ordinary sense. I am a part of The creation - minute - undiscoverable - unknown - but I have a place to fill - I can be used - in this sense I can serve. It has nothing to do with what I think I am or am not - with what I desire. Other than that - what can be known - the rest is illusion and even that could be wishful thinking.

The Doctor Jekyll - Mr Hyde existence goes on and even grows worse. Anything I can manage to build up in cheerfulness - optimism etcetera during the day - is visited at the end of the day - by a hurricane - that blows it all to the winds. Now - I do not have the comfort or refuge of feeling badly treated - nor do I have the weapon of hate - dislike or repulsion. I realize that these things are used by mankind as a substitute for WILL - when they haven't strength to do what they want - with hate - defiance - etcetera - The task is made easy - Riding on these things - we can turn around corners. or climb mountains. When I look for weapons I find not even a pebble - The giant who roars suddenly becomes a fellow man - who makes a magnificent struggle against impossible odds. My own misery turns to a rather secret admiration and pity. I could not do it what my fellow man does - accomplishes - and once again the wheel turns.

Don't⁶⁶ mind if I don't make any sense -

The apartment is coming along - but we will still be at the hotel for another week or two - I imagine we will move around the 10th of September. I am in the process of selecting light fixtures - bath room equipment etc. - We all

⁶⁵ Page 97

⁶⁶ Page 99

take a German lesson every day – from a College Professor (U of Chicago) who is here getting his Doctorate in Languages. A very pleasant middle aged bachelor who has shown some interest in “The Quest” - but I haven’t done much about it as yet – I am going to loan him my book by Ouspensky – The 4th way” – which, incidentally seems quite sensible – I haven’t had time to read it.

John grows more bored by the day – so we bought him a black Cocker Spaniel Puppy (more work for Mutter) – I have hired a full time sleep-in (for the time being anyway) maid – am driving my Fiat around town and give about two good sized dinner parties a week (at the hotel, of course) The only woman I’ve met so far – who speaks English is the Baronness Laudimghassen-Wolff – whose Husband is the Director of the Dresden Bank. She is the International type and is going to take me under her wing (she says).

My mental condition may have something to do with the fact that my physical “Condition” – flared up soon after I arrived here and has been giving me endless trouble. I am paying now for not having taken your advice about the Doctor.

Would like to hear more about your trip to Switzerland. We go to Berlin for 3 days Sept 23 to attend the World Wide Oil Conference.

Must finish now – more anon –

The One Who Goes Around in a Circle.

L02.101

101 - 106

Incomplete letter from D. G. , {Marianna Green}⁶⁷

Undated letter

...⁶⁸ It is my hope that all is well with you.

Life goes on much the same. However, I am feeling like a new person – from a physical viewpoint, that is. Seem to have more energy and ambition due to the sense of well-being.

Am still studying astrology, also meditating on it and, surprisingly enough, learning some interesting bits of knowledge. I am finding certain⁶⁹ flaws that bear investigation, but it is by no means a disheartening factor – there is much to be learned in all phases of knowledge and this subject is no exception. I am more inclined to believe it (astrology) needs more of the spiritually developed.

⁶⁷ Noted with a circled letter “G” in the upper right corner.

⁶⁸ The page seems to have been cut down from original size and may be missing subsequent lines.

⁶⁹ Page 103, noted with a “2” at top of the page.

Time will tell much as far as this subject is concerned. In the meantime it has been very helpful to me and several others I have tried to help through the subject. Would some time like to go into the subject with you.

The⁷⁰ attached ad interests me as I have heard a little about the sentence I've underlined. Can you recommend this particular book, or is there another you can suggest, or shall I just drop the matter. Your opinion is much appreciated.

Please take care of yourself.

With every best wish.



49 x 10
= 500⁷¹

L02.107

107 - 116

Incomplete letter from D. G. {Marianna Green}

Undated letter

...⁷² Please forgive me for not writing more frequently than I have. You have been in my thoughts very often, and it was hoped you were aware of them each time.

I hope you are well and comfortable...from what I've read in the papers the weather where you are is not anything to write home about. I do pray you are safe.

I guess the book is now finished? I am eagerly awaiting it, and may it be happily received! Perhaps now you can relax a bit, although I know you always have much to do.

The past six or seven months have been no less than turbulent ones; in fact, so much so that my health and sense of equilibrium had been affected, although I'm slowly making progress in the right direction. It was as though a landslide engulfed me, and the ensuing difficulties of extricating myself was almost too much for me. However, it appears that, like many, I was not fully aware of the resiliency within me and, now that I'm on the up-grade, I am deeply grateful for all of the experiences.

Your birthday did not pass without me sending you my thoughts, as I do every day, but inasmuch as I thought your plans were to go further south from where you were, I was waiting for your next address. Nevertheless, belated birthday greetings, and may this year be among the best.

⁷⁰ Page 105, noted with "-3-" at the top of the page.

⁷¹ Note added in pencil on the bottom of the page, possibly by PB himself.

⁷² Subsequent lines are missing.

As always, I'm speechless with thankfulness for you and all that you have helped me with. Were it not for this, many difficulties would have assumed greater proportions. My heartfelt gratitude, which is always consciously felt by me, is extended to you once again.

I have thought when I quit the business world that I was going to have time to myself in order to do a few things I'd looked forward to accomplishing. There was a period of rest, but a short one and it did not go unappreciated. I discovered later than I had yet to forego my own ideas in order to learn some lessons I needed badly!

Since last June, astrology has occupied a great deal of my waking hours. I have studied it, with an open mind, and I have concluded there is merit in it.

I have met many people through this, several of whom I have grown quite fond; specifically, three women and one man. Two of the women have helped me with astrology, one being quite progressed in the subject, and all of the individuals are spiritually progressed. The women are members of the Order of Magi and they have asked me to join the group. My polite refusal I know is quite mystifying because they so highly recommend it. None-the-less, they are very fine, and I study astrology with them every other Wednesday evening.

The⁷³ man, Bob, is a professional astrologer I met through George. He is 45 years old, and of all the people I have met, with the exception of yourself, is the most advanced. Intuitively I get him with an Egyptian background. I feel very close to him, and I do hope you two will meet some day. He lives in Cleveland, and I will next see him in June when I hope to attend the astrologers convention there. Meanwhile we correspond. He has been of great help to me insofar as astrology is concerned, directly through his letters answering my questions and through his articles which appear in three astrological publications.

He has written for the Theosophical Society, for he once was a member and all of his adult years have been given to spiritual study. He has read, learned, and given much, though like most of us, he is not perfect. What I do like about him in addition to what I have stated is his constructive attitude toward life; he is a practical man and more normal than most.

George proved an interesting experience and having met up with him taught me a lot.

By the way, the main reason I was so long in writing was because I kept waiting for the time that certain developments in my life offered conclusions that I could write you about. Until quite recently everything was just a hodge-podge that was not worth writing about.

⁷³ Page 109, noted with "-2-" at the top of the page.

I laugh at myself (once again) for having been still so naive,⁷⁴ although I know now I've come a long way in the past six months. I hope that at long last I have shed the last remains of one of my worst shortcomings.

I've learned so much at first hand experience and it all came so fast, that I hit an all-time low, me, who never knew what it was to be hurt, despondent, or at my wits ends. But it all served a good purpose, I am far the wiser, know better how to judge and handle people and the situations they create.

The most important lesson of all is the one of learning that mankind is not, as yet, at the high evolutionary stage I gave him credit for, and in saying this I am commenting on those more advanced beings, not the ones who are obviously at a lower stage of growth.

Secondly, I have learned not to expect so much of even the more developed ones. The problems of living and learning are difficult at best, and each one has his individual problems to cope with, and the fact that All-Wisdom is not theirs yet (nor mine) is no reason I should be disappointed in them, nor even in myself.

However,⁷⁵ I've seen in the past six months such things as pride, competition, jealousy, selfishness, mercenary attitude, and the withholding of truth by those who can pass it on to earnest seekers. The fact that I was so close to all of this caused me to sit back, stunned, that people "preaching" the spiritual could possess these traits. I am most grateful because the experience taught me so well what I should not be. Anyway, I have come out of it and mended well.

Mrs Prine seems a sincere student, but she is obviously quite depressed or distressed over something she does not mention. She asks, in her second letter, whether a spiritual man has a sign on his forehead. I'm not able to answer this question, so thought perhaps you might enlighten me. I do hope there aren't too many questions I'll have to trouble you with, but rather than err in my statements, I'd rather ask you.

I'm sending you a chart. If you feel the person to whom it belongs would not care, would you make corrections as I think I may be of help in one way or another. For instance, you might tell this person that squares do not take anything away; however, the improper handling of the squares might do this. When the square is handled rightly, it leaves nothing but the power and energy it gave to overcome the square in the first place and the net result is the individual can use the "good" of the square for progress. Trines incline one to passivity and must be used as carefully and intelligently as a square. Sun square moon, for instance, gives a psychological quirk that can eventually drive one to brilliant achievement. However, in the process of accomplishment, the person can feel uncertain, or has difficulty making up his mind, but when once this is overcome, this square gives a wonderful drive and energy to do things.

⁷⁴ "naïve"

⁷⁵ Page 111, and noted as "-3-" at the top of the page.

Churchill has this aspect in his chart. Naturally, I'll not divulge the chart to anyone.

I do hope to have more correspondents and eagerly await them!

Albert has had several "romantic" set-backs and consequently was more depressed than ever, which necessitated my speaking very frankly, which I probably should have done far earlier. My frankness regarding his faults seemed to do the trick. He has matured. He, also, has taught me a lot, and my only regret is that I didn't learn the lesson more quickly. It was only when I realized that he was a "spoiled child" that I was able to help him.

I have had another hard lesson to learn: That of disassociating other people's make-up from my own. I've made the mistake several times of thinking that the other fellow was much like myself. I know now that the other fellow is another fellow, and until he proves to me first that he lives up to certain conditions I'll not readily accept him into my life. In this way I'll do the more important things instead of the less.

You⁷⁶ tried to convey this to me several years back and I agreed with you because I realized you were right, but I did not then have the full understanding of my error. Henceforth, you'll find me more mature. Anyway, no doubt you are interested in know that this particular flaw has once and for all be eliminated. Albert alone does not account for my learning this lesson, others helped too, I regret to say.

Have you read Candle of Vision by George Russell? Bob is sending it to me as he says it is "must" reading. Wondered what you thought of it. He has also given me titles of several books on esoteric astrology. I think it is here that I'll find my greatest interest. I feel, too, I might "discover" something when I study this phase. All I know is, like the spiritual, I have gone overboard for astrology. The spiritual did not prove disappointing, and I feel astrology will not disappoint me either.

I know there are many who have used it unintelligently because of their lack of intelligence; I know many have made inaccurate predictions, only because they had no license to make the prediction in the first place, they just wanted to hear themselves "talk." And I know there is much in astrology to be weeded out, just as in any science, it is not yet perfect.

I don't mean to imply that I'm dedicating my life to astrology for I certainly do not have such intentions, but I think it has much good in it and that it should be taken out of the hands of frauds, charlatans, and undeveloped minds. At this point, I'm rather inclined to think it fits in with the spiritual scheme of things, although I must confess I haven't quite determined my findings. I'm on my way to some definite conclusions and perhaps another six months will do it.

⁷⁶ Page 113, and noted at "-4-" the top of the page.

Am now reading The Mahatma Letters which George says is the book he'd want if stranded on a desert isle.

You were quite right about him. There is much good in him, I still maintain, but there are some serious flaws. I've stopped seeing him and Elaine as I used to for it became apparent the automobile was a very convenient mode of transportation. I still attend the astrology classes, but in the very near future I hope to do most of my studying by myself.

He discontinued Sunday lectures and two weeks ago started a Thursday night occult class. He has invited a very small group to attend and those who did said the lectures were very good. I may be making a mistake by not attending, but some how or another I can't. I know he is non-plussed by my absence, as I have declined to explain. What it is that prevents me from attending I don't know; it is as though a forbidding hand is raised and I find that I cannot disobey...⁷⁷

My⁷⁸ health is good now, and I feel like my own self as the saying goes. Helen fell and broke her left wrist on the 2nd... she is coming along fine. Bill is O.K., having just finished with another furniture show. My father is weakening, but it is good to say that he has progressed much spiritually, and my mother is fine.⁷⁹

Hope I can see you soon, and in the meantime, have some word from you.

Please be careful – 1952 is not to be the best year the world has seen. Of course, need I tell you? You can tell me!

Have not received word to sell the stock.

I'll be looking for a letter, it will be wonderful to hear from you.

You are ever in my thoughts.

D.

P.S. What is your opinion of Alice Bailey³⁰? She wrote a book on Esoteric Astrology and I was wondering, inasmuch as Bob did not recommend it, whether I should buy it. She has Mercury square Jupiter in her chart – this aspect does not always make for a person being reliable, they are apt to stretch the truth, but like any other square the tendencies can be overcome, AND IN HIGHLY EVOLVED SOULS I THINK THIS IS AN ASPECT THAT TESTS THEIR INTEGRITY.

L02.117

117 – 118

⁷⁷ The rest of this line and the rest of this page has been cut out presumably by PB.

⁷⁸ Page 115

⁷⁹ The subsequent line has been cut out of the original presumably by PB.

Urgent Reply
M Freeman

Knowing what I now know about him it is clear that duty is to stay, that G {George Freeman} is helpless without her & to leave would be to condemn him, perhaps to suicide

{This⁸⁰ is him the next {Wednesday}},⁸¹ we may wish that they were not like this but it is how we find them & how we have to deal with them

L02.119

119 - 122
Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}
27-II-62⁸²

Dear P.B.

Thanks for your letter and new address. This won't be the long, leisurely letter I'd like to write. I've been so distracted lately it is difficult to collect my thoughts. I guess sometime over the past year I stepped beyond my stress point and find a general disintegration going on - Maybe my soul is sick, at any rate - I have found myself less and less able to cope with the routine of my life.

My intellectual life has been very active - tearing away the veils of illusion etc. etc. etc. - "Ego-crushing" - you called it - But nothing has replaced it - My whole attitude and values are changing so much - that I find the prospect of the life here in Holland - almost unendurable. I have moved so many times during the past few years - and what with all the other stress am completely exhausted by it. To the extreme extent that after 4 months - in this huge house I'm only partially settled - our furniture was so badly damaged in this move - at the present time - I can't seem to force myself to be interested in houses - or people. And this is precisely what I am expected to do here.

A⁸³ wide - continual social life and contact is part of the job responsibility here - what with 5000 Americans - there isn't any choice. I'm not anti-social - But at this particular time it amounts to a torture - for the time being I can see no

⁸⁰ Page 118: the back of this note containing this excerpt has been crossed out.

⁸¹ "wed wedemenare" in the original ... this is my best guess as to what was meant. --
TJS 16

⁸² Added by PB himself

⁸³ Page 121

way out. And at present there doesn't seem to be any chance of transfer to New York where social life is a thing apart -

I'm not ungrateful for the Creator's blessings - I'm fully aware of my own basic responsibility - and that my problem is myself - knowing the cause of an illness doesn't necessarily heal it -

But - what of you? Do you find New Zealand any more attractive than Perth? I hope by this time your surroundings are more agreeable and that the untimely preoccupation with age - is behind you. Age is relative - you have to be too old or too young for something and compared to the man of 150 (that's on its way) you are a youngster. Besides - that mood was the necessary and temporary slump - between one "season" and another - new facilities - new Consciousness - brings new seasons and ages to us - most people follow the crowd and don't know there are "4 corners" - they don't expect it - don't look for it - and won't accept it when it beckons - anyway - please write

M.

We got old long before the proper time - because others do - or we expect it of ourself - you are old only when no one needs you - But not until then - from the age expert⁸⁴

L02.123

123 - 126

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

{Probably from 1962 January (see pages 4-5 & she's in Holland)}

Teylinger Horstlaan 3, Wassenaar, Holland

Undated letter

Dear PB -

I have not heard from you for many months. I know you don't like to write letters - But, couldn't you find just a moment or a small inclination to drop a line - to tell me how you are faring and your whereabouts. I hesitate to write long letters when I'm not certain they reach you -

When you suggested I write for therapeutic value - a few years ago - I could probably have done that - But this past year especially has been a daily - almost hourly effort - to keep my head above dreadful moods of desolation. A struggle for the life of my soul - almost - It has gone on almost unceasingly - night & day - and I haven't been able to collect my thoughts enough to write. -

Along with this (temperamental pen) I've been trying to settle this large house and cope with a very extensive social life - and I have no choice in the

⁸⁴ This sentence "We got old long... the age of expert" was added in the margin, and not inserted into any particular part of the letter.

matter – It's a part of the position – It has been such a burden because – my vitality is so low and my spirit⁸⁵ has fled. In other words – like Jonah – I've been swallowed by a whale – and He has hidden His Presence from me.

At the present – my problem, looks unsolvable – maybe I can tell you some of the details – that are so troublesome when I know my letters reach you

How are you?

Please Write

M.

L02.127

127 – 128

Handwritten note by PB

(2) Tell plainly to Freeman that moral rightness requires stay with George. So cut {off} this {contact} too, firmly – it will be kinder in the end⁸⁶

L02.129

129 – 130

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

Postmark Germany⁸⁷

July 7 {1961}⁸⁸

Hello –

I had hoped to have time for a long letter before I left – But, it hasn't turned out that way – There is so much confusion. We are in the Hotel today – packers are doing the furniture and tomorrow we leave for Italy will sail on the 16th – arrive in New York – the 24th – At the San Carlos – for a week – up to N.Y. state & Pennsylvania for 10 days & back to N.Y. for 3 weeks – Again to Pa for 10 days – & then sail again for Italy arriving in The Hague about the 27th of Sept –

If I do not have an opportunity to write before – I'll do so on arrival at San Carlos with addresses. So forth –

⁸⁵ Page 125

⁸⁶ PB was in retreat in New Zealand and was cutting himself off from previous clients/students. -- TJS '16

⁸⁷ "Postmark Germany" added by PB himself.

⁸⁸ She moved from Germany to Holland, and was in Holland in 1962 so date is estimated to be 1961.

Have not heard from you – but in the event you wish to write – please send it in care of my father – who will hold and give it to me privately – His address is

John Plummer
Maple Grove Rd
R.F.D.⁸⁹
Friendship
New York

This⁹⁰ is a repeat of another letter – in the event – the first goes astray –
Sorry for the writing and incoherence – two friends are waiting for me –
so must go –

Everything about the same in my life – But have much to tell you and hope to hear from you –

As ever
M.

L02.131

131 – 134
Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}
Undated letter⁹¹

Hello –

This will have to be a quick note – I had hoped to write a long one – a follow-up before – but we are right in the midst of packing – visitors – company activities etc. etc. I am so weary of moving and so physically exhausted from all the strains and tensions – that my greatest goal right now – is just to get it done.

Even though I'm happy to be leaving Germany – I still dread the return to Holland. As I probably told you, we must move into an enormous house – take over 2 Portuguese maids (young girls) and delve immediately into a very active social life. The very thought of it makes me ill – not that I'm antisocial – but so many of my values have changed in the past three or four years – I find no enthusiasm nor energy for these things – what is more with the 3 months ahead – I cannot see one minute of time to rest – There is always⁹² so much to be done when I go home – as the years go by I feel my responsibility to my family more and more – without knowing quite what to do about it – Especially living abroad. Innerly, my lessons have been quite effective – I think I've learned them well – plus a certain amount of detachment – but it hasn't had much effect on my

⁸⁹ R.F.D. stands for Rural free delivery.

⁹⁰ Page 130

⁹¹ Date determined to be between 1961 June 8 and 1961 July 7.

⁹² Page 132

outer circumstance. Fulfilling my moral obligations (and I find there is no running away) – at the moment shows no change – There might well have been a time – when I could have taken the reins in my own hands – at present – I’m too emotionally and physically tired – It is not easy to consider one’s neighbor as oneself – what I want – may not be good for another – so what to do –

A new outlook is required –

We⁹³ leave Hannover July 8th and sail from Genoa July 16 on the Independence (according to plan.) We’ll be at the San Carlos – 150 E. 50 for a week – then up to Pa – to my family – 10 days – then Back to N.Y. for 3 weeks – Back to Pa for a week and then sail again for Genoa on Sept 8th. In Holland Sept 25th – That’s the plan. The only address I can give – and perhaps the best will be in care of my father – He will keep any letter and give to me privately –

c/o John M. PLUMMER
MAPLE GROVE ROAD
FRIENDSHIP – R.F.D.⁹⁴
NEW YORK

California Texas Oil of course – is 380 Madison Ave – anyway – I’ll write later – from time to time altho’ it may not be long letters – time and opportunity will have to determine that – I’ll keep in touch – and I Hope you will –

Please take care of yourself

M.

Do⁹⁵ you mind if I go to see the Doctor you recommended in N.Y. Stephenson?

Please Write

I will destroy any letters with personal reference or information and I hope you will do the same. Then I can feel more free to write about these things.

L02.135

135 – 140

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

June 8/61⁹⁶

Not a letter – Just soliloquy, Outline – your letter arrived in midst of flow of V.IP’s from N.Y. – A refinery being built in Frankfurt –

⁹³ Page 133

⁹⁴ “R.F.D.” stands for Rural Free Delivery.

⁹⁵ Page 134

⁹⁶ “8/16” added by PB himself.

Rush – Rush – Rush – Just informed transferred to Hague in Holland on return from leave – my reaction to Germany same as yours to Australia – But not happy about Holland – Any overseas station necessarily constant session of entertaining – parties – people – G. in sales & marketing – means Contacts – cannot avoid – state of my soul, at present – makes it a torture – process of ego-crushing – taken away interest in clothes houses – people etc. etc. – thought of packing – a hectic mad house. So-called Holiday and Back to Holland to Settle 13 room house – new atmosphere – people parties etc. – makes me ill at thought. Not⁹⁷ a moment of rest – peace or relaxation – Past two years – a nightmare – don't see how I can face another two years of same thing – Germany a professional failure for G – consequently must make greater effort in Holland. not lack of ability –

Consistent indulgence – dulls judgment etc. – Any effort on my part to Balance or make up by entertaining a social life – spoiled by conduct or impression of indulgence – usually – cannot see Self – nor acknowledge it – or particular need to change. Underneath confident manner – Emotional child – sick – insecure spirit – If I go away for even day or two – at mercy of Pubs. etc. – on rare occasions when Evil Genie's Back in his Bottle shows completely different attitude – & personality – generosity – sweetness gay – willingness to work etc. – not ambitious for money or position no⁹⁸ defeat to one who is not interested in Victory –

Goes to pieces if I suggest we finish the relationship – what to do – I can't continue this kind of life – without – physical energy – & interest – excess social life – terrific burden & waste of energy – any gain in spiritual understanding – Seems to drop into Barren Ground because of desperate Emotional unhappiness – Strength I can leave to its own glory – weakness is a moral obligation – tolerance, sympathy understanding – won't let me walk out – where to go – what to do as alternative – must – or would need to make life – earn living – how – no profession – experience – untried creative ability – but need certain peace of mind for that – could go to family in Pa – but all rural & isolated – non-industrial area – difficult to earn living there – Besides am happy there only⁹⁹ for short periods at time – must consider John – he must have education & opportunity – But if sense of moral rightness then all above no obstacle – not afraid of it – make out some how – Turn over to the Creator – have faith – But is it wrong to hope that we could stay in N.Y. office – Only place in Company where social demands cannot be made after office hours 2 or 3 positions there – G could do with interest & wish would satisfy him position & salary wise – at least be in home territory – do not know how or what to think or do – must pray Solomon's prayer – all this personal Self absorption selfish with so much unhappiness & trouble in world –

⁹⁷ Page 136

⁹⁸ Page 137

⁹⁹ Page 138

I'm fortunate God¹⁰⁰ has been good to me – must be a weakling to seem so ungrateful. Know problems of own making – Beloved friend says it's a situation repeating - & a lesson to be learned – But what is the lesson – have learned so many – need a time to be alone to recuperate strength and find my Bearings – can't hurt another – can't walk out on one who is sick – confusion – confusion – torn in all directions – must pray we need not return to Holland But that is telling God what to do –

Beloved friend – asks about Will – what do I want – I want Beloved friend to stay – he has been in unhappy atmosphere – affects his attitude – that will change – age is relative – compared to Grandma Moses a¹⁰¹ youngster – what do I want – how can I say – what he wants me to have – that's what I want.

Please forgive all this – silly nonsense – will write proper letter – inner needs – have taken away my abilities to manage all this activity –

We sail from Genoa July 16 – supposed to return to Holland – Sept 25 we leave this place – July 8th – will send address (in a few days) where you can reach me in States – after Sept will write you at London address.

This is just outline of some ideas – thoughts reactions going on in my mind – will elucidate “später.”¹⁰²

M.

L02.141

141 – 142

Letter from Monty {Marolyn Freeman}¹⁰³
Hotel Wittebrug, Den Haag – Scheveningen
[Oct 10/61]¹⁰⁴

Dear PB –

I'm back in Europe and facing the task of doing a house again. Our home leave was hectic as they usually are – brought no peace or relaxation.

In as much as you mentioned moving in October, this is just a note to ask for your new address – I'll send this to London – and another to Australia – and hope that one will catch up with you – also that you will “drop me a line” – if and when you have time –

My new address here is
TEYLINGERHORSTLAAN 3
WASSENAAR

¹⁰⁰ Page 139

¹⁰¹ Page 140

¹⁰² später in original.

¹⁰³ The next letter is a second copy mailed to a different address, as mentioned in this letter

¹⁰⁴ Date added by PB himself.

HOLLAND
Please write – !

Monty

L02.143

143 – 144

Letter from Monty {Marolyn Freeman}¹⁰⁵
Hotel Wittebrug, Den Haag – Scheveningen
Oct 10 – 1961¹⁰⁶

Hello –

I'm back in Europe – and will be moving into the new House in a few days – I'm not looking forward to it – because it's a very large place and I'm fresh out of interest, energy and enthusiasm. However, what must be done – must be done

In other news,¹⁰⁷ John is back in school in Switzerland – the Home leave over – and very very hectic – everything goes along as usual and as soon as I learn your new address – I'll write some long letters to you – so many things I'd like to discuss with you – my new address here is

TeyLingerHorstlaan 3
WASSENAAR (a suburb of Hague)
HOLLAND

I look forward to hearing from you soon

Monty

L02.145

145 – 146

Letter from Monty {Marolyn Freeman}
Jan 28 {1961}¹⁰⁸

Hello –

I know you don't like to write letters – but I'd hope to get a note from you – There are so many things I'd like to discuss with you – Is there any chance you might be in Europe this year? We are still in Germany – doubtful there will be a change – we have 2 months of leave beginning the last of June.

¹⁰⁵ This letter is a copy of the previous letter, mailed to a second location.

¹⁰⁶ Year added by PB himself.

¹⁰⁷ "Ion" in the original

¹⁰⁸ "air acknowledgement sent 10 Feb"

160 postage stamps paid & correct
promised lengthy letter in days" added by PB himself.

There isn't much use to fill a letter full of problems – and my inability to solve them – but I would like to have a word from you – I send this to Australia – and hope it reaches you –

Monty

L02.147

147 – 150

Letter from M. {Marolyn Freeman}

Undated letter

Dear Paul Brunton,

I sent a note to you several days ago however, I'm not sure I addressed it correctly and I feel like writing another.

I've written so few letters to you this past year because I've had so many problems and didn't want to write distressful letters – I've been trying to learn to solve difficulties from within myself – about the most I can say, is that I've learned many things about myself but as for contact and overcoming – I'm not so confident. This past month or so, I've been especially innerly distressed – and at times like this I see the urgent need for a "Way" of contacting my spirit. I suppose I mean by meditation or some such – although the formal method just never seemed to appeal to me. At risk of sounding over-dramatic I have been overwhelmed by some dreadful spirit of temptation or "Jacob's Angel" released from my subconscious or thereabouts and as a result have had to view myself in a completely different light.

I've been seeing myself as some terribly selfish – stone-hearted person and it has come as a sickening shock – life has been so very good to me and I haven't done anything in return – I never meant it this way and didn't even realize I had been like this. I do have an occasional understanding that this is the lie and the Father of the lie about my spirit and perhaps an idea that I must overcome. I'm grateful for lessons and better to see these things than to live under illusions about myself – I've tried admitting my faults to the Creator within and as much as possible under trying circumstances, practice doing something about them – but no sooner than the wonderful feeling of forgiveness settle in my¹⁰⁹ heart – than a new trial or snare arises. Nights are agonies and I begin to feel like Job himself.

I had hoped to hear some word from you – even though I know you are busy and don't like writing. Could you reassure me that all is well and that I haven't hurt or distressed you in some way – is there anything I can do for you – I have been so selfish without realizing it. So often I have wanted to see and talk to you – I need to discuss so many things but you are so far away. It is painful to

be torn in so many directions – but I can be in only one place at a time – I miss John so and would like to have him with me these next few years before he grows to manhood – As it looks now we may be staying or returning to Germany again after June and that alone has filled me with despair – this has been such an unhappy sojourn – I feel the need to be home and wherever I look there is a pull.

All of this shows an appalling lack of faith in God – and I’m ashamed but I’m weak and I can’t seem to see my way at all.

Please forgive me for writing such a letter to you – I should be cheerful and gay I know – but I need to know I’m not alone.

Am enclosing something that came into my hands – do you mind?

PLEASE WRITE

M

L02.151

151 – 154

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹¹⁰

Mrs Herman H. Hutzler

711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio

Saturday 3pm¹¹¹

Dear Paul –

Just returned from being with Ellma. She is a lovely, lovely girl and she will be a very fine, very mature person – some day.

This trip was for her sake, of course, not for Elizabeth. The girls are returning to New York – I believe – where (for the time) they belong. Ellma and Dan (Dan particularly) may not “push” Elizabeth out of their lives as they are trying to do. They must learn to understand their true relationship to each other and to Life by (painfully if necessary) detaching themselves from each other while together.

Ellma should detach herself from Dan. Lovingly make him pick up and put away the unpleasant results of his own experiences. It is his business not hers. Thereby she will develop herself for a life and business of her own – instead of someone else’s. We may not be parasites.

Dan must learn to understand and straighten out and suffer the painful straightening processes of his own experiences. Something in him is hanging on to “Linda” and her adulation while he wishes to be rid of Elizabeth. Elizabeth, on the other hand, is very subtly letting¹¹² Dan believe her to be the victim of himself in order to use him, for what she wants. Dan must detach himself

¹¹⁰ Noted with a circled “H”

¹¹¹ “2) say met Will {Harper}” added by PB himself.

¹¹² Page 152

completely, not by running away or pushing her away, but by suffering the anguish of whatever cunning means she will try to use in order to hold him – whether unlawful hells¹¹³ or insanity or whatever she will use in preference to standing on her own two feet, accepting her punishment for starting a wrong relationship with Dan, and living rightfully and happily as she would, once this were straightened out. If she must learn the hardest way of all – whichever way she may choose – she must. It need not involve them, Dan & family any more than necessary – if they are not fearful for themselves – except for whatever unpleasantness they deserve, accept graciously as necessary to learning, and then go on in sincere, honest, truthful responsible living.

“Linda” and “Elizabeth” may surprise them then – by becoming a very clear thinking, fine person as she should, eventually.

It is Dan who needs helping more than Elizabeth. I will be glad to see them together in New York whenever they like – (Not in Dayton) – if they wish to pay my expenses for the trip – I will be glad to come. If Dan wishes to come alone – fine.

Paul, please keep these things out of Ken’s¹¹⁴ life. He needs his energies and reserve for normal constructive living among people who will give him¹¹⁵ the realization that security, emotional, mental and spiritual security can be achieved as an every day reality.

*Believe I’ll withdraw my offer to come to N.Y. – for the time – or to have Dan come here – until they’ve settled their Elizabeth work. Made it very clear to Ellma what must be done. Let’s wait and see if they want to learn and to grow! Otherwise my efforts would be wasted.¹¹⁶

Fortunately, Ken is protected here. He did not receive a “Special Delivery” from someone before he left home (you?) in New York which I assume informs him of the proposed visit of these girls. Also Ellma could not contact him – and I have sent these girls home before Ken need see them – if that is the way it should be. He needs his energies for important tasks.

Ken – today – is very busy with clients, who are wholesome, well-balanced, creatively successful men. They are good for him. The busyness is good for him. He’s accomplishing things – and will grow in work, in mind, in spirit.

For myself – I am always willing to help. But wisdom guides me clearly as to when, where and how. It is as necessary to be obedient when wisdom says no – as otherwise. I’m sure you will understand. Must leave for town. I will say goodbye from the office, after Ken reads his letter.

*Later – at the office

¹¹³ PB circled “hells” and wrote a question mark beside it.

¹¹⁴ Kenneth Thurston Hurst, aka KTH

¹¹⁵ Page 153

¹¹⁶ This paragraph added later to the top margin of page 153.

- Gave Ken his letter -

Dear Paul - I'm glad you did not send these girls here to us - or to Ken particularly. Keep neurotics away from him -. He is¹¹⁷ no longer one himself, or we would not keep him here with us, as you realize.

I do not blame meditation or mysticism for neuroticism. I have practised meditation most of my life. What meditation is - how it is utilized, maybe a differing point with many. According to your understanding of it in your letter to me - we are of one mind on its negative, harmful abuses. That is the part of it I feel needs clarifying.

I am delighted about your book! I had so hoped you would stay in your own field of writing - yet use it to help the now receptive minds of the average people. Paul, if you would only - also - write the series I had hoped to do. Small, helpful elementary works - necessary basic, starting points that clarify terms - meditation, prayer, etc. in the simplest terms upon which people may act - not intellectually theorize.

Couldn't we do it together some day? - if you won't do it alone - which is what I hope you will do. The author, the gains - mean nothing to me. The message, the minds reached is the important fact. Please think about it. I may be out of town the weekend of the 22nd. However, will be home again the 26th. Would you prefer coming a few days later? If not I'd see you when I'm home - of course. Very lovingly,

Norma

L02.155

155 - 156

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹¹⁸

Mrs Herman H. Hutzler

711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio

Monday Night July 9th {1951}

Dear Paul -

Ken would have enjoyed being with you in Chicago, we know - but doubtless he has found a nice place on or near the lake (as he planned) and is getting the rest, sun, swimming and change that he anticipated. Ken realized when he didn't hear from you that he might be missing you - but decided he'd enjoy being in Chicago anyway, rather than the state parks in Ohio or Indiana. Chicago does offer more diversion for a young person. We'll hear from him tomorrow.

¹¹⁷ Page 154

¹¹⁸ Noted with a circled "H."

Hope you'll find the environment you need for writing in the place you've chosen in California. Or are you going on to Mexico from there, as you thought probable? Let us know.

We're all very well - busy as usual - but also content, as usual. Write when you can. Love from us all.

Norma

L02.157

157 - 158

Letter from Norma Hutzler

Mrs Herman H. Hutzler

711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio

Monday - 25th¹¹⁹ 9:15pm

Dear Paul -

It's good to be comfortably at home resting this evening. My eyes could easily close into a deep sound sleep - but Joanie's entertaining, and it's best 2 remain "at call" - I presume. Her friends keep dropping in!

I was disappointed not to be with you after all on Wednesday evening - but the plans I had hoped to be excused from - just "wouldn't" be flexible! And it seemed as tho' I couldn't find a moment to even call you after that. Fortunately I can depend upon you to understand. I meant well.

The convention was splendid beyond expectations and the tributes of appreciation that Herman received made Joanie 'n I very very proud. But they were long full sessions and, of course, I attended them all for there were details to be taken care of in Herman's absence - and details to report back to him as well. However I enjoyed playing proxy.

The weather was not conducive to swimming or sunning for Joanie, and I was anxious to see Herman - we decided to leave on Friday, after all. It was late, six o'clock, when we left South Chicago - but pleasant driving. We spent the night at Lafayette (Purdue University) after three hours of driving and arrived in Martinsville to see Herman early the next day. He was feeling better and the doctor there insisted he remain another week. We hope Dr Himes is right - but he does not believe Herman's sciatica is due to a slipped disc! How wonderful not to have to fearfully anticipate another or continued dislocations of a disc - or an operation! The results of the treatments this week will evidently verify the diagnosis, of an inflamed sciatic nerve due¹²⁰ to "other" causes. I'm sure Herman will welcome the release from fear of future attacks.

¹¹⁹ The closest Monday which is the 25th is June 25, 1951 - the letter mentions swimming - the next letter is in February 1952. - TJS '16

¹²⁰ Page 158

Ken was pleased to hear you are looking as well as I told him you do. Joanie 'n I think you look years younger than you had several years ago – or when you first returned from India. Evidently this country is your locale – you respond to it!

Joanie is going into the hospital Wednesday for a tonsillectomy. The doctor advises it before she leaves for college. Every doctor has advised it since she was three, but I don't want her now to succumb to "medical fears" away from home and be subject to attacks of tonsillitis that will interfere with her studies – since it is her preference to have them out – out they'll go! They've doubtless served their purpose up to now at least.

I skipped the fact that Joanie 'n I arrived home last evening. It's amazing how much unpacking two women have to do. Your own needs must be so much less. Today was a full day at the office – with a busy week ahead. Ken is carrying on nicely 'n reports to Herman daily.

Perhaps you heard from Will, also. I believe being at home will be a pleasant change for him. His old environment will "test" his new ideas and new approach to meeting old situations and old reactions. That – after all – is the real test of one's progress? Even Jesus didn't do too well against stagnant, rigid, conceptions of him that he had in reality outgrown. The ego resents the injustice of it often and fights it, rather than patiently tolerantly maturely understanding it and playing along with the situation as it is. Will was forewarned – if he accepted it and uses it to smooth the way he'll be the richer for it. Was glad to hear the Columbus experience perhaps prevented some unnecessary heartaches. I wish we could help avoid more of them and assure other's growth through it! Nice way to occupy one's time and grow, oneself, simultaneously.

Let me know where you decide to go, Paul? Wish Dayton were more conducive to your needs. But – lots of "luck" in your writing. We think of you often and lovingly. If there's anything we can do – Best from us all.

Lovingly, Norma

L02.159

159 – 164

Letter from Doris {Doris B.}

Regarding her thoughts and theories after re-reading *The Wisdom of the Overself*

Extract: "... Do you mean: The World Mind exists outside the self in the form of the physical universe. But World Mind in total complexity also exists in seed form within us in the Over-Self. If this were not true the external world could not be perceived. Whatever fragment of the World Mind is experienced (a tree, chair, poem) it is experienced because the corresponding fragment held within us inside the seed recognizes the master image. ... If death is the break in attention of the World Mind or its pause

between images, then sleep represents a similar break in attention of the finite mind. The former represents a pause in image-making like a pause between still images on the motion picture screen, such a succession of images giving the illusion of motion (your own analogy used in a somewhat different situation). The latter is a break in the human ability to receive images created by the World Mind."

L02.165

165 - 172

Letter from D. B.¹²¹ {Bailey, Doris}

August 31, 1947

Dear P. B.,

More ideas, not logically arranged but jotted down as they occurred to me. They represent possibilities of truth - not truth itself.

p. 97 - "Wisdom of the Overself: Are you really saying that space in the natural world does not exist except in the individual consciousness? Granted that space is an idea, but isn't it the orderly arrangement of ideas of the World Mind?

Perhaps the value of concentration on an object is that the movement of thought is greatly slowed up. An object appears solid only because its molecules are constantly moving. If the molecules ceased to move, the object would disappear before our eyes. So we really see motion. True I got it out of a book.¹²² When we think, it may be that the motion of our thought creates something corresponding to the apparently solid form of the physical world. The purity of the Overself cannot escape through the obstruction of lower thought, (the wave length [frequency] of which is different due to impurity or limitation), exactly as light is stopped by a speck of dust. When we force thought into stillness during concentration the rays of the higher consciousness penetrate and fill the whole consciousness.

Perhaps the difference between different levels of consciousness is the degree of freedom from limitation. In the lowest level the self wholly identifies itself with that which is desired (food, woman etc.) The loss of that which is desired is like the loss of self and corresponds to the loss of some part of the physical body. Therefore, the emotion of hate is akin to physical pain. It is that which is felt when some portion of the self-image is severed.. When pain occurs in the body the white corpuscles move out to destroy that which threatens the body image. When occurs in the heart, the will acts to destroy that which threatens the self-image. In the higher levels of consciousness a desired object is

¹²¹ D. B. = Doris Bailey (from other letters)

¹²² "True I got it out of a book." is handwritten in the margin with a mark that indicates that it refers to the previous three sentences.

evaluated at the same time that it is desired and so the act of evaluation severs it somewhat from the self. Note: The same emotion (fear) precedes damage to the physical image as to the emotional pattern of self.¹²³

Suffering results from attachment to an image of the World Mind; freedom, from a feeling of unity with the World Mind itself which is without attachment.

Did evil forms (or merely insensitive ones) appear before the beautiful in pre-historic life because attachment is an earlier development than freedom from attachment. It seems to me that the pre-historic world image was one of steaming sensuality. Since the visual world of images expresses the ideas of the World Mind as they evolve, these images must develop in the same order as similar qualities in the human consciousness, form being the symbol of reality.

p. 143. If we cannot become conscious of the nature of the Over-Self in life (The observer cannot become the observed) how is it possible that this should occur in death? p. 155 "Through its eyes he will gaze afresh at the total impression..." Is it not possible in death because the wave length of the being is shorter (entity is freer) therefore the presence of the Overself can make itself apparent through a less dense medium.

p. 144.¹²⁴ You say the person can see the world from outside but cannot adopt an outside standpoint as regards himself. I think that he can to some extent. It is possible to force oneself to look at oneself physically and emotionally as another might see one... to stand at a certain distance away from oneself. It is a truly purifying experience, I suppose because one escapes momentarily from bondage to the physical image. The gauge of development is the ability to stand outside the personal self and observe it. I think that the ability to do this indicates the penetration of the Overself into the active consciousness which at such times allows the Overself to act for it. I first became aware of the Overself in me when I realized there was an aspect of consciousness which, without partiality, judged my own nature and actions. SO I forced my mind into quietness and allowed myself to feel this observer. At first it seemed the ordinary impersonal essence of consciousness. Then it moved into a higher level of being, and in time one could feel its presence in a level above the limitations of space. (I should not say that the Overself "moved" but that my own ability to feel it moved from one level to the next.)

p. 149. "The World Mind does not directly create the world." With this I disagree. Something does not come out of nothing. There cannot philosophically be conceived a first creation from which, after a period of rest, the universe springs into being again and again. Then if there cannot be a first creation, each re-awakening must be like a first time and the same mental

¹²³ This is handwritten in the left margin with an arrow pointing to the paragraph herein.

¹²⁴ Page 167. Noted as "2."

processes must be pursued whereby the complex structured world is born out of the single unstructured consciousness.

Why is thought more easily shared after death? Is a shorter wave length less dense (I really know nothing about the scientific basis of what I am talking about. Therefore perhaps I had better keep quiet.) But if it is less dense, it would offer less resistance to other waves, wouldn't it? When the wave length is very short the reasoning process is so rapid that the result appears as intuition. The reasoning process is so rapid that the normal mind cannot remember it and assumes that it did not take place.

The fact of the slow functional development of living organisms, with careful machinery for their own reproduction indicates a pattern in the World Mind for ideas extending in time and capable of repeating themselves in such a way that no exact duplication is possible and all complexity inevitable. Man invents a machine capable of running by power for a period of time but it cannot duplicate itself. The Absolute conceives a pattern (tree, dog, man) but not only does the pattern exist and act in time but, unlike man's machine which cannot receive man's thought, the Absolute machine is a portion of the Absolute and so acts from the World Mind within it. Yet is not the living quality of some Buddhist statues due to a similarity of power in man which permits him to impress some quality of his own nature within that which he creates – the very highest aspect of his nature. The fact that he is creating from his own Overself may actually lend the statue an active power derived from the action which created it.

The fact that the World Mind thinks and works out problems of function is indicated by the development of structure. Eg. The wing. Bats do not have a true wing at all. On the ends of the wings of prehistoric birds were claws. It is as though the World Mind thought this a poor idea functionally and so conceived legs.

The development of the same form in flowers, insects, butterflies etc. (or consider the walking stick) seems to indicate an idea which took the Divine fancy so that it was¹²⁵ repeated in several categories of life.

If the World mind {works} out {probs.} of structure, the finished product cannot leap karmically to being, uncreated. Furthermore the possibility of an infinity of development seems metaphysically impossible.¹²⁶

The first images seem to have been geometric, (In the sun all elements exist, but they are undifferentiated) then inorganic, then organic.

If we recover from certain serious illnesses we build up an immunity and are not again subject to the disease. If we conquer an unpleasant emotion it may be that we build up an immunity and are not again subject to it.

¹²⁵ Page 169

¹²⁶ This paragraph is written in the margin of page 167.

p. 161. Are you really saying here that there is no true exchange of thought between two entities after death? That any interchange is created in the mind of one person as conversation is created in the mind of a novelist, the only difference being that the dead novelist believes that he is talking with his characters?

It is easy to think of the world of nature as the Divine Idea. It is more difficult to think of the same image altered by man to serve a human need, as the Divine Idea. A tree is easily comprehended as an image of the world mind. When that tree is cut down, the wood ground to pulp and the pulp used for the pages of a book it is more difficult to conceive. This difficulty arises because we associate the book with limited human purpose rather than with free imagination. Something – a hatchet – has severed the evolving attention of the Absolute. Once the tree image is broken the World Mind does not try to restore that particular tree image to its upright position – cannot because by nature it cannot exactly duplicate an image once the inherent movement or growth of the image is broken. Yet the fallen tree does not vanish simply because the organic idea of growth is cut. That which constantly changes, the leaves, soon vanish, but not the less variable trunk. Thus man destroys the organic World Idea and re-arranges the pattern. The World Mind continues for a time to hold tree-changed-to-particular-book as latent idea but eventually even the imprint of the idea fades, the pulp rots, the book's pages become part of the earth.

Only when he patterns sound does man create independently of the master image. (This is what Gertrude Stein was trying to do with words.) In architecture too there is a certain freedom.

One level of consciousness cannot experience another (if the gulf between is very great) except in seed form. Thus when experiencing the Absolute in Nirvana the everyday observer becomes a seed and yet when it returns to consciousness of self it remembers the highest experience. So, when one lives on the ordinary level of experience, the World Mind may exist in totality and yet in seed (as the Overself). I cannot accept the individual Overself as a fraction of the whole. I do not think that the whole in essence can be reduced, but the power of the machines conceived to receive it may vary.

When we exist in seed form within the Absolute we are not aware of the lower level of consciousness; this lower level becomes the observer. When we exist in the lower level and the Absolute is in seed form it may not be aware of its own nature and yet act as observer. To the extent that the Overself is higher than the underself so much higher is its active functions observer than the passive function of the underself during Nirvana.

Purity is that without limitation. An idea or level of consciousness is pure because it is free. Holiness is the state of absolute purity or freedom which has entered into the entire human spirit – the emotion as well as the intellect. Purity

may be conceived by the intellect but unless it becomes active and takes into itself the whole nature the individual is¹²⁷ not holy.

When a state of holiness is sought by the emotional being but the intellectual being has no comprehension of its nature, then the person looks dead as nuns usually do. When there is no real desire for or understanding of holiness but rather a faith in moral principles and clean wholesome living, the individual looks antiseptic – like a Y.M.C.A. worker.

I've stopped eating meat. Mother feels that she hasn't much to look forward to... especially Thanksgiving. She eats meat though.

Doris

It seems that in conceiving organic images the World Mind is primarily concerned with the survival of the species. Thus, the porcupine quills are a diabolic invention from any point of view except that of the porcupine. This concern of World Mind when conceiving the image with its survival accounts for the life urge, (the organic creature receives its will from the Absolute) for the individual ego, and hatred for anything threatening the image. The Absolute concern for survival becomes the organic concern. In later human terms it accounts for hatred of whatever threatens one's desire (power, money, etc.) since the self has attached itself to the desire and to destroy the desire would be like destroying the self or the body image likewise identified with the self.

Because the external event is all that many people believe in, their Karma must operate through their belief – the external event. Since repentance cannot be truly felt it must unknowingly be acted. True repentance would be pain equal to or greater than that inflicted.

If the World Mind itself rejects its undifferentiated state and conceives the universe for its delight, does the complete man renounce differentiation for Nirvana? If the entity can develop through infinite time into a being inconceivable to its present self, is it not a kind of weakness to will loss of the differentiated self because of fear of pain or loss of purity. It maybe that Nirvana is a temptation to the pure who can be tempted by nothing else – each¹²⁸ is tempted by that which he is – the egotistical man by flattery etc. Yet if he, the pure being, renounces the temptation to lose himself forever in the ultimate of his love (Nirvana) it may be that he will develop so greatly that his present self is to that which he will become as the lizard is to the man.

P.B. – I am much better since you were here. You were right about one's being unable to accomplish everything without help from the Overself.

D.B.

¹²⁷ Page 171

¹²⁸ Page 172

This is important – Does Nirvana appear to be without thought because we ourselves have not thought and have not felt in this level of consciousness. We cannot perceive the thought of the Absolute except through our own consciousness. When we think upon the level of infinite consciousness there will be thought in the Nirvana which we experience. If a lizard were suddenly to be lifted up many levels of consciousness into that of the human, the human level would appear to be without thought.

L02.173

173 – 176

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹²⁹

Mrs Herman H. Hutzler

711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio

Tuesday P.M. the 15th {May 1951}¹³⁰

Dear Paul –

I have a few moments and had best write to you now. Enjoyed hearing from you – very much.

So glad you love Lao-Tse also. Don't know why I feel so sisterly about him except that he's sheer scholar. Life would literally have to push him into material tangible accomplishments – just as world events have had to force China into tangible progress because her intellectual philosophical leaders would exert no practical material effort to demonstrate and share their wisdom, or inspire the masses to desire and acquire it toward self-progress materially as well as spiritually and intellectually. Certainly the world pattern forces the individual – but the individual “man” differs from the non-mind kingdoms in-as-much as he may take the initiative and consciously help to (rightly – patiently) direct or re-direct the world pattern!

Hope you'll also enjoy “What I Believe” by Asch. I've ordered it for¹³¹ you – also a copy for myself.

Dan Franz called me. He was returning to New York and would arrange to come through Dayton. I told him that I appreciated the fact that he did call me (was willing to) but that I felt he would not as yet be fully receptive to a meeting with me – and that it would be better to wait a while. He'll call the next time he comes through or I may be in New York June or July. At this point – I'd merely be another tie to you (a reluctantly substituted You). Actually, Paul, it's best for you to sever every tie with him. Let him be completely on his own. Then if he turns to me – it will not be as a command (or a mild suggestion he regards as

¹²⁹ “Calif – typing” added at top of page by PB himself.

¹³⁰ She mentions KTH meeting PB in Chicago in June, and May is the nearest month in which the 15th is a Tuesday. – TJS '16

¹³¹ Page 174

such) from you. I'm glad he called last week before this letter from you - in as much as I followed merely my own uninfluenced reactions to the call. He may even grow-up, in his advanced maturing years - and help his sons. I'm primarily interested in his influence on his sons and family.

Incidentally, Ken is doing nicely. There's no doubt but that you've influenced him greatly. Interesting that¹³² you cannot escape that responsibility and also that you will know the joy of it. It's a joy to help anyone - but particularly the responsibility "God" so pointedly and unavoidably hands to us. However it does require constant reminding and review to keep the pupil from slipping. Ken particularly needs it periodically. (I give it to myself more often than "periodically")!

And now I'm beginning to see Joanie applying her lessons and acquiring the self-discipline so necessary to happiness. I hope you'll actually see the proof of it in June.¹³³ We'll be in Chicago on Sunday the 17th until the end of that week - at the Moraine Hotel, Highland Park - for our annual convention. Hope you can plan some time from your writing so that we can visit together. I'll call you then.

Wish you "luck" on your writing. After all, the message as usual is there. You've been receptive before¹³⁴ and are still. And the doing of it will give you many happy hours, as well as help others.

Life is so vibrantly "wonderful" that just to be a part of it - to observe the intricacies of its intermingling patterns can help one as occupied as it did Lao-Tse. But you are so right! To apply the wisdom one reaps from watching - to the pattern of an advertising agency activity is to test the merits of philosophy, as to whether it is illusion or reality. And reality it can be to the few who will materialize it. Mankind is basically so lazy - so spoiled - so infantile. We don't want to exert the effort. We want only to play. The secret lies as usual in reversal. It is "work" that gives the greatest pleasure - for it bears lasting fruits. If the "results" are understood and anticipated with farsighted wisdom - the approach is changed and work takes on the sweetness of play. To get that message to mankind!

Hope all materializes for you. Love from all.

Norma

L02.177

177 - 180

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹³⁵

¹³² Page 175, noted with a "2."

¹³³ "June" circled and noted by PB himself.

¹³⁴ Page 176

¹³⁵ Noted with a circled "H."

711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio
Friday Evening March 9th {1951}

Dear Paul -

The dates as you suggest them are very convenient for us - if we do go out of town - and if not, we will enjoy sharing you during "Ken's" weekend also. I know he won't mind.

Don't dread seeing Burkhart, Paul. If it isn't right for you to go - there won't be any opening for you. If it is right - it will be a pleasant and strengthening experience for you. You won't have to be brutal or ego-crushing in your methods. It isn't in your pattern to be. You can merely say the truthful thing in your own quiet, calm matter-of-fact way; It will be just as effective and won't be resented, as my manner often is. Besides, you have authority when you speak. People assume you have an "in" on super-levels and therefore know things mere mortals do not. That's what I'm counting on to help Burkhart. He's trying to break into the "super" - consequently believes others - here-on-earth have done so. We can discuss it further when you come - for I know you won't go contrary to your own instincts, pertaining to Columbus.¹³⁶ And it won't really matter to me if you don't go - you know that.

Since Ellma has met me, Dan will know more than ever, that his pathetically twisted selfish,¹³⁷ self-centered blind ego would be awakened to its infantile activities of self-destruction. He's certainly destroying himself fast now. However, we only destroy the false ego that we image contrary to the image and likeness of God - so it is good - though painful at the time. I don't particularly care to meet Dan either - so it's mutual. I am obedient, however, to doing that which is necessary - and would not avoid whatever presents itself to be done.

Glad you find Willa sincerely nice person. He has tried and will continue I'm sure, for he has found it gratifying and rewarding to do "right." A word of caution, however - just in case it should be necessary. I would not use Will's "progress" as an example for Ken. He would resent it very much and become antagonistic, to you (and me) whether or not he showed it. Ken's doing very well in his own way.

Looking forward to seeing you Paul.

Best from Herman and Joanie

Affectionately
Norma

L02.181

181 - 182

¹³⁶ Rectangle drawn around "Columbus."

¹³⁷ Page 179

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹³⁸
Monday the Sixth

Dear Paul –

Called Dan when I was in New York – saw him for a while one morning. Very simple visit – merely reviewed the simple fundamentals upon which each most base his life – and armed with which one may successfully meet each moment and simultaneously build ones future.

To meet each moment, each experience singly – with simple honesty and truthfulness. To meet¹³⁹ each moment so now – unravels the mistakes of yesterday and forms the good experiences of tomorrow, as well as equipping one to meet the present fearlessly, prepared to take the consequences of truthfulness which can only result in eventual goodness. ‘Luck.

Norma

Thinking of you and wishing you the best, as always

Love from us all.

L02.183

183 – 188
Letter from Norma Hutzler¹⁴⁰
H.H. Hutzler
Saturday December First¹⁴¹ {1951}¹⁴²

Dear Paul –

You are a wanderer! I suppose this note will catch up with you somewhere. Wherever it is, I hope you’re happy. I mean really happy, not just philosophically content. I hope you’re feeling happiness, pleasure, fulfillment in accomplishment – with all of you, not just some mental reconciliation that is often rationalized as “spiritual” attainment. Age has nothing to do with it.

Tried to explain that to Ken this afternoon while we had coffee together. He’s so much better, so much less frustrated, so much more “wholesome” practical, “whole” than when he first came that I’m delighted for him. But he still clings to some of his old ideas, really gleaned mostly from your writings of a spiritual level of attainment involving progress to higher spiritual worlds – that I

¹³⁸ Noted with a circled “H.”

¹³⁹ Page 182

¹⁴⁰ Noted with a circled “H.”

¹⁴¹ “For use in Dayon mt with Ken” added by PB himself.

¹⁴² December 1st is a Saturday in 1951. – TJS ‘16

strongly feel the time has come when you must cut¹⁴³ the natal cord. Even as you did with Burkhart¹⁴⁴– Ken must not in weak or lonely moments (we must look ahead to their possibility and not say that because they do not exist now that they won't – we must see that they don't) ever find escape in nerve 'n energy destroying dreamworlds of tomorrow.

I believe him (to a certain extent) when he says he hardly gives it a thought tho' he does believe in other higher worlds – that he's more concerned with present character developed. That happily is true now but we must see that it stays that way. The only way, Paul, is to break – destroy – those “higher bubbles” so that he can't run to them, appease his frustrations in daydreaming of them when unpleasantnesses do occur but will form the habit of staying in reality and finding his appeasement by actively working out his hurts, angers, frustrations, lonelinesses should he have it, in and among real things, beings, activities.

Once again, I took the first step – which you must complete. Ken conveniently puts you on a pedestal of spiritual attainment and example for himself to give authenticity to these ideas.

Paul, believe me when I say that I know you've learned and lived and attained much. No one can take¹⁴⁵ from you what you are – have – regardless of what they say or think. On the other hand, no one can give it to you – by the same token. It's your own treasure no one but you can add to it – or steal from it. I know that – I love you for all you are – all you measure as what you are. But you don't need Ken's particular kind of adulation that says (figuratively speaking) that because you (your books) say there is “this or that ahead” that it is so! Particularly if it may someday – perhaps when you have gone – lead to an excuse for neurotic peculiarities. As he gets older, he will try to image you. Therefore get a down-to-earth image in his mind and memory now – for him to follow.

Therefore also – I told Ken that much that is in your books – you would undo, for it has been harmful to neurotic escapist. It was a part of your own development and growth that you have grown out of. That you do not believe there are other worlds (I wonder what Ken visages in these other worlds? I know one little old lady who visages pink clouds 'n angel wings in hers) one progresses to – that you do believe in the higher understanding and keen development 'n insight of the mind¹⁴⁶ (the same one we have or work with now) that enables it or us to see more and deeper into the creation as it is right now –

¹⁴³ Page 184

¹⁴⁴ “Burkhardt” in the original, though spelling of Roy Burkhart's name is often inconsistent

¹⁴⁵ Page 185, noted with “2.” at the top of the page.

¹⁴⁶ Page 186

that we only glimpse at the moment tho' in the midst of so much more than our limited sight – insight – now encompasses.

Let him strive to see more of – and deeper into everything he now lives in the midst of rather than look away from it (hardly touched by his meager understanding) to higher worlds. Let him take you off the pedestal and love you for what you don't know yet but are still seeking to uncover, discipline, have dominion over! As he sees his other men friends – not as father – teacher – saint – authority – but as a man, a friend, an equal.

Then, he'll grow up and be a man – an equal in his heart and mind to others – recognizing the weaknesses and respecting the accomplishments of others.

Break the bubbles Paul. Ken's no child. It won't hurt. You're not aware of the natal cord perhaps – consequently I point it out to you – even tho' Ken 'n not you have formed it – parasitic fashion. Throw it off for his sake – it will bring you more freedom 'n joy also.

Hope this won't catch you in an inopportune mood at an inopportune time. Have to write it while it's fresh in my attention – before I¹⁴⁷ turn to more self-engrossing interests!

Herman's in St. Louis this weekend – Joanie's at Northwestern of course – I'm off for a dinner party this evening. Life hums, as usual.

What's been happening to you? You know my thoughts reach out to you affectionately – filled with the love 'n good wishes that we can all receive humbly and welcomingly.

Saw the Stacys recently. Heard from Marge Burkley in Florida – Will's in California. They all speak of you with love, 'n gratitude.

Come to see us soon

Love from us all.

Norma

P.S. Told Ken I wanted to repeat the things I said (mentioned before) in your presence. May or may not be necessary – meant I wanted it to be verified by you – of course. Lovingly

L02.189

189 – 190

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹⁴⁸

January 11th 1952

Dear¹⁴⁹ Paul –

¹⁴⁷ Page 187, noted with "3." at the top of the page.

¹⁴⁸ On "Norma" letterhead, and noted with a circled "H."

¹⁴⁹ Page 189, right side.

It is interesting to watch experiences develop – and people grow. Before me is a little note from Herman reminding me to “Write to Paul Brunton today”!

He has been talking of late about the book I should get to writing – to help people as he feels he is helped by even the notes I write for him to¹⁵⁰ ponder on, to try to really understand, and put to use.

We’re going to be in New York the weekend – thus, Fri Sat Sun ‘n Mon - of the 27th of January. Herman wondered if it might be interesting and productive to see your publisher (or a publisher you might suggest) to see how the possibilities, demand, etc. are for a book of the type I would write for layman. The type of book you suggested some time ago. At that¹⁵¹ time, of course, I didn’t see my way clear to merely working on it – alone. But with Herman interested also – perhaps working with me on it – I should be neglecting none of my “first duties” to do so – for he is suggesting and even urging it.

What would you suggest – ? Can you introduce us? Or should we wait until you are in the East yourself. We don’t get to New York very frequently, but will be near there again in June.

Hope¹⁵² you are well and enjoying your work.

It will be nice to see you again in March. Best from us both.

Affectionately

Norma

Ken is fine – busy. He leave for a meeting in Minnesota next weekend that he should find stimulating.

L01.191

191 – 195

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹⁵³

Undated letter¹⁵⁴

Dear¹⁵⁵ Paul –

Must include you in all these “Greetings ‘n Wishes” we’re sending out for the New Year to all our friends.

Appreciated your letter. It’s such a comfort to know I can write to you without fear of trivialities entering in to hurt the “little” conscious ego that blinds so many to the more wonderful Self they must eventually grow up to be.

¹⁵⁰ Page 190, right side.

¹⁵¹ Page 190, left side.

¹⁵² Page 189, left side.

¹⁵³ Noted with a circled “H.”

¹⁵⁴ Near Christmas or New Year’s holidays possibly in 1951.

¹⁵⁵ Page 192

And I am grateful with you – that you are at last “getting happy, not merely resigned.” It’s so good to feel true happiness surging through one’s being – mind and body – it’s in itself a purge of all that is negative, petty, ungodlike.

That’s how I want Ken to feel, too, some day. Happy just “to be.” He’s getting there – made great strides since we had him tested this second time and exposed his primary weaknesses so objectively. Herman¹⁵⁶ is pleased and feels that Ken’s on his way now at last to hurdling the “littleness” that limited his vision and capacities to a subordinate mind, that couldn’t grow up to agency management. And of course you know (for I’ve mentioned it to you before) Herman hopes to groom Ken to be able to take over someday. It’s a gradual education, and has to show practical results under constant supervision. But – it’s a good future for Ken and Herman has always enjoyed helping in the building of careers. Moreover, he forces Ken to stand on his own capacities while learning – so that¹⁵⁷ Ken isn’t a parasite in this field, but can know that what he gains is his very own treasure to be used with or without Herman’s presence. I often wonder if Ken realizes or appreciates what he has gained in that respect. Young people just “take” so much for granted these days. I call Joanie on it all the time (as well as Ken once in a while) for gratitude is such an important ingredient to happiness and receptiveness to more receiving – don’t you think? Ken does offer to do and to give more than he used to and I do commend him verbally when he does so – if I can.

Paul, Herman has been taking Osteopathic treatments for several months now – even with medical approval, but tho’ it keeps his circulation clear and tones his system (his health is excellent) the back muscles must evidently exercise ‘n strengthen themselves in order to support that pelvic back region in place, and remove the pressure on the sciatic nerve. We don’t doubt the eventual recovery from pain – it’s the present duration that’s very trying, naturally. However, despite the pain, Herman’s as active as ever in business and even socially. All that’s really suffered is his golf. His endurance (despite an outward impatience) is amazing even to me.

Of course, I’m with Herman constantly during this period – otherwise I’d be spending quite a bit of time with Columbus¹⁵⁸ people. Frances receives calls from your readers who have heard of me (as a substitute for you) and would like to visit me. Unless they’ve urgent need of help, I hesitate to give the time. Haven’t yet decided why, to my own satisfaction. Will have to, soon. I may merely be parrying until Herman is well – which possibly may be sooner than I think which is why my decisions aren’t too certain. Will see.

¹⁵⁶ Page 193

¹⁵⁷ Page 194

¹⁵⁸ Page 195

Wish you all you need to complete the book on time – easily and enjoyably. Be happy – well – and even have fun!
Will look forward to seeing you again in March.
Love from us all –

Norma

Greetings
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR
NORMA, HERMAN AND JOAN HUTZLER¹⁵⁹

L02.196

196 – 201

Letter from Norma Hutzler¹⁶⁰
711 Torrington Place, Dayton 6, Ohio
February 17th {1951}
Saturday Nite 7:30 PM

Dear Paul –

Ken tells us that you had had an unpleasant experience – were hurt or bruised – but are getting along nicely now. We're glad you're better.

Have thought of you often and hoped you would write and answer my thoughts as to how you are and what you have been busy at – or planning to do. However, the choice of communication is yours – and I do understand the why of it – either way. Thank heavens, we're each free to do as we like – any other way would be enslaving!

However,¹⁶¹ I imagine you will be interested to know (if you do not already) that Will is in N.'Y. at the Union Theological Seminary, (which I had nothing to do with). Doubtless you were asked to write a reference for him. Also, that I've been to Dr Burkhardt's church and led a couple of his Prayer Cells. If your curiosity isn't aroused at the very idea of a meeting between Roy Burkhardt and myself – I'll be surprised.

Sunday

Francis Stacy volunteered to take me about and we had a very pleasant visit. She is a sweet eager person and you do epitomize everything she believes to be worthwhile. You've obviously been a great help to her – which should be rewarding to you – in itself. I enjoyed her.

If you would take it on, there is a bigger task ahead for you. Roy Burkhardt needs help more than he'll ever realize. Of course, I tried to help toward making him realize it. But naturally he fought me. Francis will tell you about our

¹⁵⁹ Typed and printed "Greetings" card

¹⁶⁰ Noted with a circled "H."

¹⁶¹ Page 197, noted as page 2.

encounter in¹⁶² the midst of Prayer Cell. He had to concede, of course, for I was speaking Truth (which he admitted when we were alone later) and he subsided into the background so that I could go on. Later, alone I told him frankly that his reservoir of spiritual energy was running low and needed replenishing. And it was important because of the large group who depended upon him. He counterparried very pettily, which also indicated the lowering level of his spiritual self.

Along the way – he has strayed toward a misconceived mysticism, similar to those phases in your books to which I could not agree, and which you now regret having written. He not only does not in humility submerge his ego to a receptivity for God's greater omniscience, and realize that no man's mind may be touched by another's except by voluntary acceptance – but!¹⁶³ “If” he does spend 4 & 5 night hrs. in meditation as he says – it is in so-called flights from the body thru “time-space” and in projecting himself into the bodies or minds of others! “In the final illumination” he says believing I agreed with him, I don't know why, “man becomes God”! To say “no, man never becomes more than the perfect image of God” was to start too much, when I had only a short time to catch my train.¹⁶⁴

When I told him how low was his reservoir,¹⁶⁵ he said “Surprising, P.B. said he had never encountered so much spirituality as here,” inferring in himself rather than in the church as a whole, which you must have meant if you said such a thing a thing at all. For he can't have changed so much since you last saw him. I saw no dynamic personality that I've heard about. I saw only eyes that propose to dominate, despite a soft outer manner; I saw fatigue, I saw petty vain jealousy of his position as the “wonder-man” with every person he contacts; I saw desire to draw in every available person as one of his flock, in possession of each.

Paul, such an inflated ego will become (if not already) unbalanced if not rescued! And you can probably do it.¹⁶⁶

There is not much loyalty in him because he must be supreme – . When said I was your friend, not your student – he replied that he was not your student either. But he said you've helped him greatly in meditation. And, regardless, I know he values your reputation, prestige, and in his heart believes you have great powers – because he believes in supernatural powers, and would have them himself.

¹⁶² Page 198, noted as page 3.

¹⁶³ Passage from “Along the way” to “acceptance – but” noted with a line alongside to highlight it, likely by PB himself.

¹⁶⁴ Passage from “In the final illumination” through “catch my train” noted with a line alongside to highlight it, likely by PB himself.

¹⁶⁵ Page 199, noted as page 4.

¹⁶⁶ Passage from “Paul, such an” to “probably do it” noted with a line alongside to highlight it likely by PB himself.

Try to get him back to a simple godliness that he must have had before he slipped away to a search for personal power.¹⁶⁷ Let your prestige and reputation be your powers to do so – with him, because right now that bears weight with him despite his contrary words of humility. He did say that through meditation, you showed him where¹⁶⁸ he was wrong in not saying “no” to those spirits who sought to possess or use (?) him (at night?) and therefore used his energies. That he evidently has stopped. Paul, his mind must be a complicated mess. And as a church leader he has much to do. If he thinks you helped him say no to the would-be active spirits – perhaps you can also get him to see that flights and projections are equally draining and purposeless in this experience – and get him to postpone such activities until his next (if at all) experience? Say it with the authority, I’m sure God will give you.

He said (and believed I didn’t get the sarcasm under the soft tones) that he wished he could “sit at my feet.” You know how my positive, affirmative tones make some think I’m a cocky know-it-all, especially when I have no tangible authority of reputation to support me! But I do love him as an individual and intercede for him with you. And so, my work with him is done, I’m sure. You’ll know how to manage – if you will. He’s yours.

Keep well. Come to see us when you can. Ken was so very happy to hear from you. He’s growing nicely. He looks better too. Herman’s been selecting his clothes with him – and it makes an appreciable difference. Don’t isolate yourself. Come to us.

Herman ‘n Joanie say hello

Affectionately
Norma

Forgive¹⁶⁹ my fast writing – I have so much to do today.

L02.202

202 – 205

Incomplete letter from M. G.¹⁷⁰ {Marianna Green}
Undated letter

...¹⁷¹ Dequer¹⁷² Institute and met a group of young people who are up on things spiritually speaking. Of all groups I have visited in this area, they impress me

¹⁶⁷ Underlined presumably by PB.

¹⁶⁸ Page 200, noted as page 5.

¹⁶⁹ Page 201

¹⁷⁰ Noted with a circled “G.”

¹⁷¹ Letter begins on page 5.

¹⁷² Underlined in a different pen, presumably by PB himself.

most. I am going to attend the remainder of their meetings before the summer brings them to an end.

Through this group I have learned of a Mr Joseph Sadony, a man they call a biblical prophet. His intuitive ability is claimed to have become so highly developed that the future of a person is bared to him immediately. His sensitivity causes him to partake of other people's sorrows and physical pains to the extent they suffer. It was implied that¹⁷³ he is highly advanced spiritually. He once lived in this city, but because of his ability he was hounded night and day by people, giving him no rest. He fled to a town in Michigan.

Inasmuch as I learned where he could be reached by mail I would like to write to him that I might gain an audience with him. I have no reason in particular, and I do not care to invade his privacy, but he sounds most interesting. What is your opinion?

I hope and pray I live up to the compliments you have bestowed upon me. I feel¹⁷⁴ I lack so much, but this does not detract from the spiritual blessings I am aware of. I not only desire it, but I must be deemed worthy of this life.

There is a great enthusiasm within me, now that the depression has passed, to get on with things – Rev. Burkhart, writing, and the self-improvement. I truly believe the time is soon that I will be granted time and quiet in which to accomplish much.

I do hope you can hear in some measure the beautiful music that I hear as I write to you. It is so sweet, so poignant, – the kind that sends¹⁷⁵ me off to other spheres! Music, as you said, is truly Queen of the arts. And most digestible food for the soul.

I, too, miss our talks. But you are never far away. There is no distance between us. I smile at you and you always smile back immediately. I never have had such a good friend.

You share everything with me that I know you would enjoy. Even with limitations, it is wonderful.

As ever – my love, peace, and blessings.

M.

Write soon.

L02.206

206 – 215

Incomplete letter¹⁷⁶ from Diane¹⁷⁷ {Marianna Green}

¹⁷³ Page 203, noted as page 6.

¹⁷⁴ Page 204, noted as page 7.

¹⁷⁵ Page 205, noted as page 8.

¹⁷⁶ Contains excerpts and whole pages between pages 2 and 8.

¹⁷⁷ Same handwriting as previous letter from "M. G."

...¹⁷⁸ This past year has been an outstanding one in several ways. It has had its vicissitudes also. Several times I have felt I was flirting with the edge of a precipice, and not knowing if I was to keep my balance. I pray I have not misstepped.

As I wrote in my last letter, I am preparing for a slight change in my way of life.

Firstly, I have come to the conclusion that the business¹⁷⁹ world is not for me. I am constantly being misused; I have to mingle with people I do not care to be with especially and, lastly, I am not serving my highest purpose.

By the end of February, I will have left the commercial world. I am staying only long enough to attend merchandise shows because my company needs me for them and leaving earlier than this date would leave them in a lurch.

I definitely intend to study several subjects at night school starting the end of January. I have an inferiority complex concerning grammar, vocabulary & public speaking, and the only way to overcome it is to study¹⁸⁰ the subjects and discover how much I do or don't know. When I have sufficient confidence pertaining to this I hope to write a book.

I have been dwelling on it for several months and feel that with good, hard work, I can present a helpful book to those on the Quest.

As I once told you, you have said it all; however, I can perhaps precede your books with one for souls whose awareness has not quite reached the point that is necessary for yours.

It is truly appalling – the lack of spiritual understanding and knowledge. Believe me, I have met so many¹⁸¹ people (and you have many more) who are so spiritually dumb and do not know how to begin to help themselves. Most of us are certainly asleep.

By the way, will you let me know if you see the first copy of a new magazine titled *The American Philosopher*. If you haven't I'd like to send it on to you for your reading and comment. Albert Schwartz¹⁸² received it in the mail, read it and gave it to me.

He seems much more satisfied with life in general, but is exasperated with writers on the spiritual. He claims they give no sound reasons for the claims they make. In my opinion, he is much improved mentally over three to four months¹⁸³ ago. He thanked me for all the help I've given him in his overcoming

¹⁷⁸ Previous lines are missing. The page has been cropped.

¹⁷⁹ Noted as page "2."

¹⁸⁰ Page 207, noted as page "3."

¹⁸¹ Page 209, noted as page "4."

¹⁸² "A." in the original.

¹⁸³ Page 211, noted as page "5"

the almost constant depression he felt for a number of years. We laughed together as I told him it was he who had helped himself.

...¹⁸⁴

I¹⁸⁵ sometimes am provoked that my life is what it is – and at other times, deeply grateful. But, mostly, I know that this is what Destiny had in store for me. I am thankful for the opportunity to learn from the experiences I have had. I know that wherever I am, or with whom, no matter how pleasant, or otherwise, it is up to me to conquer it all and win my way to God and Everlasting Peace.

This, in great measure, (I may be wrong) I feel I am and have been accomplishing. I have nothing to ask from Life but¹⁸⁶ Peace, and that in some way I may help others up the ladder.

I hope to hear from you soon – it has been a long time.

In my next letter I will have the carbon of the one I wanted you to read and receive your comments.

God bless and keep you and

All my love,

As ever,
Diane

Farmers Dairy Restaurant
#222 W 72nd¹⁸⁷

L02.216

216 – 219

Letter from Mary Ann {Marianna Green}, to Daniel
Thursday, September 29 {1955}¹⁸⁸

Dear Daniel:

Thank you for your letter of the 28th.

I must hasten to correct or, rather, avoid the possibility of your misunderstanding my last letter to you. By no means gather the idea that I would not be happy to see you; but, to the contrary, it is always a pleasure. If you feel it right that you come here, by all means do so – I will, of course, as always, be greatly pleased.

¹⁸⁴ Page 6 is missing.

¹⁸⁵ Page 212. Page is cropped.

¹⁸⁶ Page 214, noted as page “8.”

¹⁸⁷ Page 213. “Farmers dairy Restaurant #222 W 72nd” written on back of letter presumably by PB himself.

¹⁸⁸ Date determined by References to Vincent Sheean’s book on Mahatma Gandhi, published in 1955, Also, 9/29 was a Thursday in 1955.

The facts with regard to my situation still stand, with one exception. I start my new position in the Merchandise Mart for the cotton-dress firm next week. It will be a source of relief that I will no longer have to contend with the vicissitudes of the employment business. My new work I will like better for the accomplishments will depend entirely upon myself and not others. The show room is attractive; the men for whom I'll work are very fine, so altogether I think we can mutually benefit until the time comes I know where I am heading.

There has been a lapse of approximately fifteen minutes. I was listening to a radio program of Jewish religious music and it so touched me and elevated me that I burst into tears. I have been seeking so hard and for so long for my work, I sometimes get desperate about it. However, as you can appreciate, there is now a great sense of peace with me. I know I will be led to that which is for me.

This conveniently leads up to my spiritual business-man acquaintance. He is a fine man upon whom I could lavish my respect. He is, as I previously mentioned, separated from his wife who, by the way, is ill with a heart ailment. He told me quite frankly he could not divorce her because of this. I know we are mutually attracted, but we do not deem it necessary to make anything of it. In fact, I do not believe we will ever see each other again. It was only two evenings, at dinner, that I spent with him. Intuitionally speaking, we both know we must remain passive until another day.

It is so difficult to convey to you that my compassion is balanced with reason – with reason born not so much with conscious, logical thought but what I know in my heart is right. In the past I have depended on and have been guided by the “light” within me. Although at times, I must admit, my patience is sorely tried, I am confident it will work out right, – do not misunderstand, not for any personal or material advantage, but for That which knows much better about spiritual affairs than I. I do not attempt to impose my will upon Him but greatly desire that His is mine. Oh, that you would know me better and feel the spirit within me!

~~What is marriage?~~²¹⁸⁹ Can anything bring happiness with all the misery of this world? God needs conscientious helpers who will strive with all their might, actively participating in the affairs of the world, paralleled by the continued striving on the part of the individual to know Inner Peace.

This Inner Peace I have; believe me, as I say this with all that is best within me. It is something which I must not hug to my bosom, but that must be shared with others. I can honestly say that I feel close to the time when The Spirit within will break forth¹⁹⁰ and release its assistance, in a spiritual way, to the world.

B. understands me with respect to the spirit which flows through me. For that, and the Good in him, I love him. What becomes of the two of us with

¹⁸⁹ Crossed out by black smudging.

¹⁹⁰ Page 218, noted at the top as page “-2-.”

regard to our marriage remains to be seen. I believe he knows this and, in his own way, tries to serve this purpose. There was a time, not too long ago, that neither one of us realized consciously that there was a spiritual affinity. Therefore, it is my opinion, time will take care of our marriage.

Marriage is not, at this time, of paramount importance to me. I do not know that it will ever loom as a "must" in my life again. That, too, remains for the future to tell me. I can only follow the dictates of my higher self. If it will lead me to the divorce court, then it will. I cannot say now about it.

Please do not misinterpret the foregoing paragraphs - it is with prostration before the Overself that I speak.

I thank you for your excellent counselling; it means much to me that I mean so much to you that you would give your advice. I do not ignore it and bring it heavily into the picture so that I remain on an even keel.

I do not know your opinion of Gandhi. However, I have recently finished Sheean's book about him. It is odd that an idea that came to me on the evening of Gandhi's death was forgotten until I was part way into the book. The evening of his death I was sitting thinking about him with one thought leading to another when, all of a sudden, a plan to aid world peace came to mind.

There are details I am omitting because of the swift passage of time; details which would more clearly indicate the elevated mood during the time I thought of him. This plan I put on paper and Albert Schwartz. and Bill. both read it. A. thought it a good idea to do something about it but I felt helpless about it hoping that the time would come that I could speak to someone about it who would appreciate it for what it was.

It was definitely conceived under the inspiration of thinking of Gandhi's life. Mr Sheean is so impressed with Gandhi that I feel he is the logical one to whom I should reveal these thoughts and, who, at this time, would do something about them. However, it would remain for me to write him of the whole thing. I do not feel any hesitancy about doing this, but merely ask your good thinking with regard to the subject.

~~Let me hear further your plans for October.~~

All my love.

Devotedly,

Mary Ann

Please excuse the miserable typewriting, but this is one of the times I have had so much to say and say it poorly, let alone concentrate on my typewriting.

L02.220

220 - 221

Incomplete letter from Diane {Marianna Green}

Undated letter

...¹⁹¹ I have changed in so many ways that it is impossible to convey to you just how much. I hope it is all for the better. I feel that now my eyes are wide open to life, and that I'll know longer be driftwood. I pray I am not wrong. It seems to me that I now have a better driving direction, not that I know exactly what I'll be doing just yet, but I feel I will be doing something. It was most exasperating to me, in the past, to feel I was headed nowhere – doing nothing, seemingly, of a concrete benefit to myself and others. May the Overself continue to lead me well.

I wrote my letter to Vincent Sheean. I mentioned I would send you a copy before I sent the letter on to him. I realize now that doing this, I would merely be seeking your approbation. I will show you the carbon copy when I next see you, because I now understand that you would not want to say whether the letter should be sent or not, but rather, that you would want for me to do as I see fit. Therefore, I am retracting that statement and sending the letter on to him for what it is worth. There is nothing in the letter that should be kept secret, and at a later date you will know all.

I am going to try and leave my position sooner than I last mentioned if it is possible. The thought came to me that it would be better if the new girl worked during the shows. In that way she would be more familiar with the customers and that would be helpful to her in the months to follow. My superior returns from N.Y. a week from tomorrow, and I will ask him what he thinks best. I was to receive a certain sum in the way of a salary increase starting the first of the week. This was promised to me when I was hired. I received a letter from N.Y. that I would be receiving just one-half of the sum, and I have given them a day and a half of work each day I have been with the company. This has occurred so many times in the past that I am taking it that Destiny is just kicking me out of the business world, with a hard boot, too.

Did you receive the Jasmine tea? I thought I'd better mention it in case you didn't.

I am going to get ready for bed now. I am tired and will write soon again. Let me hear from you when you have time to write.

All my love.

Diane

L02.222

222 – 223

Incomplete letter from M. {Marianna Green}
Undated letter

¹⁹¹ Previous lines are missing. The top of page has been cropped out.

...¹⁹² Last night there was a meeting of one of the Dequer¹⁹³ Institute groups at my home. As yet, I'm not too familiar with everything about them, but to date I find them highly intelligent regarding the spiritual. What I like most is that the group in toto is seeking the truth, and while they do not at this point, in my opinion, reach the pinnacle, they are making an honest-to-goodness effort. That is something in to-day's world.

I have learned a little more about Sadony.¹⁹⁴ He will help people, and he has hundreds of them, solve their problems correctly. Last night I was told that he corresponded regularly with Tagore¹⁹⁵ and Gandhi, also, with several hundred of the supposed outstanding minds on the earth. He has testimonials on file from kings, queens, and Mr Average Joe Citizen attesting to the truth of intuitional work. One of the men told me it would be all right to write to him, but I don't want to get involved until I get your opinion, and perhaps you too have heard of him.

I hope all is well with you and that all is working out to some satisfaction for you.

One day during the week you came in very clearly to me. At the time I did not have you in mind at all. I got you smiling, and clothed in a gray shirt and trousers. The smile was really quite a brilliant one, and there was happiness reflected on your face that causes me to wonder if something very pleasing to you did not occur. If you can, let me know regarding this.

I have two men finishing up with some decorating in the living and dining rooms so I must close for now.

As always, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you have done for my benefit. It stands me in good stead at all times.

Affectionately,
M.

L02.224

224 - 225

Letter from Joseph P. Kennedy,¹⁹⁶ to A. Wilfred May
30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, N.Y.
[ex-U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain;
ex-holder of many minor posts in the Roosevelt Government]¹⁹⁷

¹⁹² Previous lines missing. The beginning of the letter has been cropped out.

¹⁹³ Underlined in blue pen, possibly by PB himself.

¹⁹⁴ Underlined in blue pen, possibly by PB himself.

¹⁹⁵ Rabindranath Tagore also written Rabīndranātha Thākura (7 May 1861 - 7 August 1941).

¹⁹⁶ Joseph Patrick "Joe" Kennedy, Sr. (September 6, 1888 - November 18, 1969).

¹⁹⁷ Added in another hand presumably by PB himself.

March 22, 1937

Mr A. Wilfred May
The Plaza
New York, NY

My Dear Mr May,

I appreciate very much your willingness to come down and enter into this new problem, but as I am not yet confirmed and I am still doubtful as to just how it will work out, I should like very much to talk with you after I get my bearings, if the Senate does decide to confirm me.

I am very appreciative of your public spiritedness.
With warmest regards.

Sincerely yours,
Joseph P. Kennedy

[Joe Kennedy. Clever man of finance and erstwhile ambassador to Great Britain. I remember when Joe was at Harvard and]¹⁹⁸
¹⁹⁹

Wood's {illegible}
{Erna Rose}
2413 South Sheridan Rd
Highland Park²⁰⁰

L02.226

226 - 229

Letter from Jiri Poborak²⁰¹²⁰²
28 Rue de la Huchette, Paris VI
December 9th, 1945

My dear Friend,

Unexpected difficulties in carrying out my and my wife's proposed trip to Brazil have arisen, and as far as I can reasonably expect, we shall be staying in Paris at least till the end of January 1946. You could, therefore, write to my Paris address, if you do.

¹⁹⁸ Newspaper clipping glued to bottom of letter "Joe Kennedy. Clever man of finance..." from the Shamokin News-Dispatch from Shamokin, Pennsylvania, May 31st 1951. <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/96158384/>

¹⁹⁹ Newspaper clipping glued to bottom of the letter.

²⁰⁰ Page 225. Note written by PB himself.

²⁰¹ Noted with a circled "P."

²⁰² I was unable to get his biography, but it's clear that he was a Science-Fiction writer of some success in Czechoslovakia. -- TJS '16

I wish to express my deep gratitude to you for all your Gift of Grace which, as I can now more clearly see, has made my present life worth living. Your two latest books /The Hidden Teaching and The Wisdom/, which I managed to get about a month ago, have made a deep change in my whole character, have shown me the faults in all aspects of my personal being, set my mind on the activity of weeding them out, and actually purified my whole mind. I can see no merits on my part that would account for these tremendous gifts from you, and at times I feel ashamed and humbled to the dust in recognition of my own unworthiness. I beg you to help me in the future as you have done up to now.

I am in touch with Capek and the other friends in Prague. Up to now I have received a copy of the first letter you wrote them. They have translated your Hidden Teaching and I shall now translate your Wisdom and send it to them. In so far as I know it will be possible to publish these two books in Czechoslovakia in the latter half of 1946 at the earliest.

I wrote to Rider's about two months ago asking them to send me a copy of your latest books, and for the addresses of your friends in Britain, from whom I had hoped to secure your address, but Rider's must have misunderstood my letter and therefore they passed it on to you.

I met your friend the Swami Siddheswarananda at the beginning of November, but had only a few minutes' talk with him, and then a short meditation in a group, as he was just then leaving for a lecturing tour in the South of France. It was instructive for to come into touch with some of his French students, and I think the situation with regard to people already following some sort of spiritual path in France is not much different from the situation in Czechoslovakia, there being but a couple of his students able to follow the higher path of philosophic yoga. What these few would need is the splendid revelatory exposition of the subject as given in your books. The Swami is doing quite a bit of public work, and to me it seems a pity that he should in his literary work concentrate on the teachings of Ramakrishna and Vivekananda without making use of your modern rational presentation. But on²⁰³ the whole the French people seem to me to be more accessive to feeling than to reason, as compared with the Czech people. And when I compare the general state of mind of the French capital and of Prague as viewed from the philosophic standpoint, the Czechs are very very much better disposed to absorb and give expression to higher ideals. I have no fixed or definite plans for my personal future activities in the world, in fact I grope in utter darkness as regards it, yet I pray to God to make me His instrument in propagating Truth in such spheres and lands where my limited personal capacities may most economically be used.

I have intermittently had feelings of something great soon coming about in the outer world even before I read your letter to the Czech students, and so I

²⁰³ Page 228, noted as page 2.

know I have to wait for any clear outward direction of activity not only for these events, but more especially till I am granted the Grace of meeting you in the physical world again. I have felt an urge to seek out the Swami again and ask him whether he could mediate between You and myself, that is whether you could initiate me through his physical body, but I don't know whether I should do so. I should be very grateful if you would write me a personal directive, but I don't want to trouble you with writing, and you might include it in one of your letters to the Czech students in Prague, if you do send me one; they will let me know.

I enclose a photograph of my wife and beg you to grant her your blessings and help. She is a good, pure young soul and has suffered heavily. She has been a powerful purifier of my own character, nevertheless I know now what a heavy price one must pay to get rid of one's attachment to be anything than wary of my attitude to persons and things.

In case you should want some additions or adaptations to make to the texts of your latest books, there will be time enough to arrange for them before the translations are handed over to the printers'.

Hoping to hear from you a few lines, I sincerely wish you an early physical recovery and all the best in the coming year. With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely
Jiri Paborak

L02.230

230 - 237

Incomplete letter from {Marianna Green}²⁰⁴

...²⁰⁵

Last night I had dinner with [Albert Schwartz]²⁰⁶ - it was a pleasant evening in every respect. However, he got a lot of thoughts off his chest, so to speak. 1.) There is no proof for my following the Quest - where have I found good cause to put my faith in it? If I feel I have cause for following it - why doesn't he because he has tried so hard to understand? Why doesn't he receive clear-cut proof of some kind?

2.) The reason for my lack of sexual enthusiasm is due to too much hard work and not enough sleep - that if I had one week of 9 hours of sleep each night, he is sure my reaction would be different.

3.) Why cannot I be with him as before? - that is, affectionate and closer to him.

²⁰⁴ Noted with a circled "S" for Albert "Schwartz."

²⁰⁵ Previous lines may be missing, the letter was cropped here.

²⁰⁶ "A" in original. PB wrote out "lbert Schwartz" in red pen beside it.

4.) Because I lead him to believe I would marry him, why don't I keep that promise? That no matter what spiritual experience he had – that if Jesus or Buddha presented themselves before him and offered the greatest spiritual enlightenment, he would turn it down so as not to hurt me because of implied marriage. He would²⁰⁷ never want to be the cause of pain to anyone – even, if eventually, it might prove a blessing. He is happy, in our case, he is the one pained, rather than me. And he knew it would turn out this way.

5.) He is sure there is no one as good as M. A. G.²⁰⁸ – I am basically a fine girl but am being misled by believing in a philosophy that does not exist.

6.) For the pain he feels, I asked his forgiveness – he said I was forgiven in the beginning.

7.) He asked if there was something about him personally that I would find reason to reject him. I told him that there was nothing personal in it, but that I must be myself. That the wife I could have been to him 3 years ago, I could not be today. – That he is one of the finest men I know (and that is the truth, - for many women he would be their idea of a wonderful husband.)

He seemed relieved to get this off of his mind – said we could be the best of friends – that he bore no malice toward me.

He also told me he suggested to his sister (living in Los Angeles) to read your books. She recently finished *Search in Secret India*. When I asked him why he did²⁰⁹ so he replied, "She has always been interested in such things."

Today he called me on the phone and told me how much he loved me.

Another statement he made last night, laughing as he said it, is that he likes the girls but they don't like him. I pointed out his good qualities and he seemed to feel better.

He professes to be quite a student of psychology – thinks highly of psychoanalysis (in fact, he has been psychoanalyzed – with the Dr recommending he move away from his parents) – but I believe he is afraid of marriage – he likes to think about it. If he wasn't I think he would have given up the idea of me several years back as I asked him many times to do.

Each time he dated a girl (single, of course) he would tell me how bored he was and what poor company he was for the girl. The girls he met before me did not meet with his approval and I don't think any he meets in future will either.

His reason for not taking girls out more often is that most likely he will not ask them to marry them and may be the cause of pain to them for not asking. This was his attitude also before he met me.

What²¹⁰ can I do, more than I have, to help him? Your good thoughts, as always, will be appreciated.

²⁰⁷ Page 232, noted with "-2-."

²⁰⁸ M. A. G. refers to Mary Ann G. or Marianna Green.

²⁰⁹ Page 234, noted as page "-3-."

One more thought – he not only feels that the girls don't like him but, also, that his men friends are not as considerate of him as they could be.

He likes music, books and an occasional movie – seems happier when alone – wants to enjoy the camaraderie of friends but doesn't seem capable of developing friendships – but wants the people to present themselves to him. He says he is happiest in my company, but looking back I can see I was the one who drew him out and put him at his ease.

In his business, however, he has much the professional attitude and is the picture of, and is, a fine lawyer.

I hope all this is not boring to you. I hope I have the privilege of asking your advice on this matter, - for I feel, if a little more of the right kind of help can be given him, he will find himself.

It is my opinion if he can find a suitable girl for himself and get married, later he will return to the Quest and be fair in his judgment of it.

L02.238

238 – 239

Letter from Norma Hutzler²¹¹
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio
Friday AM
May 21st {1954}

Will Harper will be among the “fathers” of life, soon. They are happy and well and send their best to you. Will is doing very well. I'm proud of him. How is Dan?²¹²

Dear Paul,

Just a line since I am answering letters this morning.

Did you receive my last letter, I wonder? You are not a “letter answerer” (to put in mildly?) and I'm never quite sure. Can't recall that it was important, merely that I was answering you, I believe.

It's a beautiful morning. Our garden sparkles with greenness and is so trimly freshly dressed that I feel like a fond parent. It has become Herman's hobby instead of so much golf – and it is lovely – small but gemlike.

These past days have been packed with the busyness of living – but satisfying. This morning I am “resting”!

All is well among your (our) friends in Columbus. They're beginning to really savour “the flavor” of right thinking and living by self-effort²¹³ rather than

²¹⁰ Page 236, noted as page “-4-.”

²¹¹ Noted with an H at top of page.

²¹² Added by hand at the top of the first page, perhaps as a postscript.

anticipating the grace of undeserved miracles." The taste is sufficient, I think, to support them in times of need – thru the time, as well. Enough to hang on to, at least. They're beginning to use what they read.

The "old" become resigned to life. That is not true philosophy really. It is the understanding and living of it in vibrant, progressively active youthfulness (regardless of age) that is it. Right? So many young people are "old."

I smile within when I hear others enthuse about the Gandhi's of life and the discipline of their sensual appetites! Disciplines attained when the glands have shrunk to a less than semi-activity? More important are the political errors they make due to that same glandular, shrinking passivity. It is one thing to wait in life – alert, watchful, ready to act – for the outer materialization of the activity of self-designed intangible formations. It is another to merely wait (existing) for other life to act upon one at its will.

It is good to be a part of the pulsating (though silent) growth in my garden, that materializes so much beauty, tho' briefly. All well? Book almost completed? Gardening? Where are you living now? Love to you both, from us all.

Norma

L02.240

240 – 243

Letter from Norma Hutzler
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio
April 2nd {1954}

Eva still taking voice lessons? Radio work yet? Best of luck to her. Your book progressing as you wish?

Lovingly –

214

Dear Paul

Received your letter this morning, and I do like to answer mail immediately when I can. I was especially interested in this turn of events.

Actually I had wondered if I were unkind in ignoring Ken's natural false pride (natural for his particular stage of development). He had been so childishly boastful of what he "was going to do" – that returning to Dayton for him would mean that he had matured so very much in order to rise above the situation he had created for himself. So I wrote and told him (just this week) how he could do it. Herman is considering a change in one young man who will need more supervising than Herman cares to give him, while the other young

man we have is busy on a new business drive. I thought this would be a good time for Ken to apply, which was why I wrote to you at the first suspicion of it – before we get someone else. Ken represents an investment of teaching time to Herman, which I thought might offset the other weaknesses. However, it's Ken's life to do with as he wishes. Some people even commit suicide and you can do nothing to prevent it. Herman won't know or mind one way or the other – now. Did²¹⁵ I tell you that the Cleveland Clinic report on Herman was an excellent general health condition despite the months of back pain 'n then bursitis? The pains are of the past now – and Herman even looks ten years younger, and feels tops.

Joanie was home for the 'tween quarters period and it was fun to be all together again. She's such a joy and so very interesting in her eager self-development, objectivity and self-analysis. However, she has a one-track mind and pediatrics or child psychiatry is her long-road aim!

I'm still waiting to hear from the publishers while I keep typing away here at home in answer to all the questions and needs that come up. Now however, I answer with the publishers in mind – typing an original, copy 'n duplicate and in a more generalized form. The present material always seems more potent since it answers an immediate need. Some of it I wish so earnestly to get into immediate print. I know the need for its simple, acceptable answers – and don't really give a concern about returns for myself. I do care for a good distribution however, even of several isolated articles such as present needs have brought up. Ex: the bombings and the questions of death, destruction, purposes of life etc!!! Any suggestions, Paul? I don't like to force anything – therefore I'm "waiting" to hear from Mr Baker – while the pages of another book are accumulating so fast that I wonder how I work it in! How about widely²¹⁶ read magazines for layman reading. I have material on sex relationships and marriage relationships that I know would be excellent for readers of woman's magazines. Men who rarely do deep thinking need it also for an understanding of woman. Also men are now taking time to wonder what their efforts are toward – that can go up into momentary annihilation? They need ideas given in simple capsule understanding because they don't desire to really go into deep study about it. (I recommend to all beginners)

Sounds presumptuous of me – but Peale is excellent 'til one begins to think and question then he is somewhat inadequate. A little more needs to be handed out – at that point.

As for you – Paul. 'Your meanings are far beyond that. People generally quote²¹⁷ you "knowingly," they don't begin to understand you. I have to take them back to the beginning usually or they float in mere words, in contradiction

²¹⁵ Page 241, noted as page "2."

²¹⁶ Page 242, noted as page "3."

²¹⁷ PB circled "quote" and drew a line with a question mark.

to their actual lives – in order to get them to think ‘n do, not merely quote like unintelligent parrots. The entire Columbus group is an example of it. They are all just now (not the Stacy’s or Marge of course who are progressing amazingly in actual results as well as understanding) willing to begin at the start, instead of somewhere at an imagined height of development. Will Harper {XE “Hutzler, Norma:Harper, Will”}, has grown considerably in mental stature also.²¹⁸ He’s safely on the way. The infantile traits of resistance and pretense are pretty well dissolved in self-understanding, which is the biggest hurdle for anyone. He’s tasted the sweetness and pleasure of sincere effort and its rewards, self honesty ‘n truthfulness and its gracious simplicity, lovingness and its self-rewards of inner richness.

You see – I write on ‘n on even with a pen in hand! Fortunately I have working hours and social obligations or I’d go on forever. There’s so much to say ‘n think about.

Don’t worry about Ken. However, don’t give him the feeling that any money you have will be his future security – or he may not feel the necessity for building for his future. Did you know he had applied for Ohio Unemployment relief? They turned him down since he was not “fired” but left his job voluntarily. If Ken hopes to live on social security someday, he’ll suffer its humiliations as well. Maybe he’ll grow up in time to spare himself further learning the hard way. As to women – he wants what he hasn’t earned rather than what he merely deserves, at this stage of his being. Can’t be done – as we know, we indeed reap as we sow – past present or future, and we have to work for all we desire to get.

I could come to New York anytime these next two weeks – but I am “waiting” with an accumulation of Spring energy that demands an outlet. I shall try to divert it patiently to typing and gardening. Was in Columbus last week with Joanie – to the doctors. Managed to see Gladys {Pickett} at 8:30am – Pat Sherrich at 1:00pm Frances until 3:00pm as well as Joanie’s doctor at 11:00! Full but nice day – home again in time for a dinner date and cards in the evening. Life is fun! Love to you both

Norma

L02.244

244 – 245

Letter from Norma Hutzler²¹⁹
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio
Tuesday the 21st July {1953}²²⁰

²¹⁸ Page 243

²¹⁹ Noted with a circled “H”

²²⁰ The 21st falls on a Tuesday in 1953.

Dear Paul –

I must share this moment with you, since it is yours as well as ours. Received a very “precious” letter from Mr Baker yesterday urging me to start work on the selection and organization of the material for the manuscript as soon as I receive it – or words to that effect.

I shall share the letter with you when I see you. At the moment, I shall merely quote “I have read your material with great care and I have been very much moved by it.” “I think, Mrs Hutzler, you have something very valuable to give to others. I should like to help you reach these people.....” “..... shall be most interested in the manuscript and will present it to the other senior editors and the Board with great enthusiasm for their consideration. Please do write me.....”

To me, this is a complete entity in itself. I hope it is for you also..... since you were the motivating factor in the experience. And of course, you know that for me, that awareness (your share in it) is forever woven into any and all parts of the experience, past-present-and future..... whether I have occasion to express it often or not. To me, love and gratitude are synonymous..... the very marrow of being..... and must find tangible expression, as all of life truly felt or realized must express itself.

Hope you’re enjoying each day... each moment of your country living. Must hurry off to the office this morning... before the morning is gone!

Best to Eva and yourself.... From all of us. And Thank you again.

Lovingly,
Norma

L02.246

246 – 249

Letter from Norma Hutzler²²¹
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio
Sunday – The Fifth
{1953 July 5}²²²

Dear Paul,

Was very happy to receive your letter. It was the letter I had been waiting for – for quite some time. The experiences with Ken will soon become a part of the past but Herman was confused as to your part in it – and I had nothing more tangible to offer than my faith in your own high ideals and your sincerity.

²²¹ Noted with a circled “H”

²²² There were only two months in 1953 where the 5th fell on a Sunday: April and July. Since this letter mentions gardening for the summer, and sits around the time of the falling out between KTH and the Hutzlers, we presume it was written on 1953 July 5

Sometimes silent trust is not enough and words are actually a necessity.... especially in relationship with a person like Ken, whose imagination runs riot and is careless of the impressions or inferences he makes. His inferences confused Herman and made me wonder if I am intelligent or merely naïve! I am always receptive to “proof” that I am mistaken, in myself.

I don’t blame you, Paul, for not wanting Ken to be bitter toward you, in the present or future. You can tell from his reactions toward me, that at this stage he is not receptive to help, not willing to take any direction other than his own self-will. If he seems to listen to you, it will be only for the personal benefit he can receive from maintaining his tie to you..... material benefits, not spiritual, and certainly not character building advice. I usually know in advance when I shall make little headway with individuals and dread the time and effort possibly to be wasted.... but I haven’t the heart to turn away from the one possibility of “helping” in the present. And, of course, I know that the subconscious stores away knowledge to be pulled out and used in the future. I’m human enough to want to see the results and perhaps to receive a little thank you for the effort involved. It’s wrong, I know. Rewards and thank you’s come from the Creator in many unexpected ways. Consequently, like a “good little girl” I smother my vanity and do my work as the demand arises.

However, I’m afraid I wasn’t too gracious about it with Dan. I did give him hours of my time, but I realized from the beginning that what he was after actually was a form of material assistance. I could even have done that eventually perhaps in the form of getting him located. But it would have to be after he had shown sincerity of effort and actual application and progress. I don’t intend to be used or permit Herman to be. One should gain wisdom and alertness from experience – I’m sure you agree. A five-year plan like Ken’s is too deliberate to be ignored, in view of his actual slips in conversation.

I’m glad you and Eva have found a comfortable home for the summer. We know how much you are enjoying your garden for we’ve been enjoying our flower garden equally as much. Planting things and watching them grow, caring for them so that they will grow as they should is an interesting and satisfying project. I prefer doing it with people – but have joined Herman in doing it in the garden as well with him. Our place is beautiful and colorful and we love it despite the effort.

As²²³ a matter of fact, Paul, your new book was very much on my mind at the time of our New York visit. I remember bringing it into the conversation but your reply was so uncertain or brief that felt that you did not care to discuss it with me, or that it was not sufficiently formulated to be discussed. In view of the fact that I talked so much anyway about personal things, I decided it was not the time to press any more of my ideas upon you. The ideas I do have are in mind only and subject to adjustment and rearrangement depending upon the material

you are planning. It would have to be discussed – not written. However, it is just as well no doubt. Since each expresses himself in his own way.

I am puzzled about the publishers, however, or Mr Baker. He still has my material. Is that usual? Since I had not received it before leaving for Colorado, I sent him some additional material and mentioned that I was leaving for a short time. He wrote that he had been busy and hoped to get to the papers at the time and wished us a happy vacation. But – I have not heard since. Is that unusual – odd? How does he expect me to get at the material to rearrange or organize it since he know I have no typewritten copies of it? I am not concerned about it really – merely curious. As an agency, we ourselves are very prompt at getting to things, – publishers – procrastinate? Shall I write him?

The Columbus people keep coming in and it is gratifying to see their minds and lives clarifying to a point of self understanding, at least. Of the three women who could not “take” what I had to tell them and the way of self improvement and correction, two of them have definitely gone to the “Theosophy” group, I understand, and the third will possibly join them. Pathetic down-hill step to escapism! It’s difficult to understand such deliberate self-deterioration. They have only to read the history of the group and the type of leaders it has, to understand the level it symbolizes, and the types of people that are its prey. Incidentally, little Pat Herrick? is your mouthpiece in Columbus, I hear, and quotes you continuously. How much time did you give the child that she knows just what you would say under any circumstances?

Did you know that Burkhart²²⁴ had actually had a “nervous breakdown” when he was in his twenties? Actually I didn’t have to fear as I did, for the sake of his congregation, that he would become unbalanced. He never quite recovered his “balance”! Wish I had had the whole story at the time, I would have approached the situation so differently. I thought he was merely getting a would-be God complex that could be avoided, I didn’t realize it was a fixation. He is evidently the type that despises the depths that he really feels he is a part of, and tries to escape to the heights that he tries to imagine himself a part of, and hopes he fools others into thinking he is at-one with! How does he fool so many people? Why does he want to? Why doesn’t he live his lovely words... it is such a simple thing to do.... to be it.... to live it.

Enuf of this, Paul. It’s Friday.... I started this letter on Sunday. If it seems disconnected, It’s because I’ve added a few words as the moments were available. Life is lovely ... but it is busy!

Have a happy time Good luck on your book our love to both of you. Don’t let Eva meditate too much. It’s not what you empty your mind of that’s important.... it’s what is put into it that motivates action. Good material put in crowds out the weeds and waste, if put in deliberately. Busy people,

²²⁴ Rev. Roy Burkhart. “Burkhardt” was used throughout letter and has been corrected.

creative people, are so busy doing deliberately constructive things, they don't need time to think about what not to do. Right?

If you have time, advise me about Baker.

Love from all of us.

L02.250

250 - 255

Letter from Norma Hutzler²²⁵

The Hutzlers

1856 Ruskin Road

Dayton 6, Ohio

Monday November 30 1953

Dear Paul,

Enjoyed hearing from you and knowing that you are both well and interestingly busy. I can understand why your writings take time. They are pieces of literature as well as a flow of thought. The mechanics in any profession or skill is the time-consuming element. The mere thought of taking apart one of my own sentences as my pen hurriedly tries to keep up with my mind - makes me groan as though I were about to voluntarily confine myself to a binding. Hope you are comfortably settled where you have quiet yet the city comforts so necessary to winter. Was your garden satisfying as to results? There is nothing so conducive to thought as even the mere consideration of the step by step process of growth one perceives in gardening, the care and watchfulness, yet the patient restraint also necessary in permitting growth to make itself seen. The "fruits" that come - and are gone - and one must begin again. Merely life itself - and nothing is so sweet!

Must share with you an experience that is not mere coincidence. I know you have been informed of Roy Burkhart's²²⁶ illness, first termed a collapse then the operation on gall bladder, I believe, or whatever they chose to term it.

Truthfully, I never give Burkhart a thought except when he's brought to my attention from outside; then it necessarily takes the form of a loving thought as for a willfully stupid, self destructive child who wants to run at least his little part of the universe his way instead of conforming to pre-established universal laws of being. He leaves my consciousness and that's that. I do mind my own business!

However, this time the thought persisted and he wouldn't leave my consciousness. Only when the decision was carried out to drop him a line was I free of him - as before. Of course, I pointed out the fact that this was an opportunity to "rest" and re-evaluate himself in proper relationship to man and

²²⁵ Noted with a circled "H"

²²⁶ Rev. Roy Burkhart. "Burkhardt" was used throughout letter and has been corrected.

God, as just another man. An opportunity to drop the pretense of being a "super-man" since it was apparent that if he were such, the same power that would have appointed him would have been intelligent enough to give him a super-body to match the super-mind! I urged him to use this rest-period to accept himself as simply "man"; but an unusually developed man thru his own drive and God-approved efforts; that as such he had accomplished much to merit the admiration and respect of all other men. I stressed the fact that others who "pretended" to super-powers were also merely pretenders, and that he didn't have to pretend to have what they have; since they really have nothing! I urged him to drop the trappings he had built up for himself in his day and night fancies, that he didn't need them really as an inspiration or impetus to accomplish what he still could do in the future.

I tried to insert & express as well the loving feeling I actually have for him – though I doubt if he'll recognize it as such, since he has no matching love in his own heart for anyone. He has absorbed it long since in the destructive emotions of contempt for man that he manufactured within himself to cover up his own pathetic pains of self-pity. I love him because I pity him so. His self-progress has been blocked at a point when he had accomplished so very much really.

However, once the letter was on its way, I was free of the man. Frances²²⁷ mentioned that only the family were permitted to see him and that he's going to take some months off, she had heard, to rest. Otherwise, my mind forgot him very comfortably.

Joanie was home over the holiday. And we arranged to visit her doctor in Columbus who is checking on her metabolism which she has run-down from neglecting her body, while developing her medical potentialities! or trying to, anyway. Frances gives Joanie her metabolism tests (haven't much confidence in them really unless given by Frances who is particularly careful) at the University hospital, and we went there on Friday.

Briefly, as we came down the elevator and waited for a few moments in the outer lobby – who should be leaving the holiday-deserted hospital but Burkhart, unescorted since he obviously wished his exit to be as inconspicuous as possible. Frances was overwhelmed by his pathetic shrunken appearance as she termed it and greeted him warmly. She recalled me to his consciousness and I could tell by his instantaneous body shock that he had received my letter. I said nothing, he rattled on for a few moments to Frances, said he was to see you (Hope he follows thru) and was going into a four months retreat. As tho' forced into it, he turned to me for a moment and said he received my letter – that was all. and went on toward the door where a gentleman was waiting to go out with him.

The difference in his appearance must be a contrast, since Frances who has seen him often in the past, was shocked. I was not. As he looks now is how he

²²⁷ Page 252, noted as page "2."

has always looked to me – since I see the withinness of the man, not his outer appearance.

What shocks her now, is what shocked me when I wrote to you after my visit to his church – whenever it was. I saw then what the man really looked like... what had happened to a potentially fine soul! Now.. within a week or so, the body suddenly matches the soul, and reveals its true condition; shrunken, dried up, colorless from lack of lovingness for God and man; from the contempt for man that felt it could maneuver him about at his Will; from the disbelief or doubt of a Creator Being and the Universal Laws of Being created simultaneously, with and for, each creation of being in its relationship with all other creations. He couldn't pretend "pretense" into a working reality, nor maneuver the laws of being.

However, the body is an amazing mechanism. It will respond to care and attention. He will build it up again. Building up the soul will be a harder process. That will be a terrific task... more than a mere season of gardening, Paul. I had hoped the last time that his mind was not too far self-absorbed, that you could catch his "habits" of thinking in time to redirect them, despite the empty steeliness of his eyes and emotions. If he turns to you, Paul..... try to teach him to love; that is the only only only way to get him back. Not thru his mind. His thinking must be shut off as an impetus. Only feeling, only loving, only the emotion of love must be the impetus for thought now. His thinking must be motivated from within, not from any circumstances without. Feeling must color his thinking reactions and direct him; not the ordinary procedure of thought deliberately deleting all but the positive, the constructive and the loving followed by the feeling. He isn't capable of it... due to his deeply grooved negative habits. To become well again (not merely his body on the surface since) he must become as a little child. He must think love, feel love, until he becomes acquainted with it and its effects; its healing effects.

It will take a man. He has a terrific contempt for women. I knew that of course. My letter absolutely called for no answer. With it, my work was done! I hope. I have no desire "to fight" – have more than enuf to do otherwise.

I'll²²⁸ be writing to Ken to send him his tax information. Truthfully I've been withholding it only to wait to hear from him... or rather for Herman to hear from him. Know he doesn't want to contact me, and really don't mind for my sake, just for Ken's sake.

He is such a pathetic little petty soul, Paul.... not to have written.... to judge us by himself. We've been waiting to hear from him. Whether he had sold anything or not, was studying or not.... behaving as a child or man; we do not break our ties carelessly or contemptuously with anyone God has placed in our pathway of living. We would have been interested to hear from Ken in person, to know he can rise above the childish pettiness of his former thinking, feeling

²²⁸ Page 254, noted as page "3."

and expressions. We do not harbor ill feelings for his abuse of our confidence, our efforts, our plans! Others have done it, too. How stupid and self-destructive of us it would be for us to retain any ill-feeling about it even temporarily... how contrary to our teachings or preachings which we definitely live! As far as we're concerned the business can come and go! It is we, our feelings and attitudes, our mind habits that go on forever! We wish Ken every success - always have, always will.

I don't just preach it, Paul. I live it.

Poor Ken. He's offset his pretensions in his silence, to everyone (more or less). He could have followed up his efforts to leave with good-will to everyone by at least dropping Herman a line..... a truthful line.... not more pretenses. I hope he'll have the grace to drop Xmas cards. It may still offset the effects, if we can mention (when asked) that we received holiday greetings from him at least. People do ask, not because they are interested in Ken... but because their minds reach out to find failings in others to match their own.... to assuage their own sense of inadequacy. Pathetic but true.... and must be recognized in order to be overcome.

Trying to recall at the moment, if I've ever written a brief letter!

Does a typewritten letter from me seem cold.... impersonal? If so I'll resort to my pen again.

Best holiday wishes to you both. Hope to get to New York to see Sherman Baker very shortly..... will see you then if you're in the East.

Love from us all.

Norma

{The following marginalia was added by KTH at some other date.}

[~~Ralph~~²²⁹ ~~Williams~~

~~2-7354~~

for Oil Heater Repair ⁷³⁰

Geo D. Barringer

2-7876 - shop

2-7781 res

Hoffman Fuel

Georgetown 5-2083]

L02.256

256 - 259

Letter from Norma Hutzler²³⁰
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio²³¹

²²⁹ Page 255

²³⁰ Noted with a circled "H"

Tuesday, March 9th {1954}

Dear Paul,

I haven't the remotest idea how this might turn out. However, this is the first time I feel free to say that Ken might try writing to Herman about coming back... if he wishes to do so.

Before this, I knew Herman was feeling much too angry at all the years of wasted effort, wasted plans made with and for Ken despite what we knew of his lack of appreciation behind our backs. Yes, it is true. We knew of his inferences, impressions, plans to set himself up for himself, etc. But we attributed it to his childish boastfulness, excessive vanity, frustrations etc.... and said nothing to embarrass him to the point of shame. Just as we act and react to Joanie in the process of her growing up. I've often felt very badly at having imposed so much tolerance upon Herman... toward Ken, that he would have allowed for no one else. Truthfully, Paul I've never blamed you for any part in listening to it, or accepting Ken's versions of Herman, the business, myself... for I do not see you in the role of a father... you just aren't composed that way. Moreover, I know that you recognize in Ken a great deal of your past characteristics.... that you hope to have overcome, in yourself.... and know that Ken must work out for himself, when he wills to do so. How much of his desire to do so is still pretense remains to be seen, of course.

Due to some rather nice (my ideas of nice are different from other people's!) experiences of late.... Herman would be more tolerant and perhaps forgiving. It may be an opportune time for Ken to try.... if he's sincere in wanting to back in our environment, which is clean, clear cut, honest, truthful, and simple... and sincere in giving his best efforts to Herman and their mutual work and objectives. Also sincere in living the simple, pleasant wholesome life that Dayton has to offer. Those would have to be his truthful motives in wanting to return... and in giving to others as his desire to return, and to turn away from what he believed to be the attractions of New York and its ways.

Herman does not know I am writing, of course. It is my privilege to do this. It will not matter if Ken does not write. Herman does not need Ken. I do not know if he will accept him if he writes. I merely know that for Ken's sake... and for the sake of your request, this is the only opportunity I have felt to say.... try. Fortunately, Herman read Ken's letter to me. It didn't sound sincere to either of us.... for Ken pretends quite successfully to himself, as we well know from the past. It lacked the inner ring that reaches out. However,²³² I am the most willingly gullible individual in the world of hopefuls... for the sake of

²³¹ "Nightingale
8-9759" added by hand in pen, by PB himself.

²³² Page 258

others. Moreover I know that if people will to do so, they can be as they should be.

I can't be the one to cheat Ken out of opportunity for the future, that were once his.... if he is willing to make the effort to recapture it... and work at it.

Late for an appointment... must run. Love to you all.

Norma

L02.260

260 - 261

Letter from Norma Hutzler²³³
1856 Ruskin Road, Dayton 6, Ohio
Monday Jan 11th

Dear Paul,

We're still planning that trip to New York. Will have a good talk then - over many things.

Just returned from a weekend in Cleveland. Wanted to reply to your letter at once, since the days ahead are full to overflowing. Herman read your letter hurriedly. Your suggestion is unexpected and needs thoughtful consideration, of course. We shall keep it to ourselves as requested. Ken has written since my last letter to you.

Don't agree with you as to what is "kind" as against a loving urgency, as opportunity presents it. To hurt the false vanity - to give it the necessary blow at the moment it is consuming its victim, is loving tho' it is unkind to the self-developed vanity. Goes deeper than the superficial conception of "kindness,"²³⁴ Paul. The world is full of superficial "kindness" - not enough deep (self-forgetting) "love" for others. I need not tell you that. "Unkindness" is merely remedial when motivated by love.

My letter to Burkhart was written before I saw how he looked, not after, altho' that would not have altered the need. He will heed my words, tho' I never see him again. Just as Ken will heed my teachings, tho' his vanity dislikes me. He will be grateful for the words he will follow, and someday he will begin to wish he were "man" enough to say thank you to me for them. He will whisper the thank you in his thoughts and prayers - and I will be aware of them, as I have been aware of all his feelings for me. As I am always aware of others. Their pretenses are childishly "expert" acting. They mean nothing to me - good or bad. I merely regret their unhappiness and would help them to enjoy living - whether or not I ever see them again. And I continue to love them despite their own pretenses toward me - as with Ken.

²³³ Noted with a circled "H."

²³⁴ Page 261

My best to Eva n yourself. Will let you know when we can get to N.Y.
Lovingly - Norma

L02.262

262 - 263

Incomplete letter from mwr {Marian Wright Rawson}
Undated letter

NOTE:

This about covers the salient impressions connected with the 10-day period, and Oh such a relief to unburden myself.

Perhaps now I can settle down to reconstruct the progressive stages which tended to produce results. All along something within me kept chanting, "This is a shortcut," and later, "I have found the way," altho I little knew to what. Am sure that my concept of will-power can be confined to paper with a little reflection, as well as the matter of the Central sun and how I felt the arc to be gradually lessening between myself and it. Have always intended to do this, but it seemed a thankless task.

mwr

L02.264

264 - 267

Letter from Marian Wright Rawson²³⁵
406 Douglas St., Pasadena 6, Calif.²³⁶
June 22, 1955
[Sycamore 8-3288]

Dear Dr Brunton:

In view of the kindly consideration given my situation the other evening may I venture some further remarks so that you can better evaluate my story. It is certainly an immense relief to have been assured that I am not beholden to that practitioner for what at the time I called "my Preview." This is being sandwiched in between normal work at the office, hence may be rather sketchy:

Here are a couple of other phenomena that transpired in advance of my experience in July 1947, and to which I attached no importance. At dawn one morning I was awakened by a strong masculine voice distinctly calling my name twice, whereupon I dashed to the outside door only to find no one there. Another time as I sat brooding in February, my living room suddenly became enveloped in a dense cloud.

²³⁵ Noted with an "R"

²³⁶ SYcamore 8-3288 added by PB himself.

In connection with the ball of fire which would come down and explode at the point where a sense of dismay over something less than perfect was lying heavy within me, I am not sure whether I made it clear that after ascending giddily, my consciousness of unbearable bliss would be fully restored. (This I figure resulted from pondering Mrs Eddy's statement that Truth destroys error) As a matter of fact, I cannot quite agree with one unequivocal statement which you make in your latest book, that the movements of grace cannot be observed, because I feel that if one were sufficiently alert, this might be possible. At least I certainly nailed down the movement of descending from grace: Some months after my experience a cartoon in the Saturday Evening Post caught my attention and I felt it to be significant. It showed some Indians talking about wampum, and I suddenly realized it to be the word illustrating one's falling from grace or returning to the sensory world: This is difficult to put into words, but during my Preview I had enjoyed merely the idea relating to sense objects, feeling they were all there for my pleasure, but upon coming back to earth I had somehow begun to attribute reality and outsideness to objects. In other words, the focus of my attention had reversed itself. (Given enough time, I believe I could describe how I had succeeded in effecting this change of focus to within myself, and which Christian Science²³⁷ statements had accomplished the trick.) During my Preview, the colored beads carried no significance in themselves, but afterwards value outside of myself became attributed to them, similar to the way beads later became used as money by the Indians.

In my earlier long letter I may have mentioned the profound stillness that I noticed a couple of times during those 10 days, when the whole city seemed to be in a vacuum. Another phenomena during that experience was that I somehow knew myself to be closely connected to an asparagus fern and a sassafras tree in the yard, which I noticed were growing by leaps and bounds each day, but this I could not quite pin down.

There²³⁸ was also an overwhelming tenderness for any living thing, and I went out of my way to avoid stepping on so much as an ant on the sidewalk. I also felt very strongly that it was a sin to waste anything. Then at times when it would occur to me to wonder about certain things including bodily processes, the answer would immediately appear as if a picture embedded within a small white light the size of a candle's flame. I recall being shown something about menstruation, for instance, in this fashion, but it is all an enigma to me now.

(June 23) The word "God" has never had any meaning for me, although during the Preview I tried to identify it with some aspect of what was happening. To me it came through as perfect Wisdom operating as an impersonal principle, much as in mathematics.

²³⁷ "C S" in the original.

²³⁸ Page 266. The top of this page noted "2." and "June 22, 1955."

During my study I had come upon a 1904 article in an old C.S. Journal dealing with Kant and Fichte, from which I had gathered the important points covered by one of your books as mentalism. Upon looking up Fichte I learned how the mind constructs an image and calls it an object – hard, smooth or red – as existing in time.

I must also tell you about bedsprings. The first morning of the Preview I became aware of something that seemed like a strong wind blowing onto the back of my legs, while each step I took felt as if I were walking on very resilient bedsprings. Obviously there was some peculiar energy at work that could be felt physically, and I seemed to be treading upon it.

In the Spiritual Crisis of Man you speak of the fact that illumination is often accompanied by some terrific outside event, and this happened in my case although it need not be gone into here, but the preoccupation I still felt toward it during the 10 days obviously contributed to my coming back to earth.

Then there was the matter of a healing that happened the following December after my summer experience. I live in one side of a small cottage, and had occasion to go to the door of the elderly lady who lives in the other half. She chanced to remark that a close elderly lady friend of our landlady next door was at the point of death in the hospital, and that the case was so serious that not even the woman's daughter had been admitted to her room during nearly the week she had been confined; and that the doctors said it was meningitis and double pneumonia, and if she should recover, she would be helpless. Whereupon I astounded myself by blazing back at her (so that she almost reeled against the wall), "How dare those doctors prophesy!" Weakly she replied that she had only repeated what others had told her. I had seen in a flash that their verdict was only will-power at work, pretending to be something real. This happened on a Thursday, and the following Tuesday she reported to me that the woman was already back home, entirely well, and that she could have gone sooner except that they wanted to be sure. The doctors then decided it had been only sleeping sickness. I do not know the woman, but she still comes to visit my landlady and seems quite energetic at around 80 yrs. of age.

Marian Rawson

L02.268

268 – 271

Letter from Marian Wright Rawson
406 Douglas St., Pasadena 6, Calif.
Easter Sunday²³⁹

Dear Dr Brunton:

²³⁹ "promised phone her SAT 12 – 2 pm – this is near Ted {Spicer}" added by PB himself.

It is gratifying to have your gracious message of March 11th, which missed me at the Barbizon by only a few hours. Before checking out I stopped by the Great Northern to inquire whether perchance you were in residence there. Oahu must be much pleasanter, especially as the Hawaiian Airlines calendar hanging above this typewriter indicates Lanikai as situated between the MidPacific Golf Links and famed Kailua Bay.

Regarding the experience thru which I unaccountably passed a few years ago, it can of course only be reported from the impressions left upon memory afterwards. It was like this: For 16 years I had been secretary to the V.P. of a large publishing firm in New York, living a worldly life without knowledge of philosophy or religion. However during the war I went to Buffalo to look after my mother during her last illness, when my attention first became aware of the problem of death. Although mother had become an ardent Christian Scientist,²⁴⁰ the awful terror of death which she went through convinced me that I must at all costs avoid a like experience for myself. Therefore after settling in California I took up the study of C.S. in earnest, but it was utterly incomprehensible. The practitioner to whom I turned for explanation of the occasional abstract statements that aroused my curiosity, only confused me further. I seemed to be in the grip of something which would not let me put this study aside, until the strain became terrific and I'd burst into tears. I also felt myself as caught in a net from which escape was impossible, where deep within me was appearing every possible villainy so that I would become nauseated, from contemplation of it, yet there was nothing really specific in aspect. It was just revolting. Finally when contemplating a certain statement in {"Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures"}²⁴¹ I would become too giddy to keep my mind on routine work at the office, and had to rewrite a single letter as many as 7 times before submitting it to my superior!

Then one day when standing at the sink of my apartment (facing north) all of a sudden something soft and wonderful took possession of my consciousness, followed by the thoughts, "This must be given to the world," and "Why should this happen to ME?" My old self with its intellectualism seemed miles away, like a fleeting memory. It was August, and my office was notified that I would have to begin my vacation immediately. The elevation lasted for nearly 10 days, I seldom dressed, and the intense feelings from somewhere terribly deep within me tumbled upon each other too fast for me to succeed in translating them into words and on paper. When it became necessary for me to go out for groceries, the other passengers on the bus did not seem to see me at all, and when crossing a motor speedway near my home, without traffic lights, somehow there would not be a car in sight. At times a startling stillness would fall over the outside world, even in the middle of the day.

²⁴⁰ "C S" in the original .

²⁴¹ "S&H" in the original.

Since the term "God" carried no meaning for me, the motivating principle appeared as Wisdom. I told the practitioner afterwards it was as if a movie projector were in a balcony behind me, and the screen in front of my eyes "where only perfection appeared," and that another phase seemed like the Hudson River flowing into and merging with the Bay. It was long afterwards that I came across similar analogies in certain books.

At times the inner significance²⁴² of material situations would be given me as a picture appearing within a tiny white light the shape of a candle's glow, and just once I saw how the material world was merely a phantom. The most remarkable phenomena however happened 7 or 8 times, and was perhaps the result of having pondered "Truth destroys error." When anything less than utter perfection would come into thought, all of a sudden a ball of fire would descend like a shot from above and in front of me, and as it collided with my sense of imperfection, a terrific explosion would occur and wham!, giddily up I would soar (as in previous dreams) at a dizzy speed towards a bright blue sky, then I would wonder what had happened to the sky, and decide I must be one with it. I²⁴³ could not understand how it was that I still had a body, and my bliss was so unbearable that it seemed my flesh must rip somewhere. And periodically from way down, deep within would flow the most amazing knowledge which I felt sure had been hidden since the beginning of time, and was equally amazed that this thing which was obviously timeless should somehow reveal itself in my own English language. Certainly if there had been anyone to turn to in the whole world, I'd have spent my last dollar to telephone for explanation or reassurance. After a few days I made the mistake of calling the practitioner who was deeply puzzled, and the fact that he did not understand my language made me realize that whatever was happening was not within the confines of C.S. Finally when I felt the whole thing beginning to slip away from me, I made a great effort to capture the epitome of all that had been shown me interiorly, and after experimenting with various words, settled on the fact that I must never forget that "Man is the BEHOLDMENT of Perfection." Beholdment was chosen for its connotation of awe.

From then on, my grief knew no bounds and life would gladly have been surrendered had I known of a way. With a lump in my throat I began going to the public library where I was led to the philosophy section and was amazed to learn that others had undergone equally peculiar experiences, with certain similarities running thru them all. Perhaps I had not, then, been out of my mind in the conventional meaning. My avid reading of C.S. had consumed 9 months, and it took another 9 months before I was my old self again. For several years I chased around to every new lecturer and church, only to feel that I could never

²⁴² Noted with a line above "inner significance" and a question mark in the left margin, presumably by PB himself.

²⁴³ Page 270

confide in them – except Mr Goldsmith,²⁴⁴ whose background in C.S. was an additional factor, but he ups and decides to live in Hawaii before we get started together, so I was further discouraged. As a matter of fact I am not looking for a teacher exactly just yet, as I am a practical person and doubt that one can combine making a living with the sort of thing I went through. I look forward to retirement in about 8 years, and feel that very much study or searching in the meantime could just possibly lead me off into dangerous fields again.

Of all the abstract statements pondered at that time, of which I still have a partial list, I am inclined to think that the final one I worked with may have been responsible for what happened. In Miscellaneous Writing's Bible Lessons I found Paul's mystical statement, "Without father, without mother, but born unto the son of God." In pondering this I found myself disengaging myself from the thought of any ancestors back to 300 years ago, and even imagined my parents had never met each other..... which left me, where? I believe this may parallel some of your instructions in Spiritual Self-analysis in "Discover Yourself." Other totally different, yet possibly parallel statements occur between your other statements and the abstract passages I pondered. What I seek is an evaluation by an authority of the experience I went through. Perhaps you can sense whether it was an aberration of the mind, hypnotism induced by the practitioner (who has given up that work and moved away), or something really valid that indicates a special aptitude along those lines. Your candid opinion would be very gratefully received. In the meantime, of course, I am no nearer my original goal of understanding death, but it no longer appears so urgent.

It happens that I am unemployed at the moment, but intend to look for work soon. Unfortunately a great aversion to office work has come over me, so that I dread the idea of having to go back. The openings for women my age are few and far between. I mention this because if I am not working when you arrive in this area, I could meet you any day of the week except Friday morning, or would be glad to pick you up and drive you to my home, if that seemed desirable. I am still living in the simple little place where IT happened.

Very sincerely,²⁴⁵

Marian Rawson

Telephone number: SYcamore 8-3288 or you can find me in the book.

L02.272

272 – 273

Letter from Marian Wright Rawson²⁴⁶

²⁴⁴ Wikipedia: Joel Solomon Goldsmith (March 10, 1892 – June 17, 1964) was an American spiritual author, teacher, spiritual healer, and modern-day mystic.

²⁴⁵ Faint erased pencil note, presumably by PB: "{she working now}"

²⁴⁶ Noted with a circled "R"

406 Douglas St., Pasadena 6, Calif.
February 28, 1955

Dr Paul G. Brunton
New York City

Dear Dr Brunton:

As one who is extremely grateful for your series of books, I write to inquire whether you are available for an appointment in New York City.

Only yesterday did it become necessary for me to make sudden plans to go to New York tomorrow, or rather start East.

I expect to reach New York on March 8th, Tuesday, and expect to stay at the Barbizon-Plaza at 58th and 6th. Would you let me know there if it would be convenient to see me at any time during that week.

I should very much like to evaluate the quality of an experience through which I passed a few years ago and have hesitated to discuss with anyone but Mr Joel Goldsmith, who shortly thereafter went to Hawaii to live and thereby could not take me as a pupil as we had planned.

Thank you for whatever disposition you care to make of this appeal.

Yours very truly,
Marian W. Rawson
(Miss) Marian Wright Rawson

[Dear²⁴⁷ Sir
We are writing you
a new note]²⁴⁸

L02.274

274 - 277

Incomplete letter from Diane G.²⁴⁹ {Marianna Green}, to Dan {PB}²⁵⁰
September 20

Dear Dan,

Your letter of August 27th was received with open arms. I'm happy to learn that conditions there are favorable for your work and well being. Please forgive the delay in writing - I'm trying to do and cope with everything as it is given for me to do, and I'm having a little difficulty staying on any sort of a schedule. However, I manage to catch up, and here I am!

The copies of the Challenge and Caravel arrived safely. I shall ask Lorraine for additional copies of the Caravel when next I'm at her home, which

²⁴⁷ Page 273

²⁴⁸ Written on back of the letter, possibly by Eva.

²⁴⁹ Noted with a circled "G"

²⁵⁰ "from Nefreti" added by PB himself.

should be within a few days. She does not have copies of "To You." I'll write to the Oregon group and obtain permission to write Sadony;²⁵¹ perhaps through correspondence I'll manage an invitation to meet him.

...²⁵²

... I enjoy the subject of Astrology but not LeGros' method of teaching. He is not systematic, that is, does not follow the subject from one step to the next. However, I believe this is due to his attempt to appeal to both beginning and advanced students at the same time. I have asked him for private lessons and explained my reasons, but he has avoided a direct answer.

You are correct in saying that the proper time has not arrived so far as mentioning your name to him. Despite many good traits, there are weaknesses to be overcome. As there is a woman in his life who is always with him, I do not have the opportunity for private conversation, consequently it appears that this "block" is preventing any assistance I could be to him. He asked me, again, to conduct a class which would study any of the great spiritual books such as *Light on the Path*, but I declined. He seemed rather put out.

In reading "The Upanishads" by Nikhilananda, I came across a passage that had much meaning for me as I had often meditated on "The Vision" (as I call it to myself) and wondered Who It was that handed me the articles. I quote, "As we have noted above, the sun is the centre of a solar system, of Brahmananda.²⁵⁴ The Lord of the Brahmanandasi described as dwelling in the sun. The Upanishads often describe Him as the "Person in the sun." This Person in the sun is sometimes called Vishnu, because he pervades all – the entire solar system. Here is a further description of the Deity: "Now that Person, bright as gold, who is seen within the sun, with golden beard and golden hair – golden altogether to the very tips of His nails..." Who is this Person dwelling in the sun; and why is the solar deity called a person? Shankaracarya, in his commentary on the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, states that He, Prajapati, is like a person,²⁵⁶ being endowed with a head, hands, and other parts. He was the first to be created. The Prajapati of the present cycle had practised meditation in a previous cycle and performed Vedic rites, with a view to occupying the position of the Lord in the next cycle. Others, too, had done the same, but among them all, He was the first to be freed from such obstacles as gross ignorance and attachment. What this means is this: that in the previous cycle many aspirants practised spiritual

²⁵¹ Joseph Sadony (1877-1960).

²⁵² A full line and partial line have been cut out and censored from this letter.

²⁵³ Wikipedia: George Cardinal LeGros was Theosophist and astrologer who was widely known in Theosophical circles for his writings, magazines, and correspondence courses. – TJS '16

²⁵⁴ Brahmananda in the original. Brahmananda is mostly a Theosophical term – literally "the bliss of Brahman, also known as "appearance" or the "manifest world." -- TJS '16

²⁵⁵ Lord of the Brahmananda

²⁵⁶ Page 276, noted as page "-2-"

disciplines but did not attain complete Liberation because they still possessed traces of desire and attachment. Of these, the most advanced was reborn in the present cycle, as the Prajapati of the Brahmananda, in which He now enjoys great power and bliss. But this position of Brahma must not be confused with the attainment of the Highest Good, or Liberation; for even He is said to be afflicted by fear and unhappiness. His life is impermanent, lasting for the duration of a Brahmananda. His position, though an exalted one, still belongs to the relative world. Only the courageous aspirant who can renounce the position of Brahma, which is non-eternal, can attain the Highest Good."

I mentioned the reading of this to LeGros, and he confirmed it adding also that each planet had its Cosmic Being inhabiting it. I have not mentioned "The Vision" to him, because: 1.) I hadn't had the inclination, and 2.) One evening he mentioned that most visions were of a hallucinatory nature, usually brought about by the psychological portion of the person's make-up. He condemned them – even the ones he had himself. He is right to a certain extent, but there are visions, and there are Visions.

Albert is off on an Eastern vacation trip. He seems so much improved – I can't thank you enough that you met him. The last luncheon I had with him he again expressed surprise that the opportunity to meet you had presented itself. I am sending the Cashew Nut Butter today and hope it arrives safely. Raabe's book will be sent the early part of next week. Destroy the astral chart as I have the original.

It is a beautiful Autumn day today – the kind that always wants to take me into the country. I imagine it is lovely where you are also. It would be more than wonderful to spend the day with you.

I pray that all will continue well, and I look forward to your next letter and our next meeting.

Diane

L02.278

278 – 281

Letter from D. G.²⁵⁷ {Marianna Green}, to Dan {PB}

Wednesday, Sept. 26

Dear Dan,

Your 9/21 letter arrived Tuesday. As always, it means much to hear from you. I imagine you have received my last letter by now.

The cashew nut butter is not being sent in view of your letter.

²⁵⁷ Noted with a circled "G".

It would be so good to be with you, and also to be with you on your investigations south. Well, I can be with you in my imagination, can't I? But then, I'm always with you.

Enclosed is a booklet I thought you'd find interesting. This is your copy, so do with it what you will.

Have you ever read "Brother of the Third Degree" by Will E. Garver? This is an occult novel I've just finished reading, and I found a lot of meaning in it.

You ask for my news. Everything is much the same with me. Physically, I feel better than ever. I have read and am reading several excellent books on dietetics, studying the combinations of foods, etc. I am waiting for a book, "The Grape Cure" which is supposed to cure everything and anything. (But we'll see about that! It does come highly recommended, however.) I am studying the right way to feed the body for a healthy body has its importance in the scheme of things.

There have been many interesting talks on the occult with Elaine {Manzi} and George Cardinal LeGros,²⁵⁸ through which I have been given much to meditate upon. As usual, I am reading books on the spiritual and have just run across Mabel Collins, "The Idyll of the White Lotus" and "When the Sun Moves Northward." Also, H.P.B.'s "Practical Occultism." These I shall read within the next few days.

I have noticed that the intuition seems to be in operation more of the time of late and its accuracy has sometimes amazed me. There is a greater solidification, or shall I say integration, of all aspects of my make-up. I seem to be coming together, or shaping into something, if this makes it any clearer. I have felt this rather markedly in the past few months. The tension and restlessness I used to feel to get things done in the spiritual phase of my development is completely gone. I feel so at peace that I'm sure this reflects on the physical well-being also. I also feel grown up, mature, as tho' now I know something and have something to offer, little tho' it be.

If²⁵⁹ there are specific questions you'd like to ask, I'll try to answer them; I hope I've given you a good idea of what I thought you'd find of interest.

L.G. expressed his opinion of Joseph Sadony²⁶⁰ from Michigan the other evening by saying that he is a natural clairvoyant, but that he is an ego-maniac, setting himself up as a god. He has not met him personally but arrives at this conclusion from the reading of his printed matter and people who have met him. The Dequer²⁶¹ group, of course, would not agree with this at all, and I must take

²⁵⁸ L.G. in the original.

²⁵⁹ Page 280, noted with "-2-".

²⁶⁰ "S." in the original Joseph Sadony (1877-1960).

<http://www.mysticmissal.org/sadony.htm>

2016 March 19

²⁶¹ D. in the original - we presume this to be the Dequer group from previous letters.

into consideration they have met him, but also that their level of development may not give them the insight to properly evaluate the man.

L.G. has given me some predictions concerning my future. He says that with next year my life will begin to change. He thinks there is a home of my own in the offing; my father will pass on; that I'll become a metaphysical teacher in time; that eventually I'll live in a foreign country - he determines this from my chart and palm. Interesting?

Getting back to my intuition for a moment: Yesterday morning, L.G. came to mind all of a sudden and a very beautiful feeling came with the thought of him. It came to me that he is a very good man, trying to do his best. I also felt that something good was going to happen to him. Last night, at dinner, Elaine and L.G. told me they were going to marry each other and asked Barry and me to be witnesses to the ceremony. It is my opinion that they will get on very nicely together, both being very good for the other.

This is all for now; if I think of anything I'll write again, otherwise I'll wait for a letter from you.

You are in my thoughts very often. Let me hear from you soon.

Affectionately,
D.

L02.282

282 - 285

Letter from D. G.²⁶² {Marianna Green}, to Dan²⁶³ {PB}

8/16/ - 1:10 PM

Dear Dan,

Many happy hellos, I'm so happy to be "talking" to you again. I certainly hope all is well, and I hope, too, that progress is being made on the task at hand.

Last night at Astrology class, LeGros gave us the new and corrected chart of the U.S. Rupert Hughes, the writer and historian, after much investigation and also with the collaboration of an aged astrologer in Ohio (I do not know his name yet) has found that the Declaration of Independence was signed on July 2, 1776 and announced to the world on the 4th of July. Hughes has found much substantiation in the private letters of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence to this effect, also in papers in the Library of Congress. LeGros, after checking many important dates in U.S. history says it is without doubt most correct. I enclose a copy of it for you.

Last Christmas Day, Paul Harvey,²⁶⁴ a Chicago radio and television news announcer told a very interesting story regarding the mysterious appearance and

²⁶² Noted with a circled "G" and in pencil beside it "MAG"

²⁶³ Dan is PB.

disappearance of an Oriental garbed man (who had a beard) who spoke to a closed session meeting of the United Nations, at Lake Success. Harvey said that this man appeared at approximately 9-12 minutes after 7 P.M. on a day that he did not or would not mention. This Oriental being was tall, dignified and in Asiatic dress.

As the meeting was being called to order he suddenly appeared from behind one of the members and said that he had come to deliver a message to those in attendance. He said the U.N. was full of power politics and that a real spiritual understanding must be evidenced or that the U.N. would fail. It is said that Vyshinsky²⁶⁵ attempted questioning him, but was severely criticized by the Oriental, and Vishinsky ended up by saying that this was some American trick. The Oriental soon turned away, walked out of the door and disappeared into thin air. This was commented on by one of the stenographers who in an effort to get more notes on what he had to say, tried to find the Oriental in the corridor (which was only several minutes after the Oriental walked out of the door) but the stenographer could find him nowhere. Paul Harvey said this story is true. It is written up in the July 1951 issue of The Beacon Light Herald. LeGros has a copy of this magazine in his possession and I am going to ask him to let me read it.

LeGros became so interested in all of this because he said St. Germain is most likely the one who appeared. According to LeGros, Blavatsky predicted that St. Germaine would appear at approximately this time. LeGros with his interest called Harvey several days ago in an attempt to get the date that the Oriental appeared so he could set up a horary chart and possibly obtain further information from it. He said Harvey was most reluctant to divulge anything pertaining to it and consequently LeGros got little if any information.

There²⁶⁶ were four of us at dinner last Tuesday - LeGros, Elaine, Barry, and myself. We find we have interesting conversations so we get together from time to time. LeGros mentioned this to us (the Oriental story, that is) and he said he so wished he knew the day. With my whole being the 13th was the day that came to me and I told him of it. That evening he set up the horary and he said he feels positive that this is the date. I don't know if this story is of any interest to you, but I feel it is worth telling to you. I enclose the horary chart for it.

Recently purchased and just finished reading, "Many Mansions" by Gina Cerminara. She went to Virginia Beach to the Cayce group for several days research and ended up staying for months analyzing the readings left by Cayce. The book is a frank expose on Karma, and I found it most appealing. She has a good simple style of writing and I am sure it is going to be well regarded; it

²⁶⁴ Paul Harvey Aurandt

²⁶⁵ Vishinsky in the original refers to Andrey Yanuarevich Vyshinsky.

²⁶⁶ Page 284, noted as

"-2-".

should also influence a number of people who at least have been susceptible to the idea of reincarnation. Have you read the book? On page 281 a man's name, whom we both know well, is mentioned. I will be very happy to send it to you for your perusal if you but say so.

The days are flying by, each one of them exceedingly full of activity. I hope to hear from you soon pertaining to both this and the last letter I wrote.

Is the name, "Tikki" a good one for a baby elephant? I do so want to get my little story written but the lack of a good name seems to be a retarding factor. Have you any suggestions?

Nothing further on Aurora, or the other one.

Love, Peace and Blessings,
D.

L02.286

286 - 297

Incomplete letter from Diane G.²⁶⁷ {Marianna Green} , to Dan {PB}²⁶⁸

August 7 - 3 PM

Dear Dan,

I thought I'd never receive your letter of the 24th. I was overjoyed when it came! I didn't want to write until I had a more or less permanent address to save postal difficulties. Secondly, - I have come to a point that I feel like the spinning of a top; there has been not one moment of personal life for me since I last saw you. I'm having great difficulty determining the importance of all the people who come into my life and just what I should do about them.

Since last seeing you I have heard very lovely statements about Cuernavaca, and I do hope you find it to your liking.²⁶⁹ I'd like to see your 9th house in the chart - it must be filled with planets or powerfully aspected that you should have done so much travelling! Anyway, it is good to know that you have good conditions under which to write. I can see how good conditions are absolutely necessary for until now I didn't have my "good conditions" to write to you - one of the most important people in my life! I truly don't know how to apologize enough. You must think me deliberately evasive and such is not at all the case. It's just when I write to you I need a peculiar kind of privacy that I haven't had. I know you understand and bear with me, and I thank you with all my heart.

The months you were here were beautiful ones for me, and I look forward to the time when I can see you again. Meanwhile, I will gratefully accept any letters that you have the time and inclination to write. I do hope they are not too far apart.

²⁶⁷ Noted with a circled "G"

²⁶⁸ Dan is one of the names PB used.

²⁶⁹ Dan, {PB}, in Cuernavaca

You need not have apologized regarding the circumstances of our meeting on the day of your departure, because it was just as well the way it happened. You know how I have reacted to your leaving in the past, and it is good for me to “grow up” and not shed tears on your starched shirts!

I, too, am happy for the peace and joy of the Inner Life; it has and will sustain me for all that is to come, whatever comes. I am happy too because it has such meaning for you, and I shall do my best to make the most of it. Again I thank you for your blessings – how shall I ever thank you enough?

I²⁷⁰ have told Albert about M-----²⁷¹ and as soon as the signal is given we shall telephone him at the office first and if he isn't there we'll put in a call to his home. Albert has purchased some more of the Aurora. Bill hasn't put any money into the shares yet because he leaves the decision up to me, and I don't seem to be affected by it one way or the other. If we do buy any I will let you know; also, if there is any important information I will let you know that too.

As for me, personally, I feel well. I have continued the Astrology lessons and find them most interesting. I have learned that to be a good astrologer one must thoroughly know his subject and on top of that have a highly intuitional nature. LeGros gave each one of his students a copy of their chart as it stood just before we touched this plane. He calls it an Astral Horoscope, ‘representing the first contact that the ego made with the physical plane as it descended through the astral veils which separate “heaven” and earth. The Astral Horoscope symbolizes the experience-aggregate of the past, summarizes all that has been gathered into the reincarnating ego in its previous embodiments – which is obviously more than could ever be expressed in one lifetime. The birth or natal horoscope reveals the particular portion of your past karma that will manifest in your present life. Our character is our destiny. All that will ever take place in our lives must flow out of our essential SELFHOOD: – our spiritual, mental, emotional, psychological and physical being.’

I have come to know LeGros well and the more I know him the better I like him. He has had a very difficult six months here in more ways than one. He has more people attending the lectures every Sunday, but as he says, there are too few people who want the work for the CAUSE. I find him very sincere and doing everything he knows to contribute to what he knows is the work of this incarnation – THE CAUSE. A week ago Sunday he spoke on, “The Truth about the Masters in Tibet,” which I thought was very good. I cannot judge if he is doing right or wrong in the work he is doing, but I sincerely think that he deserves the blessing of meeting you.

He knows I have someone who means much to me and as I dare not mention you without your permission, I do not say anything about you at all.

²⁷⁰ Page 288, noted at the top with a “-2-” by the sender

²⁷¹ “Masson” before partially crossed out by hand. Referring to either Jacques or Bernard Masson.

The reason I would like to mention you to him is so that he could correspond with you – I feel something good would come of it. He has indicated that he would like knowing you, and I promised that I would try to establish the contact. The rest is up to you.

He has mentioned in a lecture that he knows something about some of his past lives and only today he mentioned over the telephone that all he can do in this period of time allotted him²⁷² is to work for THE CAUSE – that in too many previous incarnations he has spent time in a bohemian kind of life as a writer and painter and that he wants to and must stop it. He has given good evidence of doing just that although occasionally a beautiful poem or painting is given birth. He has told me several times that he has thrown everything out on THE LAW, come what may, and I believe he means what he says. So much for this soul, now I must tell you about my experience in taking singing lessons! However, before I go on I must hasten to say that I am not taking Astrology as my guiding star by any means. As LeGros says, and I am heartily in accord, the intuition is the final determining factor. I have always tried to use it, it is a part of me, and I shall continue to do so.

Carl is, or I should say was, my singing teacher. If I ever saw the grace of God working on the behalf of a person, it certainly did in this case. I was almost obsessed with the idea of singing and yet my mind told me that it was all rather foolish – there was more than that for me to do. But I could not deny the intuitional prodding that was with me constantly. Finally, I sat down with the telephone book going over the list of teachers again and again in the hope of determining the “one” for me. Over and over again came Carl’s name. I thought how peculiar this name should be so pronounced with me, but I accepted it and called him and made an appointment. When I met him I was surprised to see such a young man; later I learned he is thirty-five years old.

We got along very nicely and bit by bit in the very first lessons he began to open up his heart and pour out the troubles of his soul. We met on a fairly common ground because of his being a Rosicrucian a few years back which had given him a good idea of reincarnation, and the fact that he had had an astrology chart done. To make a long story short, we have a budding composer (his compositions are ethereal in quality and I predict beautiful music from him); I have given him a book to start him off in the spiritual, and we have taken his badly aspected Mars (he confessed to a very bad temper) and channeled it into his music. I no longer have any desire for singing lessons even tho I love to sing. Perhaps I’ll take a few more – it remains for the next few weeks to tell me. All I know is that I was sent to him and I pray I did a good job!

Albert has certainly benefited from your “touch.” The moodiness seems to have disappeared, or shall I say the traces are slight. In other words he walks a more even keel. He had LeGros do his chart – three trines and six sextiles if I

²⁷² Page 290, noted at the top with “-3-”.

remember rightly, but Sun square Jupiter and Venus square Mars, the latter contributing to emotional frustration as LeGros put it. His advice was that Albert should get out more and throw himself into something. So as a compromise he has taken to dating again. After the meeting²⁷³ with LeGros he came to my house with his chart so I could look at it. I gave him my interpretation of the Sun (1st house) square Jupiter in the 10th, which is how his personality affects his work and I believe it helped. However, he confessed his love for me and that he doubted he could love another. I salved this wound as best I could and I think time and circumstance will do the rest. I am indeed grateful to you for meeting him, it made him feel less that the world cares nothing for him, nor the Masters, nor anyone. As I say, he walks a more even keel.

Before I forget, have you read, "There is Music in the Street" by Francisco Parkinson Raabe published by the Philosophical Library of New York. If you haven't I would like to send it on to you for your perusal. Her book is highly spiritual and written in beautiful language. She reminds me of Merton in a way.

[send post registered]²⁷⁴

Before I neglect to mention it altogether, I think it did Albert good to learn he had a Free-Will chart. He thought he was such a victim of circumstances or pre-destination as he puts it!

Enclosed you will find copies of Sadony's The Valley Caravel, which Lorraine was kind enough to give me to pass on to you. She knows of our contact, and I do hope some day you will meet her too, and I am sure she was pleased to be able to do this. She is progressing well and I am much pleased with her.

There are some people coming into my life lately through LeGros, people who are ready for the next step up. They are very fine with much good in them and I feel a certain readiness, especially one chap, Barry by name, who is a very good friend of Sydney J. Harris, the columnist who writes for the Chicago Daily News. I feel the future, too, will bring about something that will have great meaning. In fact, I feel I am on the verge of it and I almost become frightened. I wonder if I can cope with it. I know I'll make the grade if I, as Albert, walk an even keel. In that way we'll each take a step forward with assurance and poise for that which awaits us.

...²⁷⁵

Enclosed²⁷⁶ too is the answer to my question pertaining to Vegetarianism as I asked it of the Dequer group. They replied to me in a letter and thought it a

²⁷³ page 292, noted at the top of the page with "-4-".

²⁷⁴ "send post registered" added in the left margin by PB himself meaning PB wants a copy of this book.

²⁷⁵ The page was cropped here.

²⁷⁶ Page 294, top of page says "-5-."

fit question for The Challenge, so I enclose this copy and the latest of the Challenge for your reading. As I like to keep The Challenge I ask you to send it back, but only when you have read as much of it as you want. The Caravels, also.²⁷⁷

Enclosed is my Astral Chart. I haven't done a thing with it as yet because I haven't had the time. I only send the copy for the reason that it may have some point of interest for you. You may destroy it when you are through with it.

I hope the writing of the book goes well, and I look forward to it as I did the others. Please let me know if there is anything I can send you. I wish I could be with you to look in your eyes!

Can you imagine, my sister Helen gave Becker a copy of "In Tune with the Infinite" and he told her it meant a lot to him and he thanked her profusely. She said she knows she cannot have him but at least she can help him spiritually, which I think is very good.

My father enjoyed the India book²⁷⁸ very much and now he is entering upon the Egypt one.²⁷⁹ He has been wanting to go to Arizona for his health, and he puts it this way, "I think I'll go to Arizona and become a Yogi!" Which is a long way up for him, and I hope it is a lot farther before this incarnation is over. He thinks the author is a marvelous writer and he ought to know, he's read hundreds of books!²⁸⁰

I had hoped to include a "thank-you" letter from my mother for the book she received from you. How you always happen to be right about things amazes me. She likes it very much and has earnestly requested her two daughters to read it. She thanks you very much, and it meant a great deal to her to know that you thought of her spiritual upliftment. And I thank you too, because I've had my difficulties over the years helping transform this family and it is such things as your books and kind deeds that have helped so much.

I suppose you think I'm never going to finish this letter! Well, I could go on for much longer and say the many beautiful thoughts my heart holds for you, the love my soul has for you, but it is now 5 P.M. I have spent two hours in deep conversation with you and indeed it has been the most beautiful afternoon of many days.

I shall be eagerly awaiting a letter.

The PEACE and AFFECTION is returned a hundred-fold!

As ever,
Diane

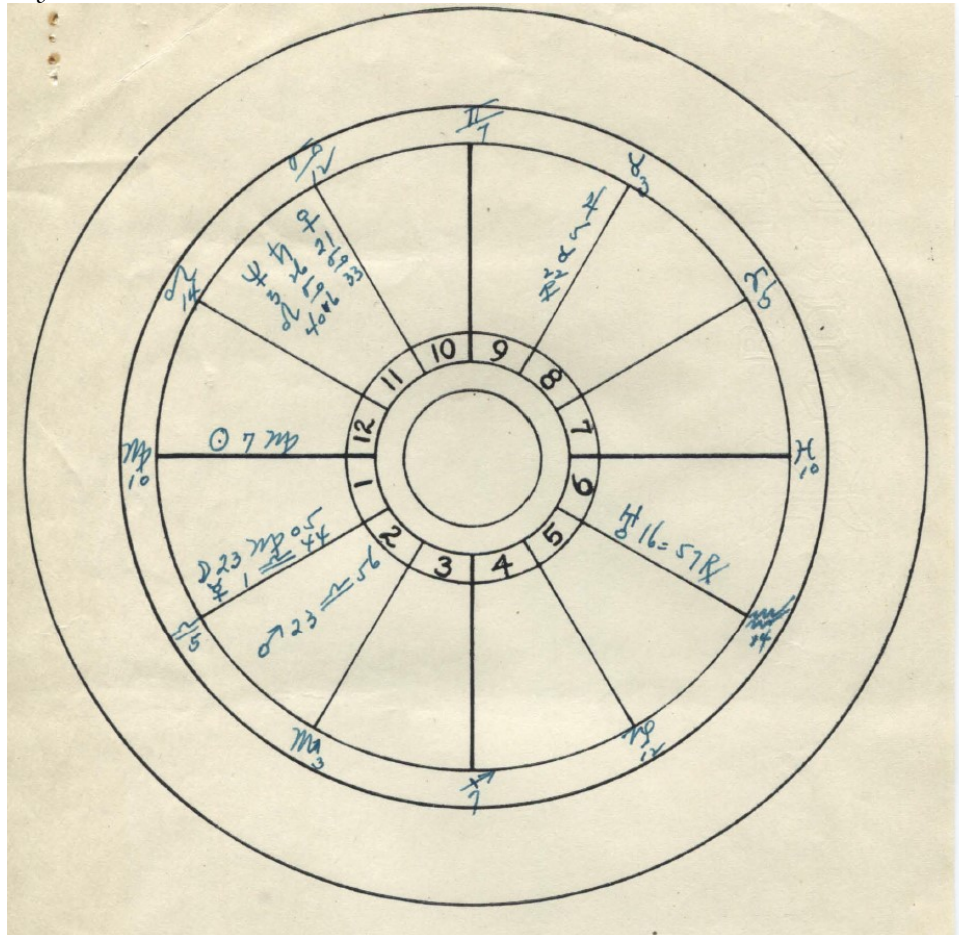
²⁷⁷ This paragraph is noted with a line along the right side by PB himself.

²⁷⁸ PB's A Search in Secret India

²⁷⁹ PB's A Search in Secret Egypt

²⁸⁰ Dan is PB

Page 296 includes the Astral Chart that Diane mentions on page 294 (page 5 of letter)
 This horoscope is cast for 8/30/1936 12:21 GMT (although the Moon is slightly wrong in
 this chart – it should be at 27 Virgo, not 23 Virgo if the other planets' degrees are correct!
 – Timothy Smith



L02.298

298 - 303

Letter from J. Poborak²⁸¹ {Jiri (George) Poborak}
 Prague, Czechoslovakia²⁸² XII, Na Svihance 5
 December 31st, 1937

Dear Mr Brunton,

Thank you very much for your kind letter of the 2nd. It was of much help to me. Since then I have made great progress in understanding the philosophical wisdom and in control of thoughts, relatively, of course. However, I am fully aware that I could not attain all this if you did not help me.

²⁸¹ "Poborak" noted with a "Po" or "PA"

²⁸² "Praha" in the original.

I have studied very carefully Drg-Drśya Viveka, the notes Mr Hoznourek took of your explanations of Jnana,²⁸³ and have grasped and lived through these. Now I have set to studying your “Quest” for the fourth time, and I can now say that I fully comprehend all that is said there as regards the philosophic side of it. Yet as regards experience I know almost nothing, and there is plenty in this book that I shall be able to understand perfectly only after attaining the knowledge of the Self. I am looking forward to your new book on Jnana, as that is the best we could ever wish to have for studying.

The understanding of the philosophy has been an enormous help to me and a great joy too. As a result of it I can now to a pretty great extent keep in the position of the observer during daytime and do not let myself to be swayed by feelings, thoughts or desires. By this understanding and living through it I can objectify my body and thoughts quite easily, if I am not mentally tired, and can thus keep a very clear consciousness; thus I have put my mind under control.

I observed that, during daytime, whilst sitting, I can distract my attention from sight, so that I can have my eyes open and see nothing. This I have done with the sense of hearing too, by simply putting the sense in question as an external object to my consciousness. Just the same, I can eliminate all other senses and almost the feeling of having any other part of the body than the eyes and sight, and thus concentrate the full force of my attention in my sense of sight. These, however, are chance observations and I am not making a practise of anything like. Do you consider this distraction of attention from sight whilst keeping thoughts quiet as “Trataka”?

With regard to experiences of an unpleasant nature I have had almost none at all. I stop every manifestation of psychic faculty and occult power that appears, and I am not carrying on any occult practises whatever. Whenever an unpleasant image rises before my mind’s eye, I simply stop seeing it by more powerfully concentrating my attention inwards. A minor trouble is my sensitiveness to thoughts, as in the case when somebody thinks of me; this disturbs me, and I must learn how to eliminate this.

I²⁸⁴ seem to keep my consciousness to a very small degree even when in deep sleep. When I dream, I know that I am dreaming, and can stop it at will and fall into deep sleep. About two days ago, I went to bed and slowly forgot my environment. I did not fall asleep, but it was neither like dreaming nor like being in the waking state. I was very light and suddenly saw my own body lying in bed down below me. It was not too pleasant, as I did not know how to get to my material body again. But then all of a sudden I was in it and opened my eyes. Could you please tell me what significance this has and how to get to my gross body should this happen again?

²⁸³ “Gnana” in the original throughout.

²⁸⁴ Page 300, noted as page 2.

While meditating, I objectify my body and intellect, and this way all thoughts die away very quickly and I am left with self-awareness. I then contract to a point into my heart, but then my attention begins to fade away and my consciousness, though undisturbed by thoughts and at peace, is not so bright. I have about the feeling of awakening from deep sleep but with a greater consciousness, still undisturbed by thoughts and the senses but not as bright as in the case when, in meditation, I manage to keep my attention to a greater degree, which results in a much deeper feeling of peace and brightening and broadening of consciousness.

Thus I have attained power to control thoughts, but I still have to control my attention, so that I can keep it as sharp as possible. Could you please give me advice as to what to do to sharpen my attentiveness and keep it sharp when meditating?

I often go to Mr Hoznourek and we discuss matters together. The problem occupying me now is what exactly one goes through when concentrating on the ego-thought and then going above it, and what exactly are the appropriate conditions for attaining the Savikalpa Samadhi. A point which is not clear to me is the subtle body.

I derive much pleasure and peace from the understanding of the philosophical wisdom which constitutes Truth, from meditation and mostly by knowing that there are You, on whom I can fully rely, who gives me peace and happiness. I am fully aware of my own personal weakness, yet with my faith in you, knowing you will not desert me, I am determined to find the Highest Truth, and shall stop before no obstacle, no matter how great it be.

I have, dear Sir, another question, concerning my material life. While you were still in Prague this year, I was supposed to enroll for my third term at the High School for Machine Engineering. However, circumstances came round that I had no money to do so. Thus I have interrupted my studies at this School. Up to then I was making money at The English Institute by teaching. This employment, however, I left, and am now without means and have no hope of finding any employment now. I of course live at my parent's and get my food there, but the thing that troubles me is this: I have a girl. She is three years senior to me. I know her for more than two years and we have developed a sincere and deep understanding to each other. I should like to marry her, not that I cling to it, as I have different opinions of life than the usual ones, but because that is practically the only way to²⁸⁵ make her happy and show her the possibilities of a higher life. She is very intelligent, but some training in logic is necessary. Matters at her home and mine are very critical, and we have to make money of our own. Neither of us has an employment now, and we need it very badly indeed, as neither of us can stay at home under the present conditions, not that anything makes me feel hurt, but it makes her feel hurt. I therefore ask you

²⁸⁵ Page 302, noted as page 3.

to kindly advise us what to do, if you will, and whether there is hope of matters to take a better turn in the near future, hope of my finding an employment and whether I am destined to marry her.

With expression of my deepest reverence and devotion

I am
Very sincerely Yours
J. Poborak²⁸⁶

L02.304

304 - 305

Letter from Josef Hoznourek²⁸⁷

Praha XI-Zizkov, cp. 930, Havlickova ul. c. 23²⁸⁸ Czechoslovakia
6th September 1945

Our most beloved Friend,

We duly received your telegram and letter, and we are very happy to be allowed to write you. In these days we remember the eight anniversary of your arrival. It was the happiest time of our lives when you lived among us. You have given us the high Teaching, Strength and a great hope. During the war nearly every one of us lived through bombardment, persecution of gestapo and the front. Gestapo made by us domiciliary visits and took us to cross examinations. Your books were confiscated. To Blaha was taken away the photograph you gave him and he beg you to be so kind and to send him if possible another photo of you.

We have had a great protection during all this time and everybody of us went through this dark period of time without greater injury. In the year 1942 Karel Weinfurter died on cancer. He was in the year 1941 14 days hold in prison by gestapo. His fate came to fulfillment as you had foretelled him. Mme Kaitman died on cancer in the year 1941. Mr Marik²⁸⁹ had a fit of apoplexy a year ago. Now he is getting better on, although his nerves are of course very shattered. This long time of war was a heavy examination of our patience. It was only this week, when we succeeded to get your book The Hidden Teaching beyond yoga/ There is no packet post yet open to our country/. We have it just three days and we find it splendid.

We consider it as success that the greater part of us have kept a certain degree of inner calmness despite all the terrible things around us. And again we have to thank you from the bottoms of our hearts for all the Grace, for all the

²⁸⁶ "Poborák" in the original.

²⁸⁷ Josef Hoznourek. Noted with a circled "H."

²⁸⁸ "Praha XI-Zižkóv, čp. 930, Havlíčková ul. č. 23" in the original.

²⁸⁹ "Mařík" in the original.

Help you have rendered us. We know that it was only your help, which enabled us to live through this dark time so happily, our minds and bodies being protected.

As our meditations regards it can be said, that the quality/deepness of them went down, comparatively to the year 1938, but our longing for the Truth, our yearning, our determination to find It is still greater than it was, and we shall be grateful for every hint you shall give us and we shall follow it to the best of our abilities.

Poborak with his family is in abroad, consequently this letter is written in a broken English, but with love.

Some our friends feel the necessity to write you personal letters We gave them your address and we hope it will not disturb you too much. In generally they do not wait for a written answer.

As regards the six points you mention in your letter, we believe that if there is an error, it is on our side. You have shown the importance of all this points in your books.

Tremendous events, which are to be expected interest us very much. Is the atomic bomb one of them?

During the war we had to stop nearly all meditations with other people. In present time we feel the necessity to dedicate all our forces to our own development and we meet only few personal friends and some people of good qualities.

The economical and social situation of our country is good and is getting every day better. There is a very great interest for the spiritual things in our country. The conditions are good for it in the presence. As to the future it can be nothing said, but we hope all will go to the best.

We hope that the end of the war with Japan will enable you to get out of India. We regret very much, that you have been so seriously ill, and we hope that all will be better now. Please, accept our sincerely invitation to come to our country as our guest as soon as your health and other possibilities will allow it.

We send you our warm feelings of love and devotion

Very sincerely Yours

This is a copy of the letter sent separately.²⁹⁰

Josef Blaha {m.h. Lug.} Arnost Capek {m.h.} Lida Zelenkova²⁹¹ {m.w.}

Josef Hoznourek

Ph Dr²⁹² Paul Brunton Esq.
Jasmine Villa
Mysore City

²⁹⁰ This note was added by a different typewriter

²⁹¹ Zelenková

²⁹² Page 305

British South India

Mme Zelenkova²⁹³ asked me to complete the report as regards the meditations for she and for me: In the year 1938 we experienced ecstatic states sometimes for some hours. Today we experience more deep subtle peace and feel exaltation about body and ego.²⁹⁴

L02.306

306 – 307

Duplicate letter from Josef Hoznourek

This letter is the original copy of the letter from pages 304-305. As such, it has not been retyped here, but can be viewed in the PDF.

L02.308

308 – 311

Note of Christmas reflections from Karel Weinfurter (K.W.) of the group of students from Czechoslovakia

Extract: "Christmas is a time of peace, and this is nowadays a much greater necessity than it has been in previous years. Nowadays all people feel how disarranging elements spread themselves among all classes of people, how the dark forces try to destroy everything good that has ever been built and attained on this earth. Therefore this is the exact time to oppose these forces by the means of peace in the heart! How can we reach it best? By quiet prayer and also, of course, by deep concentration on the spiritual Heart."

L02.312

312 – 317

Letter²⁹⁵ from Karel Weinfurter (K.W.), to an unnamed "Madam"
Prague-Vinohrady
December 15th, 1937

Dear Madam,

This morning our secretary has brought me your letter, in which you announce your withdrawal from the Society and try to justify it. As I see that you are wrongly informed, I have to write you a few lines for your further Way.

²⁹³ Zelenková

²⁹⁴ Added to back of letter by a different typewriter.

²⁹⁵ Pages numbered in top left corner.

You can be sure that I always speak the truth as regards mystic matters, and the fact of my writing this to you has been brought about by unselfish and purely spiritual reasons.

As regards the picture, I received an order from Mr Brunton not to make more than 50 copies. I therefore can't give this picture to everybody, but only to the more advanced students, whom I specially test in person. This also is done according to Mr Brunton's wish. If anybody else tried to make you believe anything else, then he was not speaking truth.

If, therefore, you knew, that I possessed the same power as the other three, then I give you this direct question: why didn't you in that matter of meditation apply to me? Why did you apply to somebody else? But I know the answer - because I didn't boost mine in the Society. But in this case of uninformed people, "Who advertises, sells," held good as it does in the physical world.

Had you carefully listened to what I had been saying, you would also have heard that I want to have in the Society only those people who have absolute faith in me. He who has not this faith has nothing to do there, as he would by his mere thoughts cause disharmony and thus do harm to the others. As there were some cases of members, who were not faithful to me and sympathised with the others and brought them lying and distorted informations of what I said in public in the Society meetings, I had to ask those members not to be present at the Society meetings. My society²⁹⁶ must be composed of absolutely trustworthy people and not intermingled with traitorous elements.

Further you certainly don't know that Mr Brunton brought from the Maharishee a sieve, so as to separate the chaff from the grain. If anybody obtains spiritual strength from a Guru and then thinks he has thus overcome all possible dangers or difficulties, then he is badly mistaken by thus thinking to be under protection and that nothing can happen to him. This is meant for those, who by their personal conceit open wide the door to dark forces.

Anyway, the f u t u r e will show it all.

Let me also inform you, that I don't in the least care whether anybody remains a member of the society or withdraws, - I have a much greater task to perform than these gentlemen think - this also is the reason of my being received as a personal disciple of Maharishee - and nobody else here has. I have to take care of almost 1500 people whose spiritual progress is my own progress and I cannot even if I would to concentrate with all. Mr Brunton himself had here only 16 or 18 people in two circles with whom he daily meditated, and then he told us that h i s power could not manage to meditate with more. Therefore let those gentlemen take further members - the more they will have, the sooner they will collapse. And this will again be a lesson for all. I wish only good to everybody, but I hate intrigues and lies.

²⁹⁶ Page 314, noted as page 2.

And finally, if you think that you are of rather an advanced age, and if you should like to reach higher states, I approve of your yearning, but you ought to have counseled somebody more expert, and not to have gone to anybody else when you had the chance of going to an expert. And, finally, you have no idea at all of the fact that the power, which is constantly and invisibly flowing on me from the Guru Maharishee, is imparted to all those who,²⁹⁷ believing in Maharishee, hear me speak in the Society meeting! I have also been told this by Mr Brunton, only I do not boast with things like these.

This, I think, is the information you needed.

Yours faithfully
K.W.

L02.318

318 - 319

Incomplete letter from Josef Hoznourek²⁹⁸
Praha - Zizkov, Havlickova 23.,²⁹⁹ Prague, Czechoslovakia
October 4th, 1938

My Dear Guru,

Thank you for your kind letter of the 2nd. and for the letter of the 5th sent to me by your secretary. We were very pleased to hear of the almost complete recovery of your physical health.

Since the day of the arrival of your letter our country experienced extraordinary tension and several upsetting events, as you certainly are well informed. In this time we³⁰⁰ appreciated the spiritual basis which we were given by you, for we constantly felt calmness in the time of the highest emotional disturbances around us, and we also very intensely felt the help and blessings which you were sending us, and we are very grateful for it. Now the tension gradually diminishes and we hope that the coming period will give our country not only quiet and peace but also spiritual light to all our countrymen.³⁰¹

I once promised you not to write to the Swami Siddheswarananda till I receive your agreement to do so/when you receive Mr K.W.'s³⁰² decision/. I beg you now to give me your kind bidding.

Mrs Zelenkova stopped her meditations according to your order. On the whole she feels now quite healthy. Perhaps she could already practise

²⁹⁷ Page 316, noted as page 3.

²⁹⁸ "J. Hoznourek" added at the top of letter and noted with a checkmark on top left corner.

²⁹⁹ "Praha - Žižkov,
Havlíčkova 23." in the original.

³⁰⁰ Underlining added by PB himself.

³⁰¹ Paragraph marked with vertical lines in the margin by PB himself.

³⁰² Refers to Karel Weinfurter.

meditation at least for brief periods. She certainly would be very grateful to you for a message whether she can practise meditation, and in case she could, for how long a period. Before the arrival of your letter she used to sit in meditation even several hours daily.

Mr Weinfurter is still very annoyed at us. I should like to emphasize that we now clearly see that that which you wrote us concerning this matter was all correct and that we shall continue to act according to your bidding as we already have promised you.

Could you please kindly tell us whether Mr K.W. is now going to publish one of your books in Czech? In case he is not we would ourselves try to do so. We should of course be very glad if 'The Quest' could be published in Czech soon, but it would perhaps be easier for us or better according to your consideration to publish first a book of smaller size, e.g. Arunachala, or if it would be presently suitable for the people, the Instruction lessons /book/ could be published in Czech simultaneously with the English edition.

Mr Frantisek Kucera³⁰³ asks whether he may practise Trataka. You met him in Praha. You said him, he was a born mystic.

Now there is a problem we do not know how to solve. During the last year as you already know a group was formed here, quite automatically, of our friends with whom we had meetings, and these were gradually joined by several ...³⁰⁴

L02.320

320 – 321

German letter from MUDr Josef Svoboda

It begins: I was very pleased to receive the dear letter from you. You can not imagine what bliss, happiness and peace give us or me with your letters. Ten times I read it, and it always has a blessing effect on my soul.

Extract: "Sie wissen selbst wie wir sehnen nach Ihnen alle, und leben wir nur in Gedanken auf Sie und Ihre Arbeit. Ich selbst strebe nur danach, dass ich auf dem Wege der Wahrheit weiter kommen kann und bitte täglich um die Gnade, dem Ueber-Ich sich nähern.-- They know for themselves how we long for you all, and we live only in thought on you and your work. I am only anxious to be able to get on the road of truth, and I will come to the end of the day"

³⁰³ "Kučera" in the original.

³⁰⁴ Subsequent lines are missing.

L02.322

322 – 323

Postage label from Dr P. J. Saher
421 Munster³⁰⁵ Goerdeler SW.3, West Germany
Undated

Extract: None

L02.324

324 – 325

Letter from Roy Abram Burkhart³⁰⁶
1320 Cambridge Boulevard, Columbus 12, Ohio
October 12, 1949

Dear PB,

I had a fine conference with Will Harper³⁰⁷ and I sensed the things that you have so beautifully shared with me in your letter. We will give him every encouragement and will help him, even financially.

I have wanted to write you for some time about all the good that came to me through you. I have almost automatically, since our meeting together in Columbus, found freedom from the invasion into my conscious by the thoughts of those who are in space-time and the yearnings of those who are beyond space-time.

In the second place, I have found a quality of physical health since being with you, that I have not known for some years.

It must be a wonderful thing to be able to serve as such an interpreter and medium through which healing of body and peace of soul can come to a person. I am deeply grateful and seek to grow in the secret that I might become such a medium to others.

I almost hesitate to even mention it because it is so unimportant, but John Chambers of Harper Brothers is a personal friend of mine. He happens to have a friend who is close to you. Word has come to this mutual friend that someone in our church was supposed to have shown you a letter from Mr Chambers, in which he raised some question about you.

It disturbed John very much. Now it should not have disturbed him, because if he had that feeling, he should have expressed it to you. The thing that we would like to know is whether someone here showed you any letter, for it has put two girls in the office who handle my correspondence somewhat on the spot.

³⁰⁵ "Münster" in original, diacritical mark has been removed.

³⁰⁶ Noted with a circled "B"

³⁰⁷ Will Harper

I am going to ask John to come to see you. John needs you very, very much. And so, when he comes, I am sure that his question in his mind will certainly disappear. I feel that you have gone farther on the path, and in a more basic way - may I say, a more natural way, a more real way, a more true way - than anyone it has ever been my privilege to know.³⁰⁸ I want John Chambers, who is earnestly seeking the way, but who has many blocks and problems, to be with you. I am sending him to you.

Sincerely,
Roy³⁰⁹

L02.326

326 - 327

Letter from Roy Abram³¹⁰ Burkhart³¹¹
1320 Cambridge Boulevard, Columbus 12, Ohio
October 29, 1949

Dear PB,

Bless you for the time, 4:00 p.m. on December 21st
John needs you very much.
[You have freed me as no other I have ever known.
You have more of the secret than any I know.]

Gratefully,
Roy

The³¹² idea of the community church - itself a wedding of denominations - was spreading over the nation. Some 2,000 had been formed in villages, towns, and cities. One of the outstanding ones was in Columbus, Ohio, under the pastorate of the Rev. Roy A. Burkhart.

L02.328

328 - 329

"Community News" clipping written by Rev. Roy Abram Burkhart,
answering the question, "How life can be renewed and fulfilled"

³⁰⁸ This sentence is underlined and noted with an "X" in the margin, presumably by PB

³⁰⁹ "Prominent person, important historically" Added separately on a post-it note by Randy Cash.

³¹⁰ Minister of First Community Church in the letterhead.

³¹¹ Noted with a circled "B"

³¹² The following is a newspaper clipping cut out and glued to letter.

Extract: "We have discussed it often together. The answer lies in practice, in personal research. Life is renewed and fulfilled in the experiences of married love, in the realization of harmonious family living, in work well done, in friendship, in exploring great literature, in problem-solving, in turning setbacks into gains, in appreciating the glory of the natural world. But deeply and most especially it is known in worship. It is never fully found without coming to an end of movement, to a point of rest."

L02.330

330 - 331

Newspaper clipping quoting Dr Roy Burkhart, with portrait
DR ROY BURKHART, of World Neighbors: "The people of America have a hunger to do something individually. There is something in Americans which loves people, which wants to reach out in friendship"

L02.332

332 - 343

Newspaper article mentioning Dr Roy Burkhart by Howard Whitman, discussing the World Neighbors and related charity, religious, educational organizations

Extract: "Sharing is the goal. It is the goal of America's new mood. Not the smugness of gadget superiority. Not the attitude, 'We are Lord Bountiful. How lucky you are to be on our side!' But the deeply democratic and religious purpose, as Dr Burkhart put it: 'To share with all peoples in such a way that their fullest gift may be added to our way of life and our best gifts to theirs, and that together we may fulfill the Divine Purpose of personal and social living.'"

L02.344

344 - 345

Letter from Roy Burkhart³¹³

January 28, 1954

Dear PB

You perhaps know that I became ill the 10th of November.

I wrote you a long hand letter more than a month ago but I'm not sure if you received it.

³¹³ Noted with a circled "B"

You have been much in my thoughts and I would like you to know that I am having a great time these weeks in attempting something I never did before: to do nothing basically but grow in the world within.

Sincerely,
Roy

13054 Gulf Lane
Madeira Beach
St. Petersburg, Fla.

L02.346

346 - 347

Magazine clipping

TIME Magazine article regarding Rev. Roy Abram Burkhart, Columbus pastor, leading a promotion talk for "World Neighbors, Inc.," an organization attempting to fight Communism

Extract: "Pastor Burkhart, who has made a name for himself in Columbus as a socially conscious clergyman (TIME, Aug. 11, 1947) was elected president. The purpose of the organization, as he sees it: to recruit enough money and personnel in the U.S. for an intensive five-year program of practical aid, on a 'village level,' in areas that suffer from material want."

L02.348

348 - 349

Letter from Rev. Roy Abram Burkhart³¹⁴
1320 Cambridge Boulevard, Columbus 12, Ohio
June 26, 1953

Dear PB

When I called your apartment I talked with a very charming person, and I was glad to learn that you have been married.

I would covet fellowship with you, but July 8 I shall go into retreat too and will return about the 27th of August.

Undoubtedly I shall be in New York City in the fall and will certainly want to see you. Should you come this way, be sure to let me know. I need a visit.

With deepest regards, and with love,

Sincerely,
Roy

³¹⁴ Noted with a "B"

Incomplete letter from Josef Hoznourek

...³¹⁵ Despite of the warnings of Mme Zelenkova³¹⁶ intuition, despite of my reasons counsels, we plunged instead in meditations and spiritual study in the struggle and quarrel with Mrs Capek³¹⁷ and Mr Blaha³¹⁸ for a time of two years or longer. We regard this case as an examination, which we lost completely. For we were personal / very / and lost our self-control.

During this time, Mr Capek stood on the side of Mrs Capek and Mr Blaha, being silent and interfering not, for he likes harmony.

The minds and hopes of all people of our circle were concentrated on you during all the war, in all danger and in all we had to live through. You were their Ishtam, their Christ, our ideal of Spirituality. The fact, that you wrote in your last letter, that you consider yourself only a student, did not change nothing on this devotion. The greatest hope and desire of everybody of us here is to meet you.

The people await from us that we shall bring them to you, as we did it during your last visit in Praha. A friend of mine said me, that Blaha said before him this remark: I do not know, whether I shall bring this man to Dr P.B.

Thus the people are bound indirectly to us. But nor me nor Mr Capek wish to bind anybody. I remember the late K.W. Someone brought him 100 cigarettes. He said to the giver: You will be the first I shall bring to Dr P.B. And for the people it is the greatest question and goal of their lives!

Today Blaha says that he have done many faults. But Mrs Capek wants to concentrate all the “best people” around her and Blaha. She use many unfair tricks to keep people from Mme Z. or from me. Nor Mme Z. nor I, we do not seek for people. I cannot meditate today with anybody, I have not time for my own things. But the situation is not quite agreeable. We try to keep the best attitude to Mrs Capek and Blaha. We do not want any disharmony.

I wrote all this to inform you. I am not egofree and may be I am biased in many things. I am not competent to judge Mrs Capek and Blaha. I have done many faults myself. And today I have not yet my mind under control.

Allow me please to add some lines about myself:

They are three points I remember most from the time before the war:

You spoke to me one midnight on the street Na Porici.³¹⁹ And you gave me the vision, or better said, understanding in which I saw the Unity. There was

³¹⁵ Incomplete letter, first two pages missing. Noted as page 3 of four, page 350 in our document

³¹⁶ “Zelenková” in the original. Diacritical mark has been removed.

³¹⁷ “Čapek” in the original document.

³¹⁸ “Bláha” in the original document.

³¹⁹ “Poříčí” in the original document

nothing else but ONE FORCE. All in One and One in All. This my "I" was nothing, was not. This state I regard as the Goal to be reached. There were no questions and no problems in it, and no fear.

The second point was a meditation during which an immense Force entered in me and worked in body and mind till the bottom of my Heart. I wrote you of this and you answered that it was a great privilege what I experienced.

The third point was the state in which I was for some months In this state I regarded the body and mind as objective and I lived constantly in peace. It was more an inner attitude than state. I have it not now.

The³²⁰ war came with its fears. I had to change my profession and to work in the office. This work influenced badly my nerves and mind. The case of Blaha and Mrs Capek was a very bad thing for me. I lost my balance. It was a slow work from the year 1942 till today, to get it again.

There was a great spiritual force in the year 1938. Today it is not felt in such an extent. But the subtle peace is constantly present. I can stop my thoughts in "still schweigen." When during the meditation I identify innerly with you, a state arise, in which I am as if above and behind of myself, free to an extent from the personality in what could be called impersonal consciousness.

Please, destroy all the egoism and ignorance in my mind. I cannot find words to express what I feel. You know best.

With love and devotion

Yours

Josef Hoznourek

Best wishes to Christmas and to the New Year

J.H.³²¹

L02.353

353 - 363

The Saturday Evening Post, magazine article referencing Dr Roy
Burkhart³²²
about Burkhart's group, "World Neighbors, Inc."

Extract: "On March sixth, President Eisenhower discussed World Neighbors, Inc., with Doctor Burkhart for thirty-two minutes at the White House. 'The President was not only deeply interested,' Doctor Burkhart reported, 'but told me that he felt greatly encouraged that such a movement as ours was under way. He said his Administration

³²⁰ Page 352, noted as page "4" in the original

³²¹ Back of page not scanned

³²² Noted with a circled "B" and parts of the article are highlighted with lines and arrows, denoting sections about Burkhart

would encourage all worth-while private efforts to link the resources of America with the needs of people in the underdeveloped areas.”

L02.364

364 – 365

TIME magazine article about Roy Abram Burkhart³²³ in section titled “Religion” and “Beloved Fellowship” discussing his community church, or “True Church”

Extract: “Hard-driving, 51 year-old Roy Burkhart gets his directive for each day’s work in an hour of meditation right after breakfast each morning. During this hour he ruminates upon ‘who I am, why I’m here and where I’m going.’ Then he begins a round of activity so strenuous that he often breaks off for a half hour’s nap.”

L02.366

366 – 381

The Saturday Evening Post article by Hartzell Spence, about Roy Burkhart³²⁴

Discussing the success and popularity of his First Community Church

Extract: “‘Most preachers,’ says Dr Clark P. Pritchett, a prominent Columbus physician, ‘preach to congregations; Roy Burkhart ministers to individuals.’ This is the core of First Community Church’s success. Every member is a ‘beloved individual’ whose physical, psychological and spiritual needs are looked out for. Care is taken that in a congregation so large no one is forgotten.”

L02.382

382 – 385

Letter from Traverse Elliott
AF19459294, 7280 SvS. Equ. Rpr. Sq., APO 30, c/o P.M. New York, NY
26 October 1953

Dear Mr Brunton,

It was good to receive your acknowledgement of my previous letter. It was forwarded by my parents to my present station with the USAF³²⁵ in French Morocco – Nouasseur.

³²³ Noted with a circled “B” and “Burkhart mail”

³²⁴ Noted with “Sat Eve Post,” “Feb-5-49,” a circled “B” and “on Roy Burkhart” in another hand.

In writing I have only a few questions to ask – questions from a young man who needs correction much more than answers, but who hopes to make of the answers helps in that correction.

So far, in my 22 years, I have seen discipline to be valuable and necessary in life, by experience and observation – and, after too much foolishness, am decided to devote all my energies to self-discipline at the least and to self-liberation at the most.

But, what progress may a man make towards understanding of life and self-mastery who turns from a confused natural way of life even³²⁶ with determination to a way which makes as its central aim constructive activity and discipline. It certainly appears to be true that the habitual natural outlook clouds the view of inherent duty and increases or makes more evident the deceits and weaknesses of the ego.³²⁷

Does self-liberation terminate the deceits and illusions of the ego³²⁸ – constitute the perfection of discipline?³²⁹

To what extent does continence contribute to spirituality?

Thank you again, Mr Brunton, for your attention and for your books which point the way to enlightenment.

Sincerely,



{Addendum: PB inserted this section at the bottom of the letter, with an arrow pointing to the line reading "To what extent does continence contribute to spirituality?"}

continence is an individual matter – depends on circumstances. General Way, continence which is both inward mental as well as physical makes the highest possible contribution to Spirit. If it is merely external and in continuous contradiction – to internal state, it is a detriment

It's difficult for young men to maintain continence unless one is acquainted with certain facts usually unknown. Congratulations on starting quest so early. This a great asset.

Long Path {needs} to make the Short Path {essential}. This is essential in earlier & intermediate stages. Natural man is a force – Prevalent, we haven't reached within and evolved. Natural man is in harmony with nature. Men sin against mind & body.

{Addendum: This reply was typed on page 383 (the back of the first page), and appears to be based on PB's handwritten notes from page 384.}

³²⁵ United States Air Force

³²⁶ Page 384, noted as page 2.

³²⁷ "this is essential long path" is handwritten in the margin of the letter by PB himself .

³²⁸ "No" is handwritten in the margin of letter, by PB himself.

³²⁹ "provides the liberation" is handwritten by PB himself in margin (see the reply below).

Box 34 Cooper Station, New York 3, USA

Dr Brunton is out of the States, Traverse Elliott...

but dictated answers to your questions. He has carried your letter with him on his travels along with many other letters since the day it was received, but it was not possible until now to interrupt important work to attend to correspondence.

He is not answering any letters this year as he is preparing a new book. However, if you will keep a list of your questions you will find that many will be answered as you progress with your reading.

Self-liberation does not terminate the deceits and illusions of the ego. Discipline provides the liberation and is essential on the long path, especially in the earlier and intermediate stages. It is well to use both the Long Path and the Short Path.

Continence is an individual matter, depending on the circumstances. In a general way, continence which is both inwardly mental as well as physical makes the highest possible contribution to spiritual life. If it is merely external and in continual contradiction to the internal state, it is a detriment.

It is difficult for young men to maintain continence unless one is acquainted with certain facts usually unknown.

You are to be congratulated on starting the Quest so early. It is a great asset.

Dr Brunton sends you his Peace!

L02.386

386 - 393

Incomplete letter from Traverse R. Elliott
2639 Chelsea Drive, Oakland California
March 14, 1951

Dear Dr Brunton,

This is a letter of thanks and of enquiry.

First of all, thank you Dr Brunton for your works! Whether by chance or by design, I came upon "A Search in Secret Egypt" at an important time in my life; and the understanding of life evident in "Quest of the Overself," "Hidden Teachings - ," "Wisdom of the Overself," etc., have directed my life and will, insofar as my will commands, guide on.

Previously I had discovered my conscience and happily had found the³³⁰ writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Of course, your thoughts were of the same spirit as Emerson's, and I was convinced that it was truth and good - and so determined to move into the right way obviously indicated.

Since then I have progressed some, I hope, and for the past three years have been attending the Seventh-Day Adventist Pacific Union College and taking the chemistry curriculum. At the college, of course, the Christian doctrine is wonderfully presented, and for that there is much reason to be thankful.

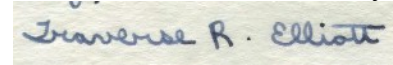
And³³¹ the request is for council! Here is a person whose vision is infinitely higher than attainment and whose thinking is certainly marred by ignorance. And all around are the many who are convinced of materialistic futility and the few who while being very far on the road of life may be influenced in their ministration by beliefs incident to environment or conviction.

Although there is cause for thanks and indebtedness as to the printed word, yet a personal word from one in whom is great reason for trust would add realness to the doctrine of the reality of which I have only read. Also,

...whereas³³² certainly I do not know my true condition or possibilities, you could give a true indication.

Thank you Dr Brunton for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Traverse R. Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is located on a small, rectangular piece of paper or a stamp.

³³¹ Page 390

³³² Page 392 – previous lines appear to be missing.

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