## **Readers' Letters 04**

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 1938 and 1978. 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

#### L04.001

1 – 2 Paper noting a file containing letters

Extract: none

#### L04.003

3 - 4 Letter from Manly Palmer Hall<sup>1</sup> 3341 Griffith Park Boulevard, Los Angeles, California October 27, 1938

Mr Paul Brunton P.O. Box 789 Hollywood, Calif.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "The Philosophical Research Society Inc." letterhead.

Just a few lines to acknowledge your kind letter of October 15 and the talisman that you used in Egypt. This is a very interesting item to have in our collection, and we are most grateful to have this and the two formulas that you gave me earlier.

It may be just as well to avoid visiting Japan at this time although I am sure that you would have enjoyed it. Your new book should be well on the way to completion now, so that you can soon get back to your real work in India.

I suppose you will be too busy for us to have another evening together, so "bon voyage" and good wishes for your continued success.

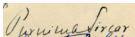
Very truly yours, Manly P. Hall

L04.005

5 - 6 Holiday card from Purnima Sircar Ludlow Jute Co Ltd of 7 Royal Exchange Place, Calcutta - 1<sup>2</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Dec '56

PB

With best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year<sup>3</sup> Always seeking your blessing



L04.007

7 - 8 Handwritten note by Paul Brunton Undated

- 1) give Shankara  $MS^4$  {on breath}<sup>5</sup>
- 2) recommend Gopi Krishna book

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Date added by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "With best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year" is the message printed in the card.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> MS refers to "Manuscript."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> These words are partially illegible; we recommend examining the original scan.

9 – 14 Letter from L. Sontag 194 Stirling St., Perth – 6000, West Australia 6.7.1969

Dear Sir,

Breath Suspension.

Since 1965, I have gone into the (higher) Yoga – as a fulfilment of an ardent yearning in the twenties and having found that certain personal peculiarities in my life, then unknown to me, served my spiritual development.

Since 1965, I regard myself an "unofficial" monk of Our Lord Christ.

Late in 1967 I noticed, that when in deep prayer, devotion – I scarcely breathed. So I termed my phenomena "Slight Breath," but after many months I came to the opinion that it completely stopped. At will I could produce it, also by relaxing and "looking into the infinite" with closed eyes. Once testing its duration, I gave up after 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours; <u>I could have continued</u>, because I felt no inconvenience at all.<sup>6</sup>

Moved by a desire for a) explanation, b) its esoteric significance, c) how to utilize it for spiritual development (or psychic phenomena) I contacted local institutions, then Search organisations in London and two in the USA – in vain.

From own notes, its "mechanics" came clear: the Vagus-nerve – connecting the heart and stomach with lung-vesicles – consists of two kinds of fibres, one reacts on "inner" impulses, the other on "outer" ones; when one takes over, the other stops to react. Later found a proof, when I swallowed the accumulated saliva. Usually – for a relief – I actually imagined only a swallowing, <u>without</u> changing the position of my tongue, which involuntarily curved back into the throat-cavity; - but when I actually swallowed, changing the tongue-position, then immediately I had to gasp for air: the outer impulse took over from the inner one.

This stoppage became so common, a matter of course, that I did not care about it at all. I only wanted to be helpful to the Medical Science (to upset its axiom, that life and breath are inseparable) WITHOUT UNDERGOING ARGUMENTATIONS upsetting my quiet spiritual endeavours. I tried a scientific corroboration by finding a "polygraph" (lie-detector), which registers the breathing also – in vain. My (conscientious) "trance" was not Samadhi, because my body did not become insensitive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Underlined by PB himself.

At last in your book "Search in Secret India"<sup>7</sup> (page 65?) – to my shock – I found that my "insignificant" experience is "outstanding" and of high esoteric significance. So from my 3 above questions only the last is unanswered: how utilisable for spiritual development (or psychic phenomena). May I ask you in humility, to honour me with your advice.

In the past I asked for strictest secrecy for above, but now I ask myself: is it not my duty to come forward??? Very much, though, I shrink from publicity. (Then: what is easy in my seclusion might – in the beginning at least – misfire by "stage fever.")

Questions arising from further considerations: a/ during the breath-suspension the heart-beat i.e. blood-circulation, does not stop – only the lung's action of cleaning the blood from impurities. Thus a prolonged suspension might progressively "poison the whole body?"\*

b/ a temporary control of the Vagus nerve influences the lung-actions – at one end of the nerve. How could be influenced the heart – and stomach – functions – on the other ends of the nerve?

{illegible}<sup>8</sup> that the respiration – then – is done by "astral" organs? on the "astral" plane?

Thanking<sup>9</sup> you in anticipation, may I greet you with

Shanti-Shanti-Shanti

L. Sontag

{*The envelope is on pages 10-12, the addresses are:*} Paul Brunton PhD. Esq. Personal {*forwarded to*} National & Grindlays 13 St. James's Square London SW1 {*forwarded again to*} c/o Fraumunster Postamt Postlagernd Zurich Switzerland

From L Sontag

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Page 13 – the intervening pages are the outer sides of this airmail letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The first letters are cut off the left margin; what remains is "ble,".

<sup>9</sup> Page 14

194 Stirling St. Perth – 6000 West-Australia

#### L04.015

15 – 16 Letter from Tony Slapikas Fan explaining his Lithuanian background, his translating of PB's texts, and his questions regarding PB's warnings to not follow any meditations in the presence of moral weakness, as he does not believe anyone to be without moral weakness.

*Extract: "My sincere life's motto is <u>'I am ever ready to throw myself to his feet, who can show</u> <u>me what I really am'<sup>10</sup></u> This is taken from Your book, but I LIVE IN THIS THOUGHT."* 

#### L04.017

17 – 18 Letter from Cosmo Sheridan C/o Visitors Mail, American Embassy, Paris, France 3 July 1967

c/o<sup>11</sup> American Express Bahnhoffstrasse 20 8001 Zurich, Switzerland

Dear PB, how many years has it been since you have had a written word from me? I've lost count. But of one number I am certain: I have thought of you at least three hundred and sixty-five times in each and every one of those years.

Much has happened, of course, in the interim. A divorce; an eight-month stay in Cohasset; and now close to three years spent away from America – to which I hope never to return, except for visits – first in Morocco (Marrakesh: "a rose-red city, half-lost in time"), then Spain (where I found it easiest to live on my monthly \$40), and now France – from which I hope never to depart, except for visits; and above and beyond everything else in importance, a few insights - all of which, I'm afraid, occurred before or after Cohasset. Evangeline<sup>12</sup> was right, remember? It was not for me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Underlined in red by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> PB's address from envelope.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Evangeline Young Glass who was PB's third wife.

But what of your news? I should love to see you. Are you in Europe, too? As the French say: J'ai soif.

With love and reverence,

losmo

#### L04.019

19 – 20 Small piece of paper<sup>13</sup> with the address of Purnima Sircar Calcutta India Dec 1964

P. Sircar Xmas card Dec 1964<sup>14</sup> Ludlow Jute Co Ltd 14 India Exchange Place Calcutta – 1 INDIA. from Purnima & Protap<sup>15</sup>

L04.021

21 – 22 Holiday card from Purnima Sircar 25/11/63

PB16

I seek your grace

Two years of physical sickness, mistake is over. Probably I needed this purgatory to cure me some of the egoisms. I wonder when I stop making mistakes or it is just has to happen through some karmic law.

Father your grace be with me and my husband forever

With the Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy & Prosperous Year.

From: With best regards

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Clipped from a page or envelope handwritten by Purnima Sicar likely related to item L04.021, a Holiday card.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "Xmas card Dec 1964" written by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "from Purnima & Protap written by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Page 22



#### L04.023

23 – 24 Letter from Purnima Sircar Ludlow Jute Co Ltd, 14 India Exchange Place, Calcutta – 1, India 28/1/65

PΒ

When I sat at your feet in Los Angeles in 1954<sup>17</sup> I thought perhaps that was the end of the struggle. In fact real struggle began since then. After many a small battles I stumbled over the greatest a female has to fight, her maternal instinct. Little did I know, once in the lifetime this has to be faced and negated. I had a warning; even then it was a crucification and I presume I have not got over it yet.

We read so much about the bondages of fame, money, sex. The maternal instinct is just as difficult. No woman on the quest should think herself safe unless she has an understanding with this instinct of hers. This is one of her battles and where she is worst.

I am beginning to understand the great passion of Jesus Christ and his teachings. The great surrender that Jesus talked about is the last chapter on the quest. We of the modern age will do better if we have a dose of mental training (yoga) and discrimination then<sup>18</sup> devotion or surrender. We have somehow lost the simple faith and obedience of the old times. We want to suffer and learn. Since that is our fate we should rearrange our courses accordingly. True devotion does not come to us naturally we must know by trial and error and then only surrender. It does not matter so long we get there ultimately. Through the grace ever abiding a day ought to come when the peace is everlasting and the surrender is full.

This slow maturing process where personal effort is so futile – how long one has to wait.

Always seeking your grace and peace

Jurinuch

L04.025

25 – 26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "54" added over what looks like "64" by hand.

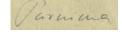
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Page 24

PB

I hope and pray that you are well and your grace is always with us.

These last two years are black years physically mentally and spiritually. Before I was allowed to see you back in 1954 I promised to accept some one as my child. I was afraid and told you when we meet. That thing happened about 2 years back. You may have received a letter from that boy who insisted that I accepted him and instruct. Well unfortunately the dormant motherly instinct<sup>20</sup> was a stumbling block. It's rather hard for female to resist as sex to man. I had been a victim to it. It is was very hard time and humiliating too as finally I was accused of seducing him, in name of spiritual instruction. It was trial. This body is not up to the mark and ailing. PB I do believe that He who guided my steps to you will guide me through trials and tribulations, praise and pillory. I believe in your assurance "You shall be guided." My only prayer is<sup>21</sup> Right path right direction right thought right action. Father your grace be my only fortitude

Always seeking your grace



Some day with your grace I shall have no bondage of praise & insult & I wait for that day. Chance brought me two books on Philokalia. They are blessings



L04.027

27 – 36 Letter from Mrs Corinne Stryclom<sup>23</sup> P.O. Box 61, Mondeor, Johannesburg, South Africa 11<sup>th</sup> March 1963

Dear Dr. Brunton,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Noted with an "S" at the bottom of the letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Page 25, right-hand side

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Page 26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Philakalia" in original, though appears to refer to "Philokalia."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Noted with "S."

Please excuse me for typing this letter, which I started in my own handwriting, but which has turned out to be a rather lengthy one. I hope you will forgive me for intruding on your personal life in this way, but I would like you to know that I think of you as a friend after having read your books. I approach you today as a friend from whom I would like a certain amount of reassurance, even if this only takes the form of an opportunity to explain some of my feelings to you and to ask a few questions. I do not even dream of receiving a reply from you, who I am sure, must have a very full and busy life. Please only let me feel for this short while that I am communicating with someone who knows and understands what I mean.

At the age of about eighteen the question of "Who am I?" already puzzled me – or rather, "Why am I <u>me</u>, and not someone else?" I've read quite a large number of books, but it was through those written by you that the door seemed to be opened. I think it is because you take one right from the very beginning and gradually develop one's thoughts.

I am now 29 years old and have been married for 5 ½ years to a man 11 years my senior. I have no children and no prospects of any, and although I am working and have my ordinary household duties, I find time to meditate at night and during the day to turn my thoughts towards the Occult Path. I am a very sensitive and highly strung person and suffer severely from Migraine. I mention the Migraine because it is through the intense suffering, that I learnt how to end my thought process. It was only after reading your books "The Secret Path" and "The Quest of the Overself" that I realized how important this latter was, and from then on meditated more often, but still not regularly every night.

On<sup>24</sup> the 11<sup>th</sup> of January this year, during my lunch-hour, I meditated and had a strange experience. I got to a stage where I didn't exist and the room and everything in it changed or moved in a funny way. I meditated with my eyes open. I was terrified and drew back, although it was a wonderful experience which caused me to cry. Twenty minutes later I had Migraine. I went home at 5 o'clock and after I had seen to my normal duties, sat down to meditate and again had the same experience, but didn't seem to get as far as I had during the lunch-hour. I determined then to meditate regularly every night, but after a few weeks I became discouraged because of the lack of result, and only meditated at irregular intervals. However, last night (10th March), I had a faint urge to meditate. This time I found it quite easy and had not sat for long with my eyes closed, when I became NOTHING. I felt frightened as I was passing into this particular state or level - I don't know what you would call it. It was as if I was Nothing and yet so big, so limitless. It was wonderful. I was conscious of being myself, and I was conscious of being Nothing, and yet I was conscious of being All. My husband, who is also interested in the Occult and has read all your books and who is aware of my practice of meditation, came into the room and spoke to me. I heard him and wanted to tell him not to disturb me, but speech and proper thought were absolutely impossible. He closed the door again and left me alone. Later he came in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Page 29

again and asked me if I knew what time had passed, and that he thought I should stop. I heard him, and seemed to agree and was able to withdraw. I sat bowed forward and allowed the marvelous feeling to envelop me for a while, and I thought of the wonder of the experience and if people only knew how much they miss...

Reading over this last paragraph I realize how inadequate words are to describe really great feelings of wonder, and loveliness. Words are not the only limitation for those of us in the West who try to follow the Occult Path. We have no Masters to whom we can turn for help or advice. We have no means of knowing whether what we think or do is right, nor yet if we are achieving any success in the right direction. We have only our feelings to guide us and even<sup>25</sup> those we don't know if they are right. You would be surprised (or perhaps you wouldn't?) how many people here seem to have the inclination towards the Occult – sort of as if the face of their mind is turning towards the "sun."

One reads things like "When the pupil is ready the Master will appear" and "The Master is within yourself." The latter, one can still understand to mean that the Master could be the teacher which is actually Experience, because we learn a lot from experience and thus it teaches us – but can this Teacher be the Master? As for the Master appearing when the pupil is ready, will this Master appear in a physical form or will he contact one from a higher level? As I have said, we have no Masters known as such in the West, and so it seems hardly likely that a Master will appear physically or be ordinarily accessible to us.

Having passed through into this one State, I wonder if this is only the first of many, and will these be progressive – I mean, will I, while in the State which I have experienced, pass into a greater one and from that into yet a greater one, and so on. Without any guidance, how can I know that I am travelling in the right direction?

I would also like to ask you about a strange feeling of which I am conscious at all times. It is as though any gentle or gradual movement before me is registered and duplicated in about the region of my solar plexus. For instance, if I sit at my desk and look at the plants on my windowsill, and the wind stirs the leaves, it is as though I were one with the plant and can actually feel that movement of the leaves; as though there isn't the plant <u>and</u> the space between {it}<sup>26</sup> <u>and</u> me, but just one. I wonder if this is an illusion – I know it is not my imagination. I must also tell you that the <u>shapes</u> of things seem to register within me. For instance, if I look at a ball, I can actually feel the roundness of its shape; looking at a sharp thing makes me shudder. I also feel conscious of myself all the time.

In<sup>27</sup> closing, I would like to say that there are no words in which I can express my intense gratitude to you for the help that I received through your books. I can only thank you from the bottom of my heart, and cherish the hope that someday, somewhere, our paths may meet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Page 31

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Added "it" for readability.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Page 33

Very sincerely yours,

13<sup>th</sup> March. A day has passed since I typed this letter and before posting it I should just like to tell you of a difference in my meditation experience last night. It went about the same as the previous one but this time, while Nothing, I felt as if I was holding a tremendous round ball and yet I <u>was</u> the ball, and I seemed to realize that <u>Nothing</u> was holding the Ball and <u>Nothing was</u> the Ball and the Ball was <u>nothing but</u> <u>yet Greatness</u>. Towards the end of my meditation I became slightly aware of some solidity or hardness, somewhere, but I'm not sure where. Ah Dr. Brunton, I feel so terribly sorry to worry you with all these things which may not be important, and yet <u>seem</u> to be important and <u>feel</u> important. It seems as though my whole life has been confused, and now I find confusion again. Is it that I am chasing something? (And then I ask myself WHO is chasing?) Or is it that something is chasing me? I am what I am, and I cannot help it. I just don't understand...

P.S. My husband and I live a very quiet life, entirely free of the normal social activities, in our home on the slope of a hill in a suburb of Johannesburg. My husband, who is a keen and successful gardener, has made a thing of beauty of the acre of ground he has worked with his own hands, and our surroundings are peaceful. I enclose a colour picture taken last Winter. If you should ever wish to come and visit our country (perhaps under an assumed name so that you may enjoy a quiet holiday), we should dearly love to have you as our guest. Please consider this seriously. You would be most welcome in our home.<sup>28</sup>

#### L04.037

37 – 40 Letter from George Scharff Asking PB for help in search of God and explaining his attempt to begin a new kind of society involving Ancient Wisdom.

Extract: "... attempting to start a 'CULTURAL SERVICE SOCIETY' wherefrom the Ancient Wisdom may be dispensed, to All Humans of Every Age, in Simple, Practical, usable and Understanding Ways – through all Educational Institutions, Organizations of every nature, the general public, entertainment, Industry, Family and Community and every other way possible, that all Humans may be inspired to improve their own lives continuously and perpetually to attainment of enlightenment and Illumination!"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Page 35

#### L04.041

41 – 50 Letter from Probhat Sanyal 278, Ladyshot, Harlow, Essex 22. 6. 65

Dear Mr Brunton,

I am very glad to receive your letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> June. I should apologise for disturbing you, at least psychologically, in your spiritual retreat. Would you mind to tell me how long you will stay in the continent? I would possibly go there, by middle of August. Now I am reading your book "the wisdom of overself" and feel more attracted to talk to you.

I have problems both personal and general. Before I start my stupid questioning, it is better to say that I am an Indian, so that you can understand my background.

The more I stay in Europe, I feel that Industrialisation has made everybody egoconscious, individualist, where, the attitude towards life is to increase our material wants making our mind as restless as possible. Do you think that this attitude is very opposite to what you called "Thy will be done," – this kind<sup>29</sup> of total submission to the world-mind, I don't think that technology is harmful in itself, but if it takes away the sense of interdependence, based on mutual sacrifice, and provides terrific fast life based on competition, – then there is something to think of.

I heard that the potentiality of mind is unlimited. It could be achieved by yoga of <u>PATANJALI. You know about its practical side more than I do. Is it possible to create a</u> <u>new form of technology combining the modern science with the power of mind</u> <u>achieved by any best suited process</u> – <u>where economy of country will not depend on</u> <u>creation of new material want?</u> I once talked with "GOPINATH KAVIRAJ" of BENARAS UNIVERSITY, who commented that it is quite possible to have pronounced effect on natural phenomenon through the power of mind. Perhaps, he wanted to say that everybody's mind is connected with world-mind.

Do<sup>30</sup> you think that food has any effect, on this search, for overself. As we have been told in India, it helps to be vegetarian for such quest.

I have some ridiculous theories, which may make you laugh. I am an ignorant child, so I am putting forward these to you. I hope you will show me analytically the fallacy of my theory, and will not ignore me.

The impression I got from the book, about the awakening of "<u>Kundalini</u>" is similar to electricity. It seems that powerful electrical impulse, or radio waves are created by the concentration. If we reverse the process then what will happen?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Page 43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Page 45

Suppose, when a person is allowed to concentrate, then, gradually very light radioimpulses are applied at the base of the spinal cord. At the same time a mask, fitted with, air pump is used for keeping the intake and output of respiration at a proper rhythm. If this is applied at a regular interval, "KUNDALINI" will awaken rather quickly.

Industrialisation<sup>31</sup> has begun in India, which concerned me very much. I am beginning to think that she will become another EUROPE, with all its virtue and vices. Moreover, if power of mind has any effect on the production of food or clothes, then India could be benefited more quickly and more easily than any other country of the world, since there are large number of people who could be easily diverted to this end. It will not end in helping material want but people throughout the world will then try to venture in the spiritual domain with a fresh outlook. In Europe I have seen that, relationship with God, is kept completely separate from everyday life, as if it is altogether a separate kingdom. I don't mean that we do just the opposite in the east. But possibly distinction is not so sharp.

I like to know the answer. I don't know who will give me the answer, may be my overself. Would you mind to guide me personally and help me, so that I could find an answer and also find my overself.

Please<sup>32</sup> comment or advice on my suggested theories. I am very much eager to get a quick reply. I hope you will forgive this ignorant soul for overstepping on your valuable time.

Yours faithfully

PROBHAT SAMYAL

P. S. I tried once, PRANAYAMA, & meditation, but now, I meditate only on o thing, "I submit to thee all what I have, and you please create me according to your need."

It is rather difficult to meditate, just before sleep. I can't really seize the moment before sleep. It seems to slip away. I know that letter is not enough to have every problem discussed. So I like to meet with you.

## L04.051

51 – 52 Letter from Flora B. Snowdon<sup>33</sup> Fan of PB's explaining how his books have helped her in times of need, and requesting to speak with him concerning his certainty of reincarnation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Page 47

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Page 49

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Noted with a circled "S." by PB himself.

*Extract: "If it is not too great an imposition I would like to hear what basis you have for your certainty of reincarnation, which at this stage I might grasp. It is a good, a most hopeful, thought; but have you more to go on than Plato's reasoning that as it would be impossible to have an infinite number of souls, therefore those in existence must be used again and again?"* 

#### L04.053

53 – 56 Letter from Mrs Betty Slade<sup>34</sup> Fan of PB's expressing her desire to meet him, and how he inspired her search for truth that has brought her away from her past unhappiness.

*Extract: "Today I called your publishing co. to learn that you are in New Zealand. Five years ago I was a very unhappy confused person. I found your books in the library and I spend the summer in the Library of Congress reading the same. I found understanding and truth. You remarked that women were not usually interested in the philosophy ... Can you read between the lines and if you have any ideas or any communication that you can give me I shall appreciate it."* 

#### L04.057

57 – 58 Letter from Mrs N. van Schalkwyk<sup>35</sup> 100 Seventh Street, Menlo Park, Pretoria, South Africa 5. 6. 1962

Dear Mr Brunton,

As your name is mentioned in Baird Spalding 's books The Teachings of the Masters of the Far East, I am writing this to you in the hope that you will be so kind as to help me with a few questions which nobody can answer for me satisfactorily. What worries me is that I cannot enclose a stamped envelope for your kind reply, but I will enquire from the Post Office whether there is a way in which I can overcome this difficulty. I sincerely hope that this letter will reach you, as I am sending it c/o your publishers.

For the last two years I have made an intensive study of the teachings in Mr Spalding's books. They have made a terrific impression on me. The first time I started reading them I experienced the most strange feeling: a feeling that I have been waiting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Noted with a circled "S." by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Mrs N. van Schalkwyk, noted with a circled "S."

for these books all my life. Perhaps you, in your greater knowledge of these things, understand this premonition?

You have known Mr Spalding. Please tell me what manner of man was he? Somebody from the U.S.A. told me in no uncertain words that he was a fraud, that he spent years in a penitentiary and took much of the material in his books, from other literature already published. This shocked me very deeply. The question now comes up: Are his teachings true and dependable? Can one follow them in climbing the Spiritual Ladder? Are there truly Masters doing the things he describes in his books? If there are, you would know - that I could see when reading Mr S's books. I am now looking at page 167 of Vol. IV; Mrs Hahn writes: "Mr Spalding wired us to come and after a night's journey we were met by Mr Spalding and Mr Brunton." This proves that you will be able to answer my questions. I realize that you no doubt are very busy and that you must receive hundreds of letters, but PLEASE be so kind as to put aside a few minutes for someone who needs your help. You see, I feel that I must go on in my spiritual quest, but am I on the right track? Sometimes I feel yes, sometimes I do not know. I have grasped his powerful message that it is essential for man to spiritualise his body to the level where Jesus held His body; man is meant to live for ever, not just three score years and ten. But then - is there such a man on earth today? I do not know, have never contacted one? All those around me think I am very silly to think on these lines. They argue all is birth and death, even nature. Yet, inside me is Something which never leaves me at rest, It pushes me on. I would gladly go forward, but then I must know that the road mapped out is a True one. Did Mr Spalding experience death? I wrote to Mr De Vors (his publisher) who knew him well and was told that Mr de Vors passed on three months after Mr S.? You can, no doubt, realize all the questions that arise in my mind. Mr Charles Fillmore of Unity School of Christianity also stated man is not meant to die; that he will live for ever - yet he passed on, or so we are told. Please tell me whether you have personal contact with these Masters - Emil, his mother etc., and of course Jesus, whom we in this country revere and love very deeply.

About six months before I discovered Mr S's books, I had a strange experience one night when two shining Beings appeared at my bedside, took my hands into theirs each one covering one hand with both his palms – and sent a strange and powerful current through the palms of my hands into my body. To this day my hands still vibrate with that power, and my teeth which were so poor that I was planning to have them all removed, were completely<sup>36</sup> renewed. That happened four years ago. Then, reading Mr S's books, I recognized the two Beings as possible Masters – I saw the golden glow shining through their loose robes, I felt that higher vibration – I shall never forget it. But the question is: What was their reason to visit me like that? Surely not to heal my teeth! That was just part of the process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Page 58, noted as "2."

In the Third Volume Mr S. refers to an American writer "Whom we called Weldon" he says. This Weldon lived in India for many years and I am wondering if he could be you, as it is clear that Mr S. does not give his real name. His meeting with Jesus is most wonderful, and I would so like to be in contact with him personally. Here again, I would appreciate it very deeply if you could advise me. Is this work of Mr S's going on? How may one make contact with the genuine White Brotherhood, there are so many Brotherhoods that one does not feel sure. I am a writer of long standing, having written a few dozen books, serials, stories and articles, in Afrikaans, and I am very keen to use my talent to further the work of the Masters. Are they operating in South Africa?

I shall not take up your time any further, you have already been more than kind to give me so much thereof. Please know that I would be deeply grateful if you could, in the place of Mr Spalding, point the way and help someone who is trying to follow the Light in the midst of unbelief and scoffing. I have come to the place where I must GO ON or admit defeat. But somehow I can never go back, it is like a shell that is broken for keeps, so please advise me as to the Way ahead?

May God bless you very richly for giving a helping hand to a fellow-traveller.

Yours sincerely, Mrs N. van Schalkwyk

I will be watching the post every day for your reply! The enclosed coupons are for stamps on your kind reply. N. S<sup>37</sup>

#### L04.059

59 – 64 Letter from J. Stone<sup>38</sup> Fan explaining to PB how his books have inspired him and how he would like to meet PB.

*Extract: "I have been searching myself for some years now, I have spoken to many people, and have tried to look at all points of view, and I find your books have never failed to inspire me. I travelled with you. On the secret path, through Egypt, India, On the Quest of the Overself and beyond yoga."* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> This sentence added by hand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Noted with a circled "S." by KTH.

65 – 66 Letter from (Mrs) E. G. Stone<sup>39</sup> Fan requesting to meet Paul Brunton to discuss matters including his books, Kundalini, and the heart centre.

*Extract: "If you are in town & spare the time, I should so like to see you & discuss one or two points in your wonderful book, viz., Kundalini & the Heart Centre. If you cannot spare the time, perhaps you could inform me of some "Wise Man," who would enlighten me, on this subject."* 

#### L04.067

67 – 72 Letter from Judith Sims<sup>40</sup> 1012 – Remington Rd., <u>Calgary</u><sup>41</sup> Alberta, <u>Canada</u><sup>42</sup> Nov 8 – 1962

urgent: ask whence heard of this?43

Dear Dr Brunton,

It was with deep sadness that I learned of <u>your recent illness<sup>44</sup></u> and my prayers are for your quick recovery. I do hope as I write {indecipherable}<sup>45</sup> you are much improved for your wonderful writings have been such a lift to all of us who have read them.

I wrote to you some time ago. I wonder if you received it. Since then the path has brought me to the most beautiful Master – Swami Guru Devi Maharaj.<sup>46</sup> We, my husband myself and our three younger children have received the initiation by him into the Spiritual Regeneration Movement. Swami Guru Devi Maharaj's Master Maharishi<sup>47</sup> Mahesh Yogi is in L.A. U.S.A. No doubt you have heard of him during your travels. We are most fortunate to receive such a great blessing in such troubled times. Your

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Noted with an "S" at top of page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Noted with an "S."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Underlining added by hand in pink ink by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> "Canada" added in pink ink by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> "urgent: ask whence heard of this?" added in pencil by PB himself with a line drawn to "your recent illness."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Underlined by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Large stain has left some words illegible.

 $<sup>^{46}</sup>$  Too many individuals with this honorific to identify; no listed follower of Mahesh Yogi has this title. –TJS '17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Page 69, noted as "2."

teachings & experiences revealed in your books have been a great source of joy & inspiration to me. I hope you will have more books published. I want to thank you for the help I have received from your books, it was very thrilling to spend a night with you in the Great Pyramid. Egypt must be a very interesting place to everyone but with an understanding such as yours you have made it a seat of Wisdom for me. Some time I hope to be able to travel there & to India also.

Once again any sincere thanks to you and deepest thoughts for you to soon<sup>48</sup> be completely well again.

Always in divine friendship

sincerely Judith Sema.

L04.073

73 – 76 Letter from Judith Sims Fan requesting to be PB's pupil and expressing her hope to one day hear back from him.

*Extract:* "There are no words that can really thank you, only a great desire to find you. I had written two publishers (England & U.S.) and they very kindly offered to forward a letter on to you. Dr Brunton will you please accept me as a pupil and instruct me into the wonderful peace you have found?"

## L04.077

77 – 80 Letter from Mr Jean Paul Steele<sup>49</sup> Fan asking for help with his practice of yoga and explaining his avid reading of PB's texts.

*Extract: "I have a complete set of the 'beginners' lessons in yoga from the school that Yogananda founded, and would like to know if you think it is worth while to devote my time to them. Would you suggest I read all your books first, or start in on the lessons in yoga (from Yogananda... 'Self Realization') As I read your books, and do both."* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Page 71

<sup>49</sup> Noted with a circled "S."

#### L04.081

81 – 84 Letter from Someshwar Singh Guleria<sup>50</sup> Fan asking PB about the benefits of self-hypnosis, as he had read about in Shri V. M. Bhat's book "Yogic Powers and God Realization."

Extract: "Recently I came across a book named, 'Yogic Powers and God Realization,' by Shri V. M. Bhat and published by Bhavan Book University, Bombay. Sir, in this book it is written that everyman can use SELF HYPNOSIS very effectively for a speedy progress in spiritual realization. But it is not stated that in which way it can help or should be used. For further information regarding the use of self-hypnosis and its mode of using it for self realization, I wrote to Shri V. M. Bhat. And although a month has elapsed since I wrote him but so far I have not been obliged with a reply. Should I hope sir, that you would be kind enough to write me in detail the advantages of self-hypnosis."

#### L04.085

85 – 86 Letter from H. Schlubeck<sup>51</sup> Schulauer Str. 52, 2 WEDEL/Hamburg, Germany December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1965

To the Mail Secretary of Mr Paul Brunton Box 339 Times Square Sta. New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Madam,

Some two years ago I sent a letter to Mr Paul Brunton and you kindly informed me that it would be forwarded to him. Unfortunately I did not hear from Mr Brunton and sincerely hope that he is well.

May I ask you a favour? I have mislaid the address of Mr Ted Spicer, also a close friend of Mr Brunton who is supposed to live in Los Angeles. Formerly he was at Watford, England. Would you please let me have Mr Spicer's present address?

Anticipating my thanks, I remain,

re folienth

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup>,Noted with a circled "S."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Noted with circled "S." by PB himself.

87 – 88 Letter from G. V. L. N. Sarma<sup>5253</sup> Regional Engineering College, P.O. Khazipet (A.P.), India March 4, 1963.

refer him to Spiritual Crisis of Man<sup>54</sup> Paul Brunton Esq., C/o Rider & Co., 178/202 Great Portland Street, London W.-1<sup>55</sup> Dear Sir,

At the end of your illuminating work, <u>A Search in Secret India</u>, there was an announcement by the publishers that a new book on the <u>Economic System of Dayalbagh</u> from your illustrious pen would be brought out. For a long time I tried to get a copy of this book and till now I couldn't get one. I wonder if the book was published at all. Please let me know if any book under the title <u>The Economic System of Dayalbagh</u> was written by you. If it remains unpublished, will you please let me know the gist of it? I do not know if it would be too much to ask of you to allow me kindly to have a photostatic copy of the MS of the book <u>The Economics of Dayalbagh</u> in case you do not intend to print it in the near future.

With profound regards, Yours sincerely G. V. L. N. Sarma)

L04.089

89 – 90 Letter from (Mrs) Sushila Sinha<sup>56</sup> Fan explaining the trouble she has gone through contacting PB's publishers in order to contact him. Letter forwarded to Athens, Greece

*Extract: "I am one of those, who has followed your advice and tried to tread the path. To some extent I have been able to explore the field which is beyond mind. I have found inner poise, but* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Asst. Professor of English from sender's address.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Noted with a circled "S."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> "refer him to SP CR of Man" added at top by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> On page 88, letter was forwarded to PB's PO box in Auckland, New Zealand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Noted with an "S."

that is not all. I feel there is a stage, beyond which I can't progress. All Bliss or Light which brings the wisdom, still far from me."

#### L04.091

91 – 92 Letter from (Mrs) Sushila Sinha c/o Dr Shiva. K. Sinha, Brajkishorepath, Patna. 1, India 20. 3. 64

# refer all attached Indians to write or see Merchandani in Bombay or Prem (nearer) in Delhi<sup>57</sup>

#### Most Respected Sir,

Since long I have been trying to have a personal contact with you. Let me hope that this letter reaches you. I am a seeker of truth and an adept of the path you have followed. I invoke thee every day in & my prayer for help, and I feel I get it. I am very anxious to have your blessings, in shape of letters and Darshan. At times I am very restless. I am one of those unlucky persons who has not met a saint, nor have been out for any pilgrimage. Of course I am lucky enough to go far and wide and meet all sorts of Sadhus and saints with the help of your book "The Search in Secret India and The Search in Secret Egypt." All your books have helped me a great deal. I could not find "The Wisdom of Overself" and other latest additions.

I am trying my best to follow the path subscribed by great men. It is a great struggle for me<sup>58</sup> to live in the family and move ahead. I feel I have progressed a lot but still it is not the height I am seeking for. I wish I could have some discussions with you. Is it possible to have your Darshan. If I am lucky enough to have a reply from you, I will try to explain myself in other letters. I wrote a letter to you few months back, but I know not whether it reached you at all. I hope and pray it reaches you and brings good news for me. With adoration and Pranams.

Yours Sushila Sinha

L04.093

93 – 94 Letter from (Mrs) Sushila Sinha

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> This note was added at top of page by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Page 92

#### Fan expressing her desire to meet with PB and for him to reply to her letter. Sinha wants to meet with PB and take lessons as his pupil.

*Extract: "Most probably you must be knowing that your books have satisfied me and have shown me the right path to tread on for seeking Truth. I feel, I have advanced a lot, but yet the Summit is too high for me. It has not been my privilege to see any saint or sage, but through books. How I wish I could have your Darshan and a few lessons at your feet."* 

#### L04.095

95 – 96 Letter from Rev Arch W. Sidders<sup>59</sup> 260 North Locust<sup>60</sup> – Inglewood 1, California October 3rd. 61

Dear Doctor,

In brief I've been a priest of the Episcopal church 44 years. Married that time with same wife. Two girls married and teaching school, a son and M.D, Grandson of 19. So you might be able to tell my age. Over 30 years ago the top brass of parish then serving told me I had lost my God, so left for West coast with three months' salary, three small children and a car which they practically gave me. That parish today is the biggest in that section. Today I'm volunteer helper in above parish of 2000 members.

How come all this and much more, you and some others of your vision. But I cannot go back on the light (small as it is) obtained. Right now I'm reading your book "Beyond Yoga" and it's a little stiff, but follow your thought. What about the second book you speak of, have you written it?

So I'll change places with you and see how you'd make out with all this orthodoxy. (smiles) What I am trying to do is to interpret the vision given to me by you and others, and make the dead forms of the church to come alive, and am having some small success. Have at present class of 60 adults, men and women, and soon will have a class picked from these, and will use your "The Secret Path" my inspiration. I won't announce the book or the class might disappear. What I want to know, 1. Is your book "Beyond Yoga" a denial of your previous works. 2. Are you at rest within in your explorations. 3. Would you have any advice to give a man in my position. 4. May I write you on occasions and will you answer.

Sincerely yours

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Noted with circled "S." in pencil by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> "Episcopal Church of the Holy Faith" in letterhead.

Rev.<sup>61</sup> Arch W. Sidders Assistant Sr Priest Holy Faith

#### L04.097

97 – 106 Letter from Kenneth Malwitz<sup>62</sup> 8228 N.W. First Place, Miami 50, Florida April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1960

Dear Mr Brunton,

Having read several of your books, I feel that you are one of very few people who could throw some light on a startling experience I've encountered in a search that has paralleled yours.

Yogic teaching is relatively new to me although my mind has always been turned toward that which might give life meaning.

In the practice of deep meditation I've experienced a very frightening physical reaction. It brought to mind what you had related in your "Quest"; you had explained that at that final moment before attainment, before the death of the self, tremendous fear is known.

Your statement coincides, in part, with my own experience, but other books on Yoga seem to avoid this fact and speak only of extreme bliss when reaching this state. It seems that Christian Mysticism parallels this type of experience during conversion, but again they dwell only on unexcelled happiness and usually a great deal of joyous emotionalism. Apparently there is also a similarity in Bucke's Cosmic Consciousness, and James'{ XE "James, William: Malwitz, Kenneth" } "transference of control from one psychic center to another previous unconscious center."

Whether or not they all be the same fundamental experience, mention of accompanying fear is not made. It has been only you and P. Ouspensky to my knowledge who have mentioned the frightening aspect as the final moment nears.

In my own case, when approaching that inner sense of peace we've both experienced I've never felt an emotional ecstasy as mentioned by mystics. In fact, what I experience seems to transcend emotion, and I feel that any eruption of emotion would only taint the experience and give me the impression that it was a shallow, auto-suggested exuberance on a finite plane.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> "Rev." added by hand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Noted with a circled "M" and a checkmark added by PB himself, and "Kenneth MALWITZ" added likely by KTH.

But going deeper into this new awareness, and thus moving further away from the ties of the world, I've felt<sup>63</sup> a closeness for people that could not be known otherwise no matter how strongly I vowed love toward humanity. The feeling is not the result of an <u>effort</u> to feel that way; it comes through compassionate understanding of other's faults. Once this attitude is gained, no matter what offence someone might do me I could not be angered. Through understanding I would dismiss their action simply as ignorance of a higher law.

With this feeling is an awareness of completeness within myself – as though no need could exist and that no matter what happened to me I could not experience fear. A strange simplification of my mind is also noticeable, a contrast to the normal state in which we are constantly intellectually prepared to cope with situations that arise. In the new state, instead of being ready to respond in a "typical" way, an automatic socially expected attitude, my response could be completely individualistic – not as expected socially, but not anti-social. Possibly the best explanation would be that I'd be responding to higher laws, with only fairness and understanding guiding my reaction on a conscious level rather than an instinctive one.

But then, beyond this point I am susceptible to the beginning of these intense fears that have prompted me to write to you. Up to this point everything is under control. But then this strange feeling begins to take hold. I get the impression that I'm "losing my mind." Another way of expressing it might be that the form of consciousness I've always held as normal, that conditioned feeling I've always been accustomed to whenever consciously aware of my usual mental functioning, is being taken away from me. "I" am not giving it up at this point; it is being "taken."

At the same time, I feel I am also losing control of my breath. This is difficult to describe. It is as though I were forcefully being made aware of a previously unconscious physical function so that I must operate my lungs on a conscious level. Then something attempts to overpower even this conscious effort and completely stop it. Accompanying this I've experienced an uncontrollable twitching of my left hand. (As a side note: I've never been subject to any kind of epileptic disorder or asthmatic condition which might come to one's mind on reading the above. I've enjoyed exceptionally good health during my thirty nine years.)

When these combined experiences occur I feel this terrible fear. At the same time there is an extreme feeling<sup>64</sup> of "aloneness," as though I've been cut off completely from any ties with the world. The fear is vague; I can hardly definite it; yet it is the most intense I've ever experienced. With it I am made sharply aware of two directions I might take. One is to fight my way back to my normal awareness, which up to now I've been consciously discarding during meditation. The other is to let myself go and be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Page 99, noted as "2"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Page 101, noted as "3"

taken by this strange force. Since I didn't do the latter, I'm not sure of what was waiting for me on the other side of the road.

Some might wonder why a person would not want to stay away from fearful unknowns after such an experience. But I had such an impending sense of reality that I've been drawn back in spite of the fear. There was the feeling that had I allowed myself to be taken, had I surrendered, I would have been permanently "anchored," so to speak, in a new type of consciousness that would not have ever again permitted me to fear anything and which would not have allowed me to feel the slightest aversion toward anyone or anything. I do not mean that this attitude was to be an aim or a goal; it was to be mine through a compulsive change beyond my control, whereby I could <u>not</u> fear because of new knowledge and could <u>not</u> be anything but kindly through understanding. I say this without egotism because I was very much aware that this power was beyond "me."

But because of fear I retreated. I sensed that had the change taken place I would have been completely "me" for the first time in my life; that everything would have been "right." Possibly the fear of death overpowered me, for I truly felt that I was dying and that I had to fight my way back. It seems easy to analyze later, after the experience is over, and realize that this appeared to be the death of the ego only. But during the experience, while undergoing the fear one does not think this way; the instincts apparently take over and automatically fight the change. Or so it seems.

Another peculiarity I've noticed is that at such a time my sense of humor, which I unboastfully mention as being highly developed, vanishes. Apparently the awareness of opposites, of the contrasts of expected and unexpected, on which humor depends, is transcended. Not that I become hardened or repulsed by humor; it just leaves me unaffected, as one would feel upon hearing an already unfunny joke for the thousandth time. This in spite of the fact that at one time I had written humor professionally.

After this consciousness fades, an analysis will provoke arguments to doubt the validity of such an experience. Then, that which seemed so real at the time takes<sup>65</sup> on an aura of illusion, or delusion.

I won't go into further details on this subject in this letter; I'd be glad to at another time if you are interested in further information. I am still drawn back to this unknown in spite of my fear, and in spite of the "logical" dangers. I wonder if you've heard of other experiences similar to mine. Your comments might enlighten me.

Regarding Yogi Sages: I've wondered if it were possible to meet an Adept or Master, or to at least contact one by mail. Although there is a certain interest in Yoga in this country it seems almost entirely on breathing and asanas, and that is what is taught. Like you, my interest is much deeper, and since I am the type who can live alone and like it I'd be very willing to retreat anywhere, indefinitely, to find what I seek.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Page 103, noted as "4"

On the subject of Yogi Masters, much has been said about their abilities to work miracles. I believe in the possibility of miracles by those who have proper knowledge. But mostly there is vagueness or casual reference to such works in books I've read. Yogi authors, although they will tell you step by step how to reintegrate, never admit to having ever accomplished this goal, much less to the ability to perform what are considered miracles.

Of course, they plead modesty; that miracles merely to show power are wrongly motivated. Commendable. But since these powers are acquired through the renunciation of self, which means in turn a life dedicated to the service of others, I cannot see why these men remain secluded. I can't see why some do not go out healing and demonstrating, as Jesus did, to draw more attention to the truths they possess. It seems that constant seclusion after the attainment of these powers is in itself an act of selfishness, a desire to be wrapped up in constant Samadhi for their own gratification while the rest of the world could use their knowledge.

They talk about not casting pearls before swine, that people wouldn't understand, etc., and true as that may be, even if they caught the attention of just a few disciples who otherwise would not have had their eyes opened the effort would have started the ball rolling.

The lack of this kind of effort only makes me doubt the existence of yogis who have attained powers above those of ordinary men. I wish to believe otherwise. But through occasional remarks in some of their books they inadvertently give themselves away as not being anywhere near<sup>66</sup> as high on the scale of attainment as they would have you think. They show their inadequacies through statements of aversion, or a lack of compassion, or fears or doubts that should not be felt by men of their knowledge. An autobiographical book on this subject was crammed with one miracle after another, happenings that I <u>could</u> have believed. But they were related in melodramatic phraseology, interspersed with dialogue between the principles which gushingly attempted to show their "divine love" for each other, making it all sound fictional.

I could go on but I think I've made my point. I was wondering if you've ever seen or heard of any authentic cases of yogis performing miracles. Have you heard of any raising the dead? Any who have gone out into the world healing the sick?

Well, Mr Brunton, this has been a long letter and I won't further lengthen it. I've enjoyed your books and from them have felt an affinity that prompted this letter. I hope to hear from you. I feel that you may be able to throw some light on things that are not clear to me.

Sincerely, Kennett Malwitz

<sup>66</sup> Page 105, noted as "5"

#### L04.107

107 – 116 Letter from (Miss) Betty Tucker<sup>67</sup> Fan thanking PB and telling him how his writing has impacted her, and requesting that PB read her books and inform her if they are worthy of publishing

Extract: "Frankly, you have set my feet firmly on the Secret Path and I have made a vow never to deviate until I have reached that enviable state you so encouragingly declare any human soul can reach. ... I have written a book - in fact, 2 books. Could you possibly read the first one and give me your opinion of it? With your spiritual, and intellectual, powers, and experience in writing, you could tell me if it is worth sending to a publisher. If it is not, then perhaps you could point out my faults."

#### L04.117

117 – 118 German language letter from Pfarrer Imanuel G. Zeltner to Herr Arthur Broekhuysen Typed letter is dated October 16 1971

Extract: None

L04.119

119 – 120 Letter from Jerry B. Moss<sup>68</sup> Fan asking PB to put him in contact with individuals in India who have called upon the Overself in order to heal others due to his own urgent need.

*Extract:* "I wonder if you could help me establish contact with some person or school which might give me practical help in two areas. The first is healing, and the urgency involved here is what has prompted me to write you. It's annoying to know that healing is available but just beyond one's reach. Especially when its need is delaying one's further progress."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Noted with a circled "S." by PB himself.

<sup>68</sup> Noted with a circled "M."

121 – 122 Letter from Frances McCann<sup>69</sup> Hotel Raphael, Largo Febo, Rome Italy<sup>70</sup> April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1966

Dear friend,

In case you are in London still? Perhaps we could meet, and this is to say also, that Krishnamurti will be holding public talks in London at the Friends meeting house on Euston Road London N,W 10. on April 23 – May 3rd May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7. P.M.

I shall be at the Hotel Russell, Russell Square from April 24<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup> – This year brought me back to India, and now the world feels too cold.

all best friendly greetings



do not mention Rome visit71

L04.123

123 – 128 Letter from Mrs Beulah Murn<sup>72</sup> Fan requesting that PB puts her in connection with a teacher and helps her find a copy of <u>A Message from Arunachala</u>. She has also studied with Joel Goldsmith.

Extract: "I will not bore you with a long story. I have given up my job, I have lost interest in all else. Never have I been happier, or more miserable! I have found a deep peace that passes all understanding. Your books have been such a help and inspiration. Can you tell me how to go about finding a teacher or one to instruct me farther on the path? ... What does one do when every door is closed? I know light must come from within. If only I could touch this Being within."

#### L04.129

129 – 132 Letter from Harry & Betty McConkoy<sup>73</sup>

<sup>69</sup> Noted with circled "M."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Written in green ink next to salutation by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> "do not mention Rome visit" written in pencil by PB himself under sender's salutation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Noted with an "M."

<sup>73</sup> Noted with a circled "M."

Dear P. B.

The rather amusing side to the little gift: Betty and I were shopping and I stopped at the sugar shelf to pick up the raw sugar. Betty asked me what that was for and I told her it was for you. She tried to convince me that you would prefer refined sugar but I held out for the one you use. Then at the imported tea shelf I was debating over which China tea you might prefer when she again tried to convince me that all English born people prefer strong tea. So I gave in against my knowledge<sup>74</sup> of your preferences to give her a sense of being a part of the giving, for this was important to her.

To say that we enjoyed our day with you I'm sure is an understatement for both of us. There were many things unsaid which I would have liked to have discussed with you, but were left unsaid because it was more harmonious to keep the conversation at Betty's level of understanding. We both found your delightful sense of humor refreshing and appreciably keen.

I will join you whenever possible in spirit and will earnestly work with you in the achieving of your present mission. My fondest aloha to your visiting Indian Spiritual seekers, may peace rest gently in all.

Our special aloha to you P. B.

Harry & Betty

McConkoy<sup>75</sup>

L04.133

133 – 138 Letter from Dinah Kemsley<sup>76</sup>

Fan initially explaining her reluctance and eventual giving in to writing to PB, as a writer that have influenced and inspired her. Though skeptical about others' claims to know of their past lives, Kemsley feels she is a reincarnation of the time of Cheops (or himself) and explains her connections to PB's books, especially *A Search in Secret Egypt*.

*Extract: "For fifteen years I have resisted & turned away from what I was offered simply because I am repelled by the many many women who claim to be either inspired by or a reincarnation of some long departed but famous name. However, in those fifteen years, I have run the gamut of so much useful pain of spirit & body – & I do mean useful, for suffering is of* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Page 130

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> "McConkoy" written in another hand next to the salutation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Noted with a circled "K."

inestimable value for progression & growth of spirit – that I have reached a point where I can accept gladly the return of the Egyptian from – I am told by immeasurable sources over all these years - the reign of Cheops."

## L04.139

## 139 – 140 Letter from Viola M. Luell<sup>77</sup> to E. P. Dutton & Co. Fan of PB's contacting his publishers in order to discover the various groups PB has referred to that have established themselves to study his philosophy.

*Extract: "In one of Paul Brunton's books published by you he refers to various groups that have established themselves to study his philosophy. I would like very much to know more about these groups and if you could forward this letter to someone who may know something about it, I would appreciate it very much."* 

## L04.141

141 – 142 Letter from Viola M. Luell<sup>78</sup> to E. P. Dutton & Co. Fan of PB's acknowledging the publisher's forwarding of her inquiry regarding study groups to PB, though asking for another forwarding of her letter as she has not yet received a reply from PB.

Extract: "On May 12<sup>th</sup> you were kind enough to let me know that you had forwarded my inquiry regarding study groups on to Dr Brunton. That has been well over a month now and I have not heard from him and of course realize that there may be many reasons for this. However, on the chance that that letter went astray, would you please, just once more, forward this letter to him, so that he knows of my sincere interest?"

## L04.143

143 – 148 Letter from Helen Loepfe<sup>79</sup> Oneroa, (Waiheke Is.), New Zealand<sup>80</sup> "Tui Mont" Ridge Rd. 16. 1. 65

<sup>77</sup> Noted with an "L."

<sup>78</sup> Noted with an "L."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Noted with a circled "L."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> "H. LOEPFE Ridge Rd. Oneroa NZ" added at top by PB himself.

Dear Dr Brunton,

You are not only the bridge from East to West but also a bridge between seeking & thinking man and the Divine. Each of us has his or her task. The more momentous a task, the lonelier & the more misunderstood the path. There seemed to me at times that the higher evolved a soul is in its spiral ascent to knowledge of the laws of the Universe = God, the more alien & a stranger he is amongst his fellow men. I am 45 now, but I seemed to have in conscious process within half a life time, made an analogous ascent to that which humanity makes in the course of aeons in its evolutionary spiral. This is the reason that I know of the pathetically limited stubbornness, conceit<sup>81</sup> & stupidity or ignorance of a lesser developed majority. I have been just as intolerant, entertaining false (since so limited) notions, passing judgment over others who were outside the standards of "well adjusted ideal (!) progressiveness, intellectuality & adoption to modern thought." I think that youth can stand up less well to being alone & isolated. It wants to be "like the others," be accepted by the others as an equally important, equally liked fellow cog in the wheel. Moreover we the Europeans (especially from the centre of Europe) enjoy less inner independence, having been more submitted in past & present - to ruthless, irresponsible suppression & exploitation. This is an almost tragic karmic burden from which I have suffered intensely and still do now. For a long time I have known irrevocably that I shall have to<sup>82</sup> write. Though to the day today I do not know what form & shape this will take. Of abnormal sensitivity as far as the "hurts" of the world against me (!) are concerned - I have obviously not yet reached the stage where one can look upon proud snobbery - cold intentional "being ignored," disapproved of & excluded, with pity & love for the offenders. Foolishly I still tried to "hold my own" amongst a foreign society (British Stock) - a society where deep intellectual search & a passion to ferret out some of life's basic riddles, are looked upon as a crazy, weakish & futile enterprise. In short my problematic European heritage meets the disapproval of a race who is still enveloped in a mentality where the jolly, action-bent instead of thought-bent & happy-go-lucky invulnerability of the so-called strong reigns; where<sup>83</sup> the sad frailty & relativity of human will & human power against destiny, is not much realised, since the British racial & historical development has not taken its people "through the will" to anywhere near the degree as this was the case for us Central Europeans. This, with the same token, is the reason that in the British there is such a kernel of freedom that it could rise to a heroic peak in the Battle of Britain where, rationally seen and but for the strange occurrence of a few miraculous "strokes of luck," the odds were all against Britain. Where European defeatist faith would have

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Page 144

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Page 145, noted as "(2."

<sup>83</sup> Page 146

been paralysed with fear & resignation and would have collapsed, the British calmly & determinedly plunged into what looked a suicidal battle & saved outer freedom for the world. Maybe that it is now<sup>84</sup> upon us, the Europeans to rise & lead the battle for inner freedom or rather freedom from materialism, its empty and transient thrills, to the detrimental action of which we the Europeans are more vulnerable than the British. The tragic inferiority complex that ruthless feudal history had burnt into us, finds a welcome avenue of escape in the power that money, goods & social states confer. We looked in awe at luxury studded, carefree, casual American elegance, emanating, (as we thought or still think), poise, security & power. With similar awe we look at the superiorly calm and so unconsciously self-assured British poise, ease and perhaps an unconscious claim to moral rulership. A tradition of freedom bestows independence where feudalism destroys it, torturing the natural pride of a man right out of him. This is<sup>85</sup> the key problem of my struggle (book). I am sick of the spineless submission to power, paralysing myself & my fellow Europeans... it could be likened to one big & cruel castration. Yet out of its very misery & impotency there will rise a brilliant loadstar somewhere, leading towards a higher level. Suffering & endurance forges the essence out of the Universe & its creatures. Only thus can they earn their rightful partnership with God and not as the perpetually innocent & inexperienced babes of an Adam & Eve before their so called "fall into sin." To a struggling fool within the confines of the sense-world, your books gave (me) a huge impetus "out of it.... towards the fullness of the Eternal. Your final experience under the Maharishi's guidance, leading far beyond brain activity to the source of mind & even beyond it into the blazing aliveness of the creative substance, has given me inexpressible comfort. I will be low again in my relentless struggle. We have to sweat blood & squeeze through the needle's eye but in the name of the Creator who dwells in us & by the enlightened ones like you, who step forth with a message, I must know that my struggle will find realization. I thank you for what you have done for mankind and for me.

> Yours sincerely Helen Loepfe

L04.149

149 – 152 Letter from (Mrs) Joan MacDougall 28 Dennington Park Rd., West Hampstead, London N.W. 6 Feb. 24, 1967

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Page 147, noted as "(3."

<sup>85</sup> Page 148

Dear Mr Brunton,

Your work feeds the hunger in my mind but I find myself wondering why you neglect the child's role in the evolution of life. We are all products of our childhood experiences. So much of value could be accomplished if man could see the child in true perspective.

Are you familiar with Dr Maria Montessori's work? If<sup>86</sup> so, I would appreciate a comment. Does one depend upon chance alone in developing ever higher perceptions or does a refinement of the senses during childhood pave the way?

Montessori's book, <u>The Absorbent Mind</u> provides practical information leading to purposeful action. You stimulate my thought processes but she gives me something to do. Forgive my audacity! Bless you and thank you for taking the time and effort to make your thoughts available in many fine books.

Appreciatively (Mrs.) Joan Mac Dougall

L04.153

153 – 158 Incomplete letter from Frances McCann<sup>87</sup> Undated page

...Swami<sup>88</sup> Ranganathananda from the Ramakrishna Mission at New Delhi when he came to Rome, he said two things: to G. one, that he must always remember he has a tremendous force behind him and 2, that he should go to India in the early part of <u>this September</u> to meet a very Spiritual person who has the power to rewrite the three Bodies and as G. has<sup>89</sup> his, displaced, and cannot possibly do it by himself he should go there. We have of course considered it, but besides the trip even by plane being most difficult as he can travel only a couple of hours at a time. Could this action on the three bodies have also a contrary effect and then what? ... or as I think, it may produce a cure but if so, his present incarnation probably ends for he would be ready, but would he accept, and even desire this initiation? Otherwise better not try. Am I wrong? Yesudian also suggested G. write to Ranganathananda asking him or this special person, for a mantra to wear on himself, but again, if contrary effect is usual, why insist? I do everything I can to help, but it is very difficult and he has little nervous

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Page 151, noted as "2."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> "(McCann) (1961)" added at the bottom by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Previous lines are missing. The top of letter cut off.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Page 155

strength left to accept more. {Monisa}<sup>90</sup> says his nature and subtle composition is different from others (CRYSTAL) so nothing acts in the usual way.

She<sup>91</sup> also told him his Kundalini had escaped and his chakras are burned, which explains he cannot meditate.

I am sorry bothering you wherever you are, but your help could be now, very important and essential.

As for myself just these days, the upper center in my head has opened and I am commencing to see a new wonderful light. I persevere as much as I can, and I try to be patient.

With very devoted thoughts believe me, sincerely

Grance Ne Canno

P.S. Please write me at the following address 48 via del Banco di S. Spirito Roma Italia

L04.159

159 – 176 Letter from Mr A. J. Mead<sup>92</sup> c/o Central Post Office, Auckland, New Zealand 22-7-66

Dear Mr. Brunton,

The first book of yours that I read was "A Search in Secret India," about eighteen years ago. Although I thoroughly enjoyed it I did not really appreciated the teaching of the Maharshi. I was at that time just beginning to take an interest in spiritualism due to an acquaintance with an old man who used to be a medium. His obvious sincerity and first-hand experience of psychic phenomena stimulated me into attending scores of spiritualist meetings. All this was in my home town of Birmingham, England. (Incidentally, I have been in New Zealand for a little over one year.) Nothing conclusive came of all this. I did not accept their assumption that all psychic phenomena are due to spirits. Secondary personality, and telepathy accounted for most of the messages and "guides." In fact most of the messages purporting to come from "helpers"<sup>93</sup> were nearly always misleading or wrong. I came to the conclusion that to try to know the future may cause more pain than it's worth. Meanwhile I continued to read your books. I remember that when I first read "The Wisdom of the Overself," I

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Partially illegible appears to be "Monisa" but could be "Marissa."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Page 157

<sup>92</sup> Noted with a circled "M."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Page 161

was impressed but bewildered. Anyway it gave me a criterion whereby I could judge Spiritualism. Well it was obvious that in comparison with the Philosophy enunciated in this book the Spiritualists were only touching the fringe of knowledge. The Heart of things was unknown to them.

I always intended one day to meditate, but I intended to wait until I was settled in a profession which gave me some satisfaction, since I am a person with no confidence in my capabilities. Well the years have rolled by. I emigrated to New Zealand. Still no satisfaction vocation-wise. Last February I became unemployed. I could quite easily have attained employment but I just could not take the world seriously. I regarded myself as a successful flop. Well<sup>94</sup> the leisurely life flowed peacefully on until about the middle of last May, then I began to feel very depressed and utterly useless. I still had the thought in mind that one day I would seek the Overself but not until I was a "success" in some profession. Then came a strange occurrence one May evening. While walking slowly and meditatively I came to the conclusion that I was too wrapped-up in myself, and I would now give only bare attention to objects and circumstances without all the introspective thought-chaos that usually went on in my head. While in this frame of mind I began to feel gentle waves going through my body. I felt lighter and wanted to stretch myself taller. This made me think seriously of meditating, using the opportunity presented by my self-chosen unemployment. So you see I have been battling away now for 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> months. Not very long but not without incident. About the early part of June, only a few weeks after meditating, I was gone {on} one of my usual evening strolls when my heart began to feel tense<sup>95</sup> as though under some internal pressure. At the same time much to my amazement there gradually but quite steadily developed a feeling of great love for my fellow man. I must point out that this sensation was not just a feeling of benevolence as usually experienced. It was an experience of abnormal intensity. Actually I'm not at all sentimental about people in general. In fact I am utterly indifferent most of the time. Anyway to return to this experience, while it was occurring, and it lasted about two hours, I otherwise was quite cool and philosophically detached. This I know seems contradictory but my heart was radiating love while my head was ice cool. In fact I distinctly remember that my attitude was: "Very interesting, but what good is it? What does it teach me?"

About the end of June not long after the above experience I had had a pleasant meditation. Nothing exceptional but for once my mind behaved itself and there was a feeling of mental calm and peace but nothing<sup>96</sup> abnormal. Well for some daft reason or other I began to surmise that perhaps all this talk about Bliss of Self was nothing more than an exaggerated and emotional description of an exceptionally peaceful state of mind. Exceptionally that is on the mundane plane, nothing supernatural about it. Perhaps, I thought, a tranquilizer has an effect not much different to this so called Bliss of Self. So as if to give me a pleasant rebuke Lo and Behold! I had an ecstasy of bliss. I

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Page 163

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Page 165

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Page 167

was walking along a main road here in Auckland on my way to a café to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate. While walking-very rapidly there developed a feeling of beautiful peace. A feeling of peace – joy is perhaps the best way to describe it. It was not a joyecstasy in the sense that I was in love with everyone and life was wonderful. No! It was waves of peace or rather wavelets. My body involuntarily sighed frequently because otherwise the peace-bliss would have been<sup>97</sup> too much for it. Sighing seemed to enable it to withstand these wavelets of peace. I say wavelets to indicate a feeling of undulating peace. It was sheer and abnormal bliss. Sometimes a peak would be {illegible} and then a little or rather slight decrease in intensity, followed once again by another peak. Anyway it was a marvelous experience. I'm sure this must have been an {illegible} to my {cynicism}. It lasted about two hours. Once again I was quite philosophical about it, and my attitude was the same as before. That's "Marvelous!" "But what good is it? What does it teach me?" To feel enjoyable experiences is not to "understand." I believe these two experiences were given as a form of encouragement. What I really want is to experience the naked Truth concerning Atman - Brahman. I want to know what the sages mean when they use such words as Self or Atman.

So you see I am now committed to meditation I<sup>98</sup> owe you an enormous debt. I have been tremendously influenced by your books. My meditations follow the {line} advocated by the Maharishi in Osborne's book, "The Teachings of Ramana Maharshi."

Although leaving a westerner I don't accept the Sage's attitude to the world and it's suffering as "illusion," a thought still {emits}, even though only a thought. The wonder of the human body is surely not an accident. To refer to it as an illusion is quite valid when comparing it with Ultimate Reality or Brahman. But on the space – time sphere of existence it has surely evolved for a purpose. The human body is an illusion – yes. But a magnificent one. Really all this preamble is to give you a general picture of my background these last few months, and to lead to a question concerning meditation. When I am meditation my mouth fills with saliva, more than is necessary I'm sure. Subsequently I'm gulping every other couple of minutes or so. Have you encountered this difficulty before? Is<sup>99</sup> there some "trick" or gargle {or} something that can prevent this {extreme} salivation? Frankly I can't see that anything can be done, but one never knows you might have come across this difficulty before and know a harmless remedy. Is there any objection to breathing through the mouth?

I realize that you probably get scores of letters to answer. Please try to answer this one, but as to when that of course is your privilege.

Just a point of philosophical interest. In "Quest of the Overself" I gathered the impression that you were teaching One Self for all individuals as in the philosophy of Advaita. However in "Wisdom of the Overself" you seem to teach individual over selves i.e. each person has his own distinct Overself. This I believe is the teaching of the Samkhya school of Kapila. I know very little about Indian Philosophy my sources of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Page 169

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Page 171

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Page 173

information are: "The Spiritual Heritage of India" by Swami Prabhavananda; and "Mysticism Sacred and Profane" by Zaehner.

Yours Faithfully

a.gment

P.S.<sup>100</sup> I have enclosed a 51 – p.o.<sup>101</sup> to cover postage. This is the maximum value one is allowed to have. Anyway it is a gesture.



L04.177

177 – 178 Letter from Josephine McCarthy<sup>102</sup> 1843 West Ave, Miami Beach 39 Fla Nov 15<sup>th103</sup>

Dear Mr Brunton -

Have just read your Book "Discover Yourself" and going to read "The Secret Path."

Would you know of any teacher as you suggest a novice would be helped by some qualified teacher? Naturally I have in mind a teacher in this area anywhere within a 50 mi radius – Miami

So grateful to you for "Discover Yourself."

Thanking you in advance

L04.179

179 – 182 Letter from Inge Kirschbaum 3/27/67

Dear Mr Brunton,

it is quite some time ago since I first wrote to you in the hope, you might be able to help me in finding a guru, as I had the great desire to go to India.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Page 175, noted as "9)"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> "ack receipt" noted by PB himself to "51 – p.o."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Noted with a circled "M."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> "yes Gayatri Devi" added at top by PB himself.

But - it came different.

It took a long time 'til I received an answer from you, as you were abroad writing a new book.

In the meantime I read 2 books: "Unveiled Mysteries" and "The Magic Presence" by Godfré Ray King, the founder of the "I AM Movement" (in case you heard or know about it). These books impressed themselves very deep on my consciousness and I were now able to better understand a<sup>104</sup> magazine which I subscribed for since some time: "The Bridge to Freedom."

I then knew that this was the teaching I was searching for all my life. As this teaching came from America, I decided 1 year later to go there because I wanted to know more about it. So on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1965 I flew to New York and I am still here. Here I feel at home and my heart found rest.

I wanted to go somewhere to be alone and I was placed right into New York. I was everything else but enthusiastic about it yet it was good. Soon I started to love New York and I am so happy that I can be here.

A<sup>105</sup> few days before Christmas I went into a Yogi-bookstore to buy for a friend the "Autobiography of a Yogi" by Swami Paramhansa Yogananda and – I discovered your book "A Hermit in the Himalayas," which I didn't have the privilege to read in Germany. When I started to read this book I felt so close to you again as I feel and think the same in many things.

In your book you wrote neither Buddhism nor Christianity will lead mankind into a better world, you expect a new religion. That made me think about sending you some literature of the "Bridge."

The religion for the next 2.000 year cycle started with the "I AM Activity" and has been continued through the "Bridge to Freedom."<sup>106</sup> Therefore I think you would be interested in this teaching and I would be very happy to hear from you after a while how you think about it.

In great reverence and gratitude for the great service you render to mankind 853 President St Apt 3

Apt 3. Brooklyn, NY, 11215<sup>107</sup>

I am yours, Juge Kirschbaum

<sup>104</sup> Page 180

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Page 181

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> Page 182

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Address added by PB himself.

183 – 185 Letter from Diana G. Kamber<sup>108</sup> 1963 Redesdake Ave, Los Angeles 39 Calif. 10–6–59<sup>109</sup>

Dear Sir:

Would it surprise you that someone way out here, a woman – myself in fact, had thoughts quite similar to those you expressed in your "Wisdom of the Overself? After reading your book I found a letter (copy) I had written to two girl friends about <u>1935</u> after an afternoon spent together discussing our separate beliefs regarding the purpose of life. I had been exposed from childhood to what you term mentalism thru a deep desire to know more than I was able to learn from my parents or older brothers, so I read everything I could get from libraries, etc. and from talks with people I thought might know<sup>110</sup> the answers. As I look back I feel all the people that came into my life, even until now (& will in the future, I hope) came for a purpose – as much for their benefit as mine. We have needed each other.

The copy of the letter I mentioned, I would like to send you, if you care to read it. In it I have endeavored to analyze their positions and to prove my own step by step – the process of growth thru mentalism – I didn't use that word. To one of them I stated that (a believer in spiritualism) spiritualists, those who actually were, proved that matter can be massed in<sup>111</sup> space <u>as vibration</u> – the focusing of it reflecting thought. Jeans stated something similar "the mind in which the atoms out of which our individual minds have grown exist as thoughts." Continuous vitality in thought is my name for it. I have observed the growing intelligence in plants, insects and other life. It indicates man is moving along (growing) for, as you say, this intelligence reaches downward from the higher expressions of divine mind.

Thank you for your books. I'm so glad so many are reading them!

Sincerely, Diana G. Kamber not on phone – write letter Anaheim<sup>112</sup>

c/o Duttons<sup>113</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Noted with a checkmark and circled "K."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> Address and date added at bottom of last page

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Page 184, left side, and noted as "#2."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> Page 184, right side

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> "not on phone – write letter Anaheim" written in pencil to the right of salutation by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> Page 185, "c/o Duttons" is written on the back of the letter.

186 – 187 Letter from Maria Keiller Mariedalsvagen 32 C. Frau, Malmo<sup>114</sup> Sweden 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1966

Dear Dr Brunton:

I do not know if this letter will reach you – through Erma Rose I happen to know you are in Zurich, with maybe the intention to go to Lugano. I just receive a <u>letter<sup>115</sup></u> from Professor Altona<sup>116</sup> and his wife who tell me about Alma Moller,<sup>117</sup> Jorgen's aunt it seems she is ill in a Hotel room in Lugano and rather lonely - I did write to her some times because I feel pity for her, and mostly for our dear Jorgen's memory - But Dr Brunton I do not wish, if possible, to see her again. She is unhappy, and very hard, and I do not want to discuss with anyone the nature of my friendship with Jorgen, which she tried to do in front of some of my friends - You see our friendship or love, whatever you want to call it it is beyond any understanding because of its high and noble nature -I feel now calm and sure, I do know he is with me, and I do know also if I have to go away from this illusory world in which we live, I will be reunited in spirits with him -Nevertheless meanwhile here I shall try to live accordingly to this practical life – I do not feel unhappy any longer – Yes, I want to inform you about some things – When I was in Lugano visiting Jorgen I lived at Pensione Bella Vista - It was one week, I didn't pay anything because Jorgen told me I was his guest. He also said to me he has lended some money to Herr Banfi and this was a way they repaid him – I do know that<sup>118</sup> you were also his guest. So Dr Brunton I do believe they have already pay to Jorgen back their debt - I tell you this because I do know through Professor Altona that Alma Moller have make lots of trouble for them (Banfi's)<sup>119</sup> I do hope you see out that his people are left in peace - they love Jorgen very much and he was very fond of them, so I will feel happy to know this is clear - Luigi the younger Banfi has done lots for Jorgen -

Dear Dr Brunton: <u>Can you help me to get the music Jorgen composed for me? is</u> <u>called Maria</u> – Thank you very much

Yours ever

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> "Malmö" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> All underlining of text in this letter was done by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Aaltona in the original but is not a German/Swiss-German name.

<sup>-</sup>TJS '17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> "Möller" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> Page 187

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> "Banfi's added by PB himself.



Yes, Herr {Morman}, the English spoken man, I haven't heard a word from him, he was very kind to me and send flowers to Jorgen's funeral in my name. Please do greet him if you see him – Jorgen left me an insurance of 100,000 kronas. I did try to get <u>it</u>, since my economy is really terrible, (life in Sweden is getting impossible) <u>but I didn't succeed</u> – and I haven't got the strength to fight for this – Signor Ponchetti the Danish Consul was very sweet and helpful to me on this matter – I work 10 hours of the day. Douglas doesn't know; since he doesn't want to help us I am force to work. Dear Dr B. please forgive this long letter,

Peace and love



L04.188

188 – 189 Letter from Maria Keiller<sup>120</sup> Malmo 9<sup>th</sup> August 1966

Dear Dr Brunton -

Yesterday Mr Banfi from Bella Vista phoned me about Jorgen. You may understand what I felt – I went to the balcony and look up to heaven – I guess I felt his hand caressing my face and saying, "You old Brave girl – "You will take this too – And I imagine Dr Brunton life must go on –

Of course, meanwhile he lived I didn't know I care for him so much! – I didn't know I could maybe be more soft or understanding – I guess I could have been more giving to him – But believe me I couldn't help it – I understand that death is another state, just as natural as birth – yet, it is so enormously silent!

I want to know Dr Brunton, if he did suffer or not, if he realized he was going away and beyond everything if he had some word for me – I guess in some way he was glad to go away – He was very disappointed of<sup>121</sup> life and people – Being an idealist he could never agree with this cold and practical world.

Dr Brunton could you be so kind to phone me or write to me? You see, I am again lost – I know it is up to me, but maybe a word from you will give me a push.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> Noted with a circled "K" on the second page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Page 189

I know he was very glad to see you, and I am relieve to hear you were with him – He couldn't have had a better friend by him –

Sincerely yours

Telephone Malmo 64403 Address MARIEDALSVAGEN 32 C Frau Malmo

L04.190

190 – 193 Letter from Brigitte "Gita" Keiller<sup>122</sup> Govic,<sup>123</sup> Saro,<sup>124</sup> Sweden

Dear PB

I have been writing several letters to you – long detailed letters – but none of them ever got posted. When I read them through I found them so full of unnecessary words. Then I have tried to contact you more directly to give you a clear picture of the whole situation, but as I did not know how interested you were and as I did not want to disturb you in your work in any possible way, I am not sure if I have succeeded at all in doing so.<sup>125</sup>

What I want to tell you is, that I have fulfilled a meditation (about 3 years ago), where I seeked truth in me as a person (down to the atoms I consist of), then as a being among other beings, and then to the endless wordless truth behind all. After than I read "The Wisdom of the Overself" and found that the chapter about Mentalism went just in line with that part of my meditation. How thankful I am that you can put into words in such a clear and simple way what I only can see in my thoughts. –

Now I seem to have a pause and I feel I have several lessons to learn,  $\&^{126}$  wish how to behave in social life! – and I very much try to get rid of odd fears with odd addresses that seem to stick to me – perhaps from my childhood. –

I also want to thank you for your letter – it was a great comfort to me in a very difficult period. You wrote also: – best wishes for your welfare." I had never before in my life thought of my welfare, and at that time (1961) I was really in a miserable state. – Douglas said later on: "I was really afraid you were going to die." – I am so much better now – thanks to Douglas' loving care. My daughter and I love all here. –

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> Noted with a circled "K." by KTH.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> "GÖVIK" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> "SÄRÖ" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Page 191

<sup>126</sup> Page 192

Douglas in continuing his meditation (the one he showed you once) and he feels<sup>127</sup> that he is developing steadily.

I do hope, dear P. B., that we shall see you here some time.

I pray continually for peace and enlightenment. -



L04.194

194 – 195 Letter from "Gita," Brigitte Keiller<sup>128</sup> 23. 11. 66

Dear P.B, you must excuse me for writing again, – but I simply have to ask you several questions. Douglas and I have been told that Jorgen died in Switzerland in your presence the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> of August this year. In some months we did not hear any more, but then we heard through Maria Keiller that you had been in Sweden visiting friends in Lund. She had met you there, but you were so tired from giving lectures several placed in Europe and had to go home. Now I have to ask you, is all this true? – I have to ask you, because in years Douglas and I have been told so many things which were not true – and I have been accused of so many contradictory things that I find it hard to believe in Maria's or Jorgen's earnest search for truth and inner reality. – If he is dead I am really sorry, because I had hoped, that he would live until he saw a little more clearly what he did to himself and his surroundings. – If you have been in Europe, it aches my heart that you have not wanted to see us, because we love you so. Of course you must have had your reasons – only I cannot see them. –

I also wonder if you ever got my letter written in the end of January this year?

I hope and pray, dear P.B., that you are in good health, – and I also pray that truth shall enlighten all these matters and give peace to all persons involved.

There are so many other questions I should like to ask you, but I do not know how much you have been told – or <u>what</u> you have been told. – However I hope you will answer this letter as soon as possible. – I enclose some international stamp coupons and hope you will do me the favour to register your letter.



<sup>127</sup> Page 193

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Noted with a circled "K." by KTH

196 – 197 Letter from C. B. de Kretser<sup>129</sup> Fan explaining a supernatural experience had by himself and his wife, asking PB for an explanation.

Extract: "I hope you won't mind my troubling you but I've been wondering whether you can throw any light on the following startling experience which happened to my wife and myself about four and a half years ago. ... Suddenly there was a terrific flash seemingly about a foot or so from the ceiling and a terrific white light shot as it seemed right through the ceiling... something like the light of a photo flash bulb."

## L04.198

198 – 199 Letter from Mrs Satish Khurana 1, The Mall, Jullundur Cantt., India<sup>130</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> January '65

I hope this letter finds you in the spirit of health and joy in the New Year. May this New Year keep you constantly nearer to the Source than ever.

We are glad to continue our contact with you through our magazine Awake O'Man, which is carrying the message of love and harmony from Swami Premanandaji and many others to all those who care to share with us.

We shall be grateful if you can send us your thoughts in the form of an article for our next issue.

Thanking you and with best wishes.

Yours sincerely, S. Kluwang

(Mrs Satish Khurana)

## L04.200

200 – 203 Letter from Mr R. Kelsey<sup>131</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> Noted with a circled "K." by KTH, and "do NOT answer" added by PB himself.

<sup>130 &</sup>quot;WARNING

see over always use c/o Gillies address if writing letters to Swami Premananda, or Sat. Khurana" added at top by PB himself

Fan thanking PB for the help provided by his books in his search for the truth, particularly <u>The Wisdom of the Overself</u>.

*Extract: "I have been seeking the truth wherever I could find it, I made a study of Spiritualism for a number of years and took up the healing, and have been Blessed so many times, which I know I do not deserve, about 2 years ago I saw a picture of CHRIST, and 6 months afterwards I saw myself from the front, and again 12 months after I saw myself from behind, I shall not go into details."* 

### L04.204

204 – 207 Letter from Chris Karras<sup>132</sup> to Kenneth Hurst Box 25, Group "A," R.R. 2, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. February, 1967

<u>Mr Kenneth Hurst!</u> "Welcome Home"! (from India.)<sup>133</sup>

Dear Mr Hurst:

I carry no particular load today except the one of gratitude. It was very thoughtful of you to pass my letter on to Dr Brunton a second time. I am now past the stage where I might have put on a dramatic performance complete with hair-pulling (for effect) and hysterical screams of "I am saved, – I am saved!!!!!" – so I shall leave that to the ones with the natural talent for theatrics. – Nevertheless, I do want to express my feelings, so let me say quietly to you: Dear Dr Brunton, – dear Mr Hurst, - with love and respect from a seeker: I thank you both for BEING!"

The flap on one of Dr Brunton's books I have carries a photo of him. – (He has a little beard then) – Often I take a long look at that picture and mentally compare <u>his</u> facial expression to the saccharin-smile of certain "holy men," and the thought comes to mind that here is someone who is "oozing <u>love</u>" without doing any of that repulsively obvious "oozing."

You apologized for "sounding like a preacher." If I had had that impression I would have thanked you very politely and let it go at that. At the mention of the word "preacher" I cannot help but think of that dashing man called "Billy"<sup>134</sup> with the pretty

<sup>131</sup> Noted with "K"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> "n+d" added above name at top of page in another hand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> This note added by hand at top of page by sender.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Referring to William Franklin "Billy" Graham, Jr., KBE (born November 7, 1918) is an American evangelical Christian evangelist.

wavy blond hair who does his share of "devilish" damage to the masses in the States by hypnotizing them into believing that they have all been born in "original sin" and are doomed forever after, etc. – Somebody ought to revoke the license from the man with the toothpaste-ad-smile (it's flashy alright!), - if not for that than for the reason that a grown man his age with a degree behind his name and a perfectly good name like "Bill" still lets himself be called "Billy" with a "y." (Only a man's mother should have that "privilege.")

I admit to going over your letter with a toothcomb. The things you <u>didn't</u> say are most impressive. You could have said: "Dear lady, it won't be long now and you shall be liberated, – I shall personally take care of that little matter. All we have to do now is awaken "kundalini," – and then, – my dear, you must sublimate, - subbbblimate! – You must make "OJAS," - plenty of "OJAS!" – Then I would have said: "But, Sir, - my husband and I, we are in love, - we have a good marriage," and then you could have said: "Then ruin it, ruin it, - make sacrifices, – it's nothing but lust, - bad, bad and evil lust! – Renounce, detach and be spiritual!" (twenty-five Dollars, please, as your "love-offering.")

It recently occurred to me that words like "sublimation" and "spirituality" might be used as convenient excuses (and synonyms) by a number of slightly impotent men and frigid women on the so-called "spiritual path." I have yet to see the person who can claim attainment of spirituality by confusing the word with "poor health."

In your letter you referred to my outlook as being "sane and realistic." This has been the biggest thing for me in quite some time, since not too long ago I was nearing the point of crossing over the border of sanity, – clinically it was called "severe melancholy with suicidal tendencies." (Since there seem to be more Freudian psychiatrist than Jungian ones, - and I wasn't having any such dreams -, I passed up the "professional" assistance.)

Details<sup>135</sup> of one's personal crisis could not be anything but boring to anyone than one's husband and oneself, and I skip over that to come to the point. It was at <u>that (for me) critical time that I came across Dr Brunton's books.</u><sup>136</sup> I swallowed them whole at first, sort of gulped the contents rapidly. Then I slowed down, studied them, underlined passages, read and re-read. In short, I <u>lived and breathed in them</u>. It was exactly as Dr Brunton says in: "A Message From Arunachala": "When one reads a book, one travels with the soul of another man." I didn't only "travel along" I actually mentally conversed with him. Then, as you know, I eventually mustered up enough courage to write after contemplating for over a year. That little volume had particular significance to me, in a way it opened up many old wounds, said many of the bitter things I felt, and at the same time it released the inner power that heals. The other book

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> Page 206

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Much of the underlining found in this letter was done in red presumably by KTH.

that left the deepest impression along with "A MESSAGE" was at that time "The Wisdom Of The Overself." In it were all the answers to my intellectual questions at first, all the explanations I had been searching for since I was three years old, lying on my back for six months because of lung-tuberculosis, in a children's Sanitarium in Germany, watching my hands and fingers move in front of my face, wondering what exactly made them do that. When I asked the nurse, she said: "I don't know what you mean, dear!" –

But Dr Brunton's books did more than that, they did help actually to raise my <u>awareness</u>. It used to come <u>suddenly in flashes</u>, often so fast, that only after a couple of minutes I would become aware of a certain "new understanding," – <u>intuitional, just like it had always</u> been <u>there and I had only to remove the veil to discover it</u>. – So I can truly say that Dr Brunton's writings carried a further message, to burn the sack-cloth and brush the ashes from my head, - in short, to <u>quit being a martyr</u>. The chapters on "Suffering," the "WAR," – and the one on "Death" helped me to put myself in the position of being involved in life yet objectively above being <u>personally</u> involved. I'd call it a neutralizing effect.

Heaven and hell <u>are</u> states of mind. Without pathos: I've experienced some of the latter. My aim now is Paradise. The ticket to Paradise can only be bought at the price of this ego, and – frankly, I haven't been able to raise the fare. Yet, dreams have a way of materializing, the day, (lifetime rather) will come when I may board that train. Until then may I never mistake the road map for the point of destination and consider myself arrived prematurely.<sup>137</sup>

According to Dr Bucke in "Cosmic Consciousness" I do not have much of a chance as a woman anyway. Since illumination occurs usually around [?]the<sup>138</sup> age of thirty-five I could now throw in the towel for good, with two years to go to that age I could become wildly panicky or start praying for a miracle. (Some people take LSD instead!) All I really do, however, is go on from day to day knowing that I have been hooked by the Divine with an addiction similar to the one of the dope-addict. He also cannot keep away, but here the analogy ends, simply because his drug is life-corroding while mine is LIFE ITSELF!

Let<sup>139</sup> me thank you again for writing and <u>putting me in touch the inner way</u> <u>with Dr Brunton</u>. I am too insensitive to <u>feel</u> and <u>experience</u> his inward answers, but whatever "GOD" sees fit for me to receive, will surely find its way to the Essence of me, - the "I AM" humbly, joyfully and gratefully accepts.

P. T. O.<sup>140</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> "WELL PUT!" added to the left side of this paragraph by KTH.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> "?" noted in red next to the line of text in the margin by KTH.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> This paragraph annotated with a line down the left margin, presumably by KTH.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> "P.T.O." written in pen at the bottom of the page.

But<sup>141</sup> if I should ever perceive of GOD as "a rich feeling in the pit of the stomach" I shall immediately check what exactly I ate that day. As they say on television: "Relief is just a swallow away with alka-seltzer!" (sorry, Mr A. Huxley).

The "GOD" I hope to worship with all my being must be something more than a physical sensation due to the stimulation of nerve-complexes in the solar-plexus (or any other) by waves of emotions, - "HE" must be more than the pleasant pressure-feeling on my forehead, - more than the warm chest, - cool showers and goose-pimples on my skin, - and even more than the blissful, crawling sensations in my spine.

"Be still and <u>know</u> that I AM GOD" tells me right there that "<u>KNOWLEDGE</u>" cannot be "a feeling," be it physical, emotional or mental. There just must be more to It than that, - much, much more!

Thank you, - kindly "stranger"!

"Namasteh!" – OM – PREM – SHANTI Caris (Karras)

<u>P. S.</u> I hope that your trip to India was beneficial both to India and to you. – I just read four books on India, and I am very confused. (I've never been there) I feel a <u>strong pull towards that country</u>, but the books I read picture the people as somewhat <u>lacking in intelligence</u>, almost as stoic and enduring as these <u>holy cows</u>. I can't quite believe that. It's true though, that they understand Hinduism no better than Christians understand their religion. Where does that leave me? - Without a religion, - a heathen!

### L04.208

208 – 211 Letter from K. Kephren<sup>142</sup> 3 September 1965

Dear Doctor,

This morning, in searching old letters, I have found this photograph of mine, the last one I possessed.

Having not been able to meet you lately, on account of my old age, I send to you this past image of me.

141 Page 207

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> "Kèphren" in the original; wrote the book "The Transmission of Thought" (in French).

It will be a visible mark of my fraternal invisible presence near you.





Written on the back of the photograph: Juin 1937 to the Doctor Paul Brunton, in sign of spiritual fraternity.



L04.212

212 – 213 Letter from Mme Kelty Kephren 12 quai Lassagne, Lyon – 1ª July 1965

Dear Sir,

My internal voice gives to me the order to tell you how came to me the initiation. I never went or lived in Egypt. However it is from the Pyramide Kephren {*French for The Pyramid of Khafre*} that came the beginning of my initiation.

Then, I will prepare a total relation of what happened to me according to these facts.

When finished I will send to you my narration.

I charge this letter to send you my fraternal feelings.



214 – 217 Letter from K. <u>Kephren</u> 12 quai Lassagne, Lyon – 1۹, Rhone,<sup>144</sup> France July 26<sup>th145</sup>

Doctor,

If my memory is right, I had formerly told you how I was conducted to initiation, and what had happened to me concerning the Kephren Pyramid. So, here, I will not come back to these questions.

What I want to tell you in these pages is that, at fifty years of age, sad events compelled me to find a retributed work. Then, in quite an unexpected way, I was conducted to become a staker {sic}.

At first right, according to my literary past, it may seem<sup>146</sup> funny that I had accepted such a profession. But destiny commands, and it is wiser than men decisions. Anyhow, I could constable {sic}, following the course of years and of events, how wise and clairvoyant had been the invisible world. For that is on account of these facts, that I could discover my ability to cure cancers and other diseases.

But, in spite of that, many great doctors, in Lyon's, go on saying loudly – to protect their interests, - that this affliction<sup>147</sup> is not curable. – For several of them know my cures, which are not only momentary, but as a rule, definitive. –

Ignoring all those vain words, I go on, doing my best to cure cancerous people. -

I cure cancers without passes or magnetic force.

I<sup>148</sup> feel I have the direct power to act on the cosmic energy.

If you have friends being doctors in medicine, who could desire to have explanations concerning my treatment, but I shall answer with pleasure to their questions.

On the earth, I am not the alone able to cure cancers. But more than one doctor have interest not to let that be known by cancerous people. And they go on telling that, until now, not any way of curing cancers has not yet been found.

Receive, Doctor, my very spiritual thoughts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> "Rhône" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> "attach this to 2nd letter" written in pencil by PB himself in top right corner of first page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Page 215

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> affection in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> Page 216, noted with "2"

### L04.218

218 – 219 German language letter from Martha Assinger<sup>149</sup> Letter needs to be translated.

Extract: "She sent gift of Omkaranada books Better write at once to stop further coming<sup>150</sup>"

L04.220

220 – 221 German letter from Martha Assinger<sup>151</sup> Letter needs to be translated

Extract: "Will phone hotel 8-10am<sup>152</sup>"

### L04.222

222 – 227<sup>153</sup> Letter from J. Trillo<sup>154</sup> Paseo Misericordia, 9, 2.° C Reus, Tarragona Espagne The 3<sup>rd</sup>. October 1974<sup>155</sup>

Very dear Mr Brunton:

Well what a tremendous surprise and pleasure it has been to receive your letter today.

It shall be charming to meet you in Barcelona on the 18<sup>th</sup> next. So I am waiting for your letter telling me in which hotel are you going to stay and at which time I may meet you. If for any reason you find it is better for you that I come on the 25<sup>th</sup>, or on the 26<sup>th</sup>, it will be the same for me.

Recently I have acquired "A Search in Secret Egypt" but at the moment I am reading again "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga."

Many thanks for your kind letter and hoping to see you soon.

I remain yours

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Noted with a circled "A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Note added by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> Noted with a circled "A"

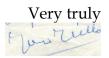
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> Note added by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> The PDF shows a second page which appears to be a blank sheet which was stuck to the original letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> Noted with a circled "T."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> "I Met Him In Barcelona

This is his earlier letter" added by PB himself on the envelope.



### L04.228

228 – 231<sup>156</sup> Letter from Juri Trillo<sup>157</sup> April '74<sup>158</sup>

Paul Brunton C/O Hutchinson Publishing Group Ltd 3 Fitzroy Square London. WIP 6ID.

#### Dear Mr Brunton;

Fifteen years ago, a friend of mine gave casually to me a copy of your book "THE SECRET PATH" translated into Spanish in Argentine. It was the first time in my life I knew of yoga. I read the book with great interest and following your instructions, I began to practice meditation and in a week or so, at a moment of the practice after more or less half an hour I began to feel as an electric current was invading my body. Every day this sensation was stronger. As I did not know what it could be and where it could lead me to, I went on unperturbed with the meditation. Ten days later approximately I got some tremendous experience. It was "that" same thing one hundred times stronger.

The<sup>159</sup> experience I had, cannot be explained.

It was not sensed with the material senses of the body.

It is why there are no words to tell.

It was only "TO BE." Only one thing. No place. No time. Perhaps I only was? More intensely than ever I had been? I wish I could reach "that" again.

It was nothing bad. Nevertheless I got panic stricken. I ran to my wife to explain what had happened to me. I was excited and afraid. So I suspended meditation for some days. When fear had gone I started again to meditate. Again after twenty minutes or so, I felt the same "thing" that was invading me, but this time, instead of more and more every day, I felt it less and less until perhaps after two months came to nothing. I have never been able again to reach that point in my meditation. I even think I get nothing at all through it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>156</sup> Note that page 229 and 231 of the PDF are duplicates of 228 and 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>157</sup> Noted with a circled "J"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> Date added by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> The formatting follows the original letter to best relay intent of author.

Now that I have read several of your books, that without knowing it, I made contact with my Overself. I remembered the happening with pleasure and felt the necessity of feeling it again. There was an important change, for the better of my conduct and thoughts. But this time again I was afraid. I felt in my subconscious that I feared to become a Saint and a victim in a world, as I said, of liars,<sup>160</sup> thieves<sup>161</sup> and criminals. I think that then, I was abandoned by these mysterious forces of the unknown. I practice meditation every day, without success and I think that I do not do it properly. When I first started with the practice of meditation I find it so easy to concentrate in the line of thought WHO AM I? that I believed I was doing it wrongly. I had read so many times that "so many were called and so few were chosen" that I thought, there must be in it something else than sitting in a chair for forty minutes thinking of nothing at all. So easy I found it then. And the reward was at a fortnight's distance.

I have read: THE SECRET INDIA. THE SECRET PATH, about 20 times. BEYOND YOGA, about 6 times. IN SEARCH OF THE OVERSELF. THE INNER REALITY AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE OVERSELF which I have received a few days ago from Argentine, once each. I must tell you that the last one I must read many times before I can understand it.

Awaiting with great interest the favour of your reply With nothing else to tell I am very sincerely



### P.S.

I read your books with great pleasure and I get a lot of peace of mind through their lecture. I wish you could help me.

## L04.232

232 – 235 Letter from Milada and Olga Capek Prague 8<sup>th</sup> Decem. '78

### Dear Sir,

In this year you have celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is a great and long time you have sacrificed your life to the bliss and mankind. There are many who feel the greatness and rare value of your work. The people begin to understand that you are the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> "liards" in the original.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>161</sup> "thiefs" in the original.

general guru and they have the force to turn to the God directly and follow your teaching independently.<sup>162</sup> No words can't appreciate immenseness of your work and express our thanks to you! Dear sir, we wish you good health and blessed Christmas days.

With love your

May we pray for your blessing?

L04.236

236 – 239 Letter from Elena {Pulu}<sup>163</sup> Lugano, Switzerland 8 May 1971

Dr Paul Brunton c/o National & Grindlays Ltd. 13 St. James's Square London S.W.1, England

Dear Sir:164

As my thoughts are often with you I have to take myself in hand and write to you about my experiences in India.

Dr Mahadevan<sup>165</sup> has been awfully nice to me and even arranged a personal meeting for me with His Holiness Shankaracharya.<sup>166</sup> At 4 o'clock in the morning we drove from Madras to the Ashram and my humble person was probably the first visitor His Holiness received that day. Unfortunately His Holiness was in Silence and I have not been able to receive more from him than a smile and a penetrating look. I remained there for some hours but unfortunately His Holiness has been in Silence during the whole day.

Thereupon I stayed for some weeks in South India in the Ashram formerly of Dr Mees<sup>167</sup> which now belongs to Mr J. de Reede. This Kanvashrama in Varkala has a special mystical emanation: it is said that many years ago famous Rishis lived there. It was very relaxing for me and I had some experiences metaphysical-wise as well. – The scenery in South India is wonderful, the soil in Varkala is red and it has an abundant vegetation. As far as social conditions are concerned it cannot be compared with North

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> Page 234

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> The signature is partially illegible. "Pulu" is our best guess and is a Swiss-German Surname.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> "don't answer in New York" added by PB himself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Referring to T.M.P. Mahadevan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> Referring to Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Swamigal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> Dr. G. H. Mees.

India. However, it is still absolutely Indian, which can be evaluated rather positively than negatively.

Even before going to South India, Dr Mahadevan suggested I should make a trip to Tiruvannamalai. It also was the Maharshi's birthday and there were many pilgrims, among them also Dr Mahadevan. The Ashram has not made a great impression on me. What impressed me more was the Holy Mountain Arunachala. It was really unbelievable how this mountain has challenged me! Once my body reacted with psychosomatic pains – every day I had to go and my wish has been crowned with success, humble and with an inner peace I departed.

In Varanasi I had a wonderful meeting with His Holiness Mauni Baba, who has not spoken for 35 years. However, he gave answers to my questions through the Book Bhagavad Gita. The shine of universal love in his eyes and his bliss-giving smile gave me an indescribable peace which turned into a contented state of mind.

In Delhi I was received by Gopi Krishna, the Kundalini-Yoga, whom you know from Zurich. He has written some more books which should be very interesting as well. Sir Gopi Krishna even invited me to his home in Kashmir and I shall be very glad to accept his invitation. By the way, he will be here in July, eventually also in Lugano.

Dear<sup>168</sup> Mr Brunton, I have some kind of a feeling that after all I shall be fortunate enough to see you within the next future. I have a photograph here of Tiruvannamalai showing His Holiness Maharshi and Dr Mees in your presence. The photograph is old but very informative and amusing. I shall keep it in order to show it to you.

> With my best wishes I am, as ever, humbly yours,

Helena Leiter

L04.240

240 – 247 Notes written by Don E. Speakman<sup>169</sup> Undated

The "Knowing" of Reincarnation was complete in the previous years and has remained constant.

PB: Recommend him Stevenson's<sup>170</sup> book tell {re Megling or write either}

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> Page 238, noted as "-2-"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> Notes contain PB's comments and are included in text noted with "PB:"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> Ian Pretyman Stevenson (October 31, 1918 – February 8, 2007) was a Canadian-born U.S. psychiatrist.

Reincarnation<sup>171</sup> has turned out to be another illusion built up by man's mind & thoughts & Imagination.

PB: No

The<sup>172</sup> "Knowing" of Reincarnation has strengthened over the years. PB: Yes

### L04.248

248 – 249 Letter from Don E. Speakman 1125 Melrose, Lima, Ohio 45801 Jan. 14, 1971

Dear Paul Brunton:

By contacting the man who owns the bookstore in Ithaca,<sup>173</sup> New York {Anthony Damiani}, I was able to purchase your "Search in Egypt" and "Wisdom of the Overself." I had been informed by the U.S. publisher that they were out of print – so these came from England.

I finished the "Search in Egypt" last weekend. If your experience in the Kings Chamber was real and not a hallucination, then many of my questions and doubts have been answered.

All except one – reincarnation of the individual. Your experience seems to have proved that there is another self, one that is not attached to the physical body – one that is released at death and can exist apart from physical matter. I can also "see" how there can be different levels spiritual enlightenment and that the goal of the spiritual self is to move towards a union with the Absolute Overself. But wouldn't this be done within the spirit "world"?

The problem with reading a book is just that – it's a book. The Late Bishop James Pike wrote an interesting book involving his experience with son after the son was dead. Bishop Pike was not a fool nor a man given to telling lies – and yet we tend to hold back from complete belief in an author's writings. (over)

Ruth<sup>174</sup> Montgomery<sup>175</sup> is a well known journalist – she also has written several books on mystical or spiritual experiences – like her automatic typewriting. Here again is a well known figure – certainly not thought of as being a fool, a fraud – and yet there is still hesitation in accepting her experiences as being "really real." We always keep

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> Page 242

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> Page 244

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> He is referring to Anthony Damiani and his Bookstore, The American Brahman.

<sup>174</sup> Page 249

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> Ruth Shick Montgomery

thinking to ourselves that somehow and someway she was probably fooled herself, and, that her subconscious mind was playing tricks on her.

How to test the truth of an author's writings? Only one way – by trying to personally duplicate the spiritual enlightenment that others have claimed to achieved. There are some, of course, that can live by faith alone. I cannot – because if I can come to "know," I expect it to have a profound and radical impact on my day-to-day living, thinking, being; indeed, my whole earthly life must change in its commitment. I feel, sometimes, like I have hold of an unseen magnet and cannot let go – it keeps drawing my thoughts, compelling me to find an answer to my life's riddle.

My work seems superficial, my family secondary (although I fight this feeling for the latter). A feeling of a need to get away from everything for a period of time is intensifying as my drive toward enlightenment quickens. As if I need to suddenly surrender myself, completely, in order to come to grips with stillness.

Yours in seeking the Way

Q.E. Sreakman

L04.250

250 – 251 Letter from Don E. Speakman 1125 Melrose, Lima, Ohio 45801 Jan. 5, 1971

Dear Mr Brunton:176

An Overself? A Universal Life Force? O.K. These are good possibilities, and, perhaps I will come to see that it is so thru meditation. There is an increasing amount of scientific evidence - even more so than when you wrote your books - to give a strong basis for such a belief. But reincarnation? Of the individual yet? I can see how the basic life force – when released at physical death, could once more return to being just another part of the Universal Life Force, but this would be like a puff of smoke as it rises into the air, after a few minutes there is no distinction between that which was and that which is. But when suggesting that an individual's consciousness carries over into another body, my mind becomes overwhelmed. Is the <u>First</u> man still among us, trying to evolve himself back into the Overself? What hope can there be for the vast majority of mankind to ever stop the cycle of rebirth when they know nothing of how to discover themselves in the Overself? How can the common man come to see reality in a concept that for so long has been considered a myth? How can I come to <u>know</u> that it isn't a myth? Through deep meditation? By stilling my mind and by coming to grips with who I am – What I Am, will this automatically reveal the Truth of rebirth?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> "2 IR Coupons enc" added by PB himself added here. Read as: Two International Return Coupons enclosed.

I have come to a fair point in quieting my mind during meditation, but during the regular course of the day, the above thoughts race through my head. I must get more depth in my stillness; but how to go deeper, that is the problem.

I am still interested in knowing whether or not your conviction – your "knowing" of the Truth of reincarnation has increased-strengthen since your book "Discover Yourself"? Has Time been a friend or an enemy to the spiritual thoughts as recorded in your books?

Sincerely Yours in seeking the Way Don E Speakman Work peaking

I would still like to visit with for a few days during a summer vacation trip to Europe.<sup>177</sup>

### L04.252

252 – 253 Letter from Brother Dale February 26, 1969

Dear Dr Brunton,

The thought of you has ever remained in the cave of my heart. I would have liked to have gone with you so that I could have kept up the privilege of being in touch with your aura felt, heart and mind that have such soul quality. But to my surprise, your great soul ship of space, time and distance has visited me many a time and I am most privileged indeed.

The Great White Brotherhood helped my aloneness by bringing into my life a great soul named Anita. Soon after we met she became a vegetarian, a celibate and would not touch an alcoholic drink and never liked smoking.

Anita gave up her job at R.C.A. in Hollywood which paid her a salary of \$600 a month to move with me to Taos, a place of nature, to end up with a salary of nothing compared to what she was making at R.C.A. She is now working for the Chamber of Commerce here in Taos. She is a woman with talent plus, and I am sure you will agree when you read the poems she has received from the G. W. Brotherhood, in fact she has received enough poems without counting the lectures to make a book. We have daily meditation from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., or after, and when we wake up in the morning about 5:00 a.m. and whenever and wherever we can.

I was pleasantly shocked to learn from Mother Superior Gayatri Devi that you considered me as one of your chelas. I am not only privileged but honored to have such a guiding hand as yours to help chart my path to enlightenment. I decided that the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>177</sup> The post script is added by hand.

Vedanta Ashram, even though they gave me a warm welcome, was not for me. It would have kept me from many an experience. My decision was based on the principle of the knowing is in the doing.

The Arch Bishop made a move soon after you left, which gave me freedom to choose another path and it has proven itself to be a successful one. You have many a heart that loves you deeply such as Anita and myself.

Anita has remembered seeing you while traveling into the unknown at night while her body was asleep.

This is my present state of development as I see it. I am at the point of awareness while out of the body that affords me to observe my own thoughts that are living identities that have life because I have given life expression to them. It was a terrifying experience at first and at times still can be, but as I find myself balancing each thought, I find that I have won that much more control over my own destiny. Whatever thoughts you have on this, please write them down and send them to me. I have written to you before, but have never received any other letter besides the one about the Vedanta Ashram. Anita is writing you a letter too.

Please write soon, and please send a picture of yourself. We will do the same when contact is sure.

With love always, Brother Dale

L04.254

254 – 271 Letter and Poems from Anita Ellis c/o General Delivery, Taos, New Mexico 87571 February 25, 1969

Dear Mr Brunton,

I feel that I know you somewhat from Dale's description of you. I saw you one night from afar, an evening when you and Dale were walking down Hollywood Blvd. on your way to dinner.

Well, last week I obtained your book, "Search in Secret India," from our little Taos library, and enjoyed the book exceptionally. While in the midst of reading it, one night while asleep I received a picture of you walking down a dirt road on your way to a little house set a ways back, and nestled in a group of trees. A woman was walking alongside you, and she was larger than yourself.

Dale and I started talking about you, wondering what my vision of you meant, and so the search began. We wrote to Arrow Books in England in quest of your books,

and were told that Rider Company is handling the publication of future paperbacks of your works.

It could be we picked up thought-waves winging their way across continents. We are busy about creative work that will come out in book form this summer. Enclosed are some of my poems which I hope you will enjoy. Dale will do the printing up of these.

We pray that you are well and happy. Apparently you enjoy life in India, and no doubt you are ensconced in the land of your karmic past.

We would love to receive a letter from you. Do tell us when your next book is coming forth... we are eagerly awaiting. Best wishes,

Write to: Anita Ellis c/o General Delivery Taos, New Mexico 87571 Encls. 8

anta Ellis

Hope to hear from you soon.

GENII<sup>178</sup> IN THE LAMP Oh magical lamp with the golden light Mentioned in the tale of "Arabian Nights" Your mythical name is "Aladdin's Lamp" You convey a message, yet you enchant.

There's so much more to the story of old That tells of a lamp with a golden glow And tells of a genii who answers prayers Than ever the spirit of man is aware.

Man's head is really an Aladdin's Lamp The fire of the pineal to become extant For within the seed of man is a light That creates the lamp of inner sight.

The magical genii in the story book Is real, if man would take time to look For the genii is the real genius of man Created by seed sparked by brain-sand.

When the lamp is ignited by pure desire

<sup>178</sup> Page 256

And the pineal gland is stirred afire The genii will become the genius of man That a light may be lit in souls of men.

## THE179 KARMA OF MAN

(<u>Karmic Action Responds to Man's Actions</u>) \*Note: Symbol A denotes mind, which impels action.

The karma of man is set by himself According to his earthly actions And karma responds in a vibratory way To his actions with mighty reactions.

The letter K is the seal of power The line of force due to ensue The symbol for action is the letter A Letter R is the responding thereto.

Karma is always established by man As he acts and reacts upon earth And until he develops pure attributes He'll return in the manner of rebirth.

Once man develops Christ attributes His karma will thus be erased And when he learns all lessons in life He'll earn a greater place in space.

As man discovers the karmic force Balancing all debts in the world He'll apply himself to the God principle To perfection of actions and words.

This message is given forth unto man That he might aspire to become A perfected master of himself at first Then a master to be excelled by none.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>179</sup> Page 258

### THE<sup>180</sup> SECRET WITHIN THE SACRED SCARAB OF EGYPT

In the Ancient Land of Egypt, ever so many centuries ago There was a story of a Scarab and its golden, eternal glow What was the secret essence of the Scarab existing that day How did it create the eternal light-body forever to stay.

The Scarab and its light-body spelled out the number Eight Which tells the world that balance is obtained by a celibate It created its immortal body by the threads of golden light It had spun during physical life, and had saved day and night.

The golden thread is the Elixir of Life so often misspent And man's seed contains the light that weaves the golden web For balance, of course, is the key to become an Immortal One By creating a body of light as intensely ablaze as the sun.

Another sign that's quite hidden within the key-word Egypt Look closely to the letter Y, blending soul, mind and heart For the Y is a symbolic balance of the forces most sublime And Egypt tells the story, 'though buried by the sands of time.

For Egypt is a key-word spelling the story of physical man PT has reference to the physical, and EG is the energy demand The symbol Y points the way to conserving the electric force That man's body might regenerate, becoming a power source.

The Y is the keystone of man, the stone upon which to build And regeneration of the body is pure wisdom to be instilled For the Scarab of Ancient Egypt is proclaiming its secret today The story of immortality, how it gained the Great and Holy Way.

## APOCALYPSE<sup>181</sup> – EPOCH LAPSE

<sup>180</sup> Page 260<sup>181</sup> Page 262

The earth's motion has been set for a designated time span Affording sufficient time for man's consciousness to expand Man elects to be a pawn, when all life's games are outguessed For the higher minds rule man in their giant game of chess.

Man on earth is given free will to do what is right or wrong And the promise afforded man only to be earned by the strong The will must lead the way, the heart well balanced for good The soul having evolved to where lessons in life are understood.

Man becomes the center of time when lessons have been learned Clock's hands do not revolve, time's motion has been discerned Perfect balance being achieved that dissolves both time and space And when mind becomes as crystal, man's a winner of the race.

The final hour has been set for the trumpets to herald forth The note to harmonize man to a higher motivating mind force For Apocalypse means epoch lapse, foretelling the end of time Man's soul award being determined by his elevation of heart-mind.

# THE<sup>182</sup> BEAUTY OF MEDITATION

As I meditate alone in the hush of the night I attune myself to the glow of inner light I slow down all thought in its flow around me And I silence the turmoil of the raging sea.

As I concentrate my gaze on the flame of light I perceive the development of keen inner sight With electric sparks shooting off into space I am my own transmitting and receiving base.

Then a vibratory action begins to take place A circle of energy soaring far out into space As the atoms of the physical instrument polarize Thus the faculty of attunement begins to focalize.

The light surging forth is a band of free energy Electric in force, yet it attracts magnetically

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>182</sup> Page 264

Once contact is made, the thought becomes clothed In a sheath of like vibration to which it's exposed.

When the thought returns to the sending force The receiving apparatus becomes a power source The head center transforming to a radiant light An invisible flame blazing forth in the night.

There are many dimensions to be reached in space Remaining invisible to the now-incarnating race Until such time as the serpent power is raised – The power of attunement to the source of the rays.

When man becomes balanced in heart, soul and mind All the kingdoms existing beyond space and time Will be discovered by the faculty of man's mind And all the vehicles will be perfectly aligned.

In meditation there are many surprised for man The first step, allow the consciousness to expand Develop the faculties of heart, mind and soul And a beautiful world of inner truth will unfold.

### SHAMBALLA<sup>183</sup>

Oh sphere of bright and shining light Blazing forth in the dark of night You say that you're known as Shamballa And the Great Ones all know who you are.

I've wondered at your most curious name The significance that it might contain Within Shamballa is hidden mystery For it speaks of forever and eternity.

SHAM translates to soul, heart and mind The Bible says, "Seek and ye shall find" BALLA is exactly what it seems to be A great sphere of light vibrating at me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>183</sup> Page 266. Also spelled Shambhala or Shambala.

The light that's without is also within For it is, in essence, man's soul twin And when heart, mind and soul are one Shamballa will radiate as golden sun.

Shamballa relates to the head of man The center-most point is the pineal gland The jewel of the lotus-flower of old A light shining forth as petals unfold.

When the light above meets the light below Then the pineal gland will begin to glow The light will appear as a golden road For man to travel to the secret abode.

Shamballa is where heart, mind and soul are It's an eternal glow from an eternal star To know Shamballa is to be greatly blessed For Shamballa is immortal consciousness.

# LEGEND<sup>184</sup> OF THE BLUE DEVA OF TAOS MOUNTAIN

In the Sacred Taos Mountain, quite beyond the quaint City Square Dwells a mystical shadowy figure that is all but invisible there And few are the ones having knowledge of the Deva and its whereabouts Fewer still are the ones who have seen It, all the more those in doubt.

The shadowy figure of the Mountain is a legend of the Taos Indian And the story is a well guarded secret of the Indian kith and kin For the white man's considered a betrayer, a destroyer of nature divine So the secret must be hidden from man, even unto the very end of time.

The white man is of physical sight, and he utilizes the crafty mind The self is the inclining motivation, he is dominated by me and mine The Indian is one close to nature, and his heart is attuned to God His life is a thankful prayer, and his crafts are shaped from the sod.

Yet there is no division that separates the Indian from the white

<sup>184</sup> Page 268

Neither one is superior to the other, they are equal in God's sight Yet man can only receive in like measure to the seeds that he sows And the heart is the true revealer, for it hears and it truly knows.

The Blue Deva high in the Mountain is a Silent Watcher over man Just waiting for man to reach up, calling forth the touch of Its hand For the Deva is a Most Divine Being, a Messenger of Light sent to earth And Its aura is of such radiance as to bring about a spiritual rebirth.

The high cosmic forces are centered within the Divine Deva One And this energy is ever at work, as direct as the light of the sun So that man might become more attuned to God and his bountiful love So that miracles might become known, lifting man's eyes to God above.

## OIL<sup>185</sup> LAMPS

The precious oil in the body of man Has been given to man for a reason Yet man goes along thinking this oil Will never go out of season.

Yet all too late does man realize His supply is not without limit And so he continues blithely through life Never stopping to think for a minute.

Man scatters his precious light of life With nary an earthly concern Never realizing that this precious oil Is his own life's substance he's burned.

This oil contains man's precious seed His key to immortal life And promiscuous sowing of this seed Reaps a harvest of sadness and strife.

Much better for man to channel this seed To spark the light in his eye For this powerful agent will give to man

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>185</sup> Page 270

All the greatest of powers on high.

And so these words are meant to convey The necessity for man to see That true wisdom will only be given to man When he applies this mystical key.

### L04.272

272 – 277 Letter from Mrs Ruth Phung 269 Happy Garden, Old Kuchai Road,<sup>186</sup> Kuala Lumpur Malaysia 8.11.69<sup>187</sup>

Dear Dr Brunton,

I am an avid reader of as many of your books as I can lay my hands on. I began taking an interest in yoga and spiritual discipline because of the death of my husband. I could find no consolation until I came in contact with Swami Vivekananda's philosophy. Then I came across your books, and being a Christian (a Roman Catholic) I seek a spiritual path through Christ.

I am suffering from a weak hart and you have cautioned against going through the important breathing exercises. It sort of left me stranded. So I went through books written by Swami Sivananda, Yogananda, a bit of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother to map out a route to suit my heart condition.

I came to this conclusion – I can only practice Bhakti Yoga (Devotion). Jnana Yoga is beyond the<sup>188</sup> reach of a beginner. I am more or less at a standstill. I don't have much time left in this world to seek the Truth. I am 52 and with my heart condition (which is not a very serious one yet) I can't afford to delay any longer. I have looked around for a Guru, but I can't find one in this country. I can only think of you as a last resort.

I follow a little programme for my self-enlightenment such as doing a little selfanalysis and reading the New Testament, your books and Swami Vivekananda's works daily.

I have what we term in the Roman Catholic Church a special devotion for the Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, and the prayer I "say" in the morning

<sup>188</sup> Page 274

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>186</sup> Also noted: "(off 4 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles Klang Road)."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>187</sup> According to Wikipedia, Malaysians use DMY format in Malaysian but MDY when writing in English -TJS'17

and at night before I go to bed can hardly be called meditations. However, I don't follow the stereotyped prayers.

I try to lead a perfect life following the Raja – yoga's "Yama" and "Niyama" except the breathing exercises and its proper meditation a little of which I have tried and am trying most unsuccessfully.

I have to give you such details so that you will understand the whole situation. In fact I feel rather presumptuous in taking for granted that you will help me seeing that you have no proofs of<sup>189</sup> my sincerity. Besides you may judge me as rather foolish to write to you right away before ascertaining that my letters will reach you at the address given to me by Rider & Co.

In fact I wrote to them for a photograph of yours, but was rather disappointed because it was only a photograph of your sculptured head that I received. I shall be very grateful if you can let me have a photograph of yourself.

These are the books I have read of yours: -

- (1) A Search in Secret India.
- (2) The Secret Path.
- (3) A Hermit in the Himalayas.
- (4) The Quest of the Overself.<sup>190</sup>
- (5) The Inner Reality.
- (6) The Wisdom of the Overself
- (7) The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga (I am at Chapter XI now, having read its sequel earlier).

I shall appreciate it very much if you can help me, however little it may be, as your heart prompts, and I am willing to wait.

Om, santi!

Yours sincerely, (Mrs Ruth Phung)<sup>191</sup>

L04.278

278 – 279 Handwritten note on index card<sup>192</sup> by unknown Undated

<sup>191</sup> Name added in another hand.

<sup>189</sup> Page 276

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>190</sup> Next to the numbers 4, 5, & 6 the author added: "have to study again."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>192</sup> Noted in the top right corner with a circled "3."

PB to Nell & Gordon Gillies 26 July 1965 Naples

"Lobsang Rampa<sup>193</sup> is <u>not</u> authentic. He acknowledged under pressure that his books were written mediumistically, as he never visited Tibet physically."

### PB to N. & G. Gillies 28 March 1967 Athens

"How valuable are those few minutes prized from the day's routine for mental quiet! The world is so busy with its business that the profit to be gained from inner contact with the Source is unperceived, even unknown. It is our lifeline... Until the day when meditation, set apart as such, is not really necessary because the Presence is <u>always</u> there as background, although special <u>sessions</u> for meditation bring it forward into sharper focus."

### L04.280

280 – 281 Typed poem by unknown Undated

I have an alien aura, Perverse as it can be! It not only penetrates others, It interpenetrates me!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>193</sup> "Rampas" in the original, and is referring to Lobsang Rampa.

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