

Readers' Letters 05

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 1932 and 1991. 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

L05.001

1 - 24

Letter from John Alsford

'Glyn Arven' Witherslack, Grange-O-Sands, Lancashire England

19th Nov

Dear Dr Brunton,

I am writing to you for a reason that is not crystally clear to me, but I feel a need to communicate.

I have read your books "A Search in Secret India" and "The Wisdom of the Overself," the latter being read over a period of about two months and finished about two months ago. Since then a change has been going on in my ways of thought which might be more than the process of growing up. I will try to relate events as they happened and draw no conclusions which may be wrong.

Intermittently¹ I have tried the exercise called a Meditation on the Sun; factors both internal and external preventing regular practice. About two months ago an event occurred which to me was a new experience. It was early morning and I was sitting at my bedroom window carrying out as far as I know the procedures outlined for the meditation on the sun. The grass was very dewy and the sun reflected brightly from it. I was not staring wholly at the sky as this was partially obscured by bushes. The experience occurred after about half an hour, and lasted at most five seconds. It was to me extraordinarily intense and disturbing as my heart rate went up on stopping. The light reflected from the dew took on a more intense and homogenised aspect, there was a disembodied sensation and a singing² in my ears. I was frightened and it all stopped – my heartbeat was fast but this could be due to fear.

Perhaps three times since that first experience I have had similar ones. These have been at sunset after the sun has dropped behind the hills. The back and neck were always straight and I was outdoors. They have not seemed as intense as the first experience but each time a strangeness of vision that is not just blurring, and also a disembodied sensation has come, but the singing in the ears that was so noticeable the first time has not repeated. As far as I can recall thought was going on in each of these very brief moments and each time there was a tingling sensation in the front teeth and nasal region. As far as I know there was no attempt at concentrating will-power, and as far as I am³ aware at least I did not set out to do so. There was an openness however.

These experiences have occurred when I am more sensitive to nature than usual – and feel a need to do the meditation. It is as though normally I am cut off and this stops in the stillness of the evening when the senses are open to the peace.

This description may be inadequate or unnecessarily lengthy and detailed but the details have been recorded as I see them. It does seem that detail is not there in the parts that may be important – but I don't know.

Can you advise me as to the nature of this experience and has it any significance?

I⁴ am afraid that this letter goes on, as there are questions which are bursting out of me. It seems important to outline events of the past year as they are connected with the previous part of the letter. I put them before you and perhaps you will understand and see what is happening – I do not.

I am nearly seventeen and a half and have grown and matured over the past year as do most. An interest in yoga started in January when I started practicing physical exercises read in a book and which I still do, and developed to reading "A Search in Secret India" and "The Wisdom of the Overself" from Easter and over summer. Since then I have read the works of Krishnamurti "The Only Revolution" and "Commentaries on Living" and these have helped me see things more clearly, particularly thoughts.

¹ Page 3. Circled "2" at the top of the page.

² Page 5. Circled "3" at the top of the page.

³ Page 7. Circled "4" at the top of the page.

⁴ Page 9. Circled "5" at the top of the page.

Since⁵ reading Krishnamurti's books I have been aware with increasing depth of the problem of overpopulation and pollution. There are no conclusive facts in memory as to whether or not our planet is near to death or not, but I have read about the subject. One night after hearing on television that the Irish Sea might be dead in five years I dreamt I was wading through some clear blue water along a shore and crying. How could I escape such a problem? I can't.

I have been aware of the countryside and the losing of wilderness even here in the Lake District for some two to three years. I have no desire to retreat from life but I have no desire for profit. Every time I look at what is happening I want to cry out. I enjoy pleasures – I'm no recluse, but always there is this background of the world.

It⁶ is only over the past few weeks that the hopelessness of the ego has been seen. I had thought about it after reading "The Wisdom of the Overself" but the disciplined attitude I then embarked on was enclosing, as have been all deliberate disciplining of actions – as far as I can see. I have been through changes since then and some hopelessness. There is no wish to escape life or vegetate in any way, but movements of the ego seem so horribly defeating. I now practise deliberately no discipline because there seems something unliving in setting a course and following it to exclusion of all else. I am not unhappy or particularly happy and seem more open to life than I can remember.

I cannot remember your writing about reincarnation. I do not know if I have practised⁷ mysticism in an earlier lifetime or even if I have had earlier lifetimes. Maybe I am ready for philosophy and maybe I am not and maybe life will show me.

Can you say what is happening? Have you some insight in what I am? I do not ask for comfort or any kind of answer, but have put this before you and leave your action to your judgement. I expect nothing – as far as I can see.

If you do not reply to this last question can you clear my mind regarding the following? They are perhaps more academic, and less personal, and there again maybe not.

Since reading "The Only Revolution," and "Commentaries on Living" by Krishnamurti and particularly now that I am half way through "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" I⁸ have noticed a seeming difference at a basic level between your works and those of Krishnamurti.

Krishnamurti has written that truth cannot be obtained and that only by being open to "what is" will it come. He has said that it cannot be sought and yet my limited interpretation of the writing of your books is that they suggest otherwise: that "what is" can be found through seeking and carrying out mystical exercises described in "The Wisdom of the Overself." On the other hand you have said that Grace does not come directly but it is possible to create conditions suitable for it to appear – is this the same

⁵ Page 11. Circled "6" at the top of the page.

⁶ Page 13.

⁷ Page 15. Circled "8" at the top of the page.

⁸ Page 17. Circled "9" at the top of the page.

as the “truth being one’s eventual companion – whether on the next bend or a thousand miles on” that Krishnamurti mentions?

Krishnamurti⁹ has said that continuous awareness of “what is” is very hard work, and maybe I have realised this and been open and aware more often recently and perhaps slightly more than in the past. It seems to me that Krishnamurti has said that only by seeing what one is can truth be realised. I think I see this because every time I have set out to practise a discipline, the mind has narrowed. I seem to see that any use of the will implies this cutting off of oneself. In “The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga” you say that a philosopher must give up the ego, but I have an awful feeling that such an attempt on my part would be a function of the ego and therefore useless. You mention use of will-power; but is not that a function of the ego? But again when I look I see a similarity: you both mention spontaneous¹⁰ action; and furthermore – is the self-examination of a would-be philosopher the same as the seeing of “what is” mentioned by Krishnamurti?

You have written in “The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga” that the philosopher must “Hold on and hope on” but Krishnamurti, as I seem to remember, has written to the effect that hope is not helpful to seeing of what is. Can you explain this seeming contradiction? I do not want to split hairs and perhaps this is not important. Maybe the meaning of hope is different in each case.

I just do not know – but is a method of programmed seeking the way to knowledge? Is there any way to it?

I do not know what to expect of this letter – but if it is read I feel it will¹¹ have served its purpose, and by writing it I feel to have acted rightly. It is full of “I”s but I do not know if I should apologise or not. I’ll only say Thanks for reading it.

Yours sincerely
John Alsford

L05.025

25 – 26

Incomplete letter from Aga Ashraf Ali

Letter describes his first attempts at meditation and was written on their last day in
Mysore December 22nd 1943.

Extract: “On the 21st Dec ‘43, in the afternoon meditation I felt a very queer sensation. It was like a trembling shiver, an oozing out of life; it was frightening; it brought a feeling of swoon. In the dim unconscious, I clearly recollect my willingness to let the feeling run its course. I feel it can not be adequately described.”

⁹ Page 19. Circled “9” corrected to “10” at the top of the page.

¹⁰ Page 21. Circled “11” at the top of the page.

¹¹ Page 23. Circled 12 in top right corner.

Dear Dr Brunton:

In the April, 1960 issue of American Mercury there is an article entitled: "Mind Control." This article quotes from another article which appeared in The Saturday Evening Post. October 18, 1959: "Drugs that Shape Men's Minds."

From the American Mercury: "He (Huxley) described 'mind-changing' in detail and pointed his finger squarely at the major premise upon which the mind-changers base their calculations: the lure of the mystical experience, which can be provided by mind-changing drugs.... There are other mind-changing drugs which constitute an even more deadly threat to humanity: those which genuinely can be classified as having mystical effects of a 'religious' nature."

"Huxley wrote 'The Door of Perception' and recommends The Peyote Religion, by J. S. Slotkin both of which deal with the use of one such mind-changer, mescaline, derived from the peyote cactus of our Southwest and northern Mexico which has also been synthesized. William James wrote that mescaline stimulates the mystical faculties in human nature."

"Its effects were described by Huxley, who was bemused by the drug's potentialities, in these terms: ...it introduces the taker into the Other World of visionary experience, and it gives him a sense of solidarity with his fellow worshippers with human beings at large and with the divine nature of things."

"Huxley further described the peyote-like effects of the LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide) derived from the abortifacient, ergot. Effective in incredibly small doses, LSD is now being used experimentally by psycho-therapists... It lowers the barriers between conscious and subconscious and permits the patient to look more deeply... into the recesses of his own mind.... against a background of visionary and even mystical experience... these chemical mind-changers make possible a genuine religious experience."

Are mind-changing drugs true mysticism? Can one really develop spiritually by taking a drug? Will¹⁴ you please tell me what you think of this method of mysticism through drugs?

Were you thinking of a mind-changing drug when you wrote in your book, The Wisdom of the Overself: "Therefore after the present storms have subsided and before the present century closes, we shall witness the release of a staggering knowledge, of which the ideas sketched out here are mere precursors. The mystical and philosophic

¹² Noted with a circled "B" and a check mark.

¹³ "Sent c/o Duttons" added by PB himself.

¹⁴ Page 29.

enlightenment of mankind will then spread over the horizon to an extent unknown in ancient times."

Will you please let me hear from you?

Sincerely yours,
Marya Black

L05.031

31 - 34

Letter from Lina¹⁵ Chappell¹⁶
Hotel Metropole, Mysore, S. I¹⁷
13·7·40

Dear Dr Brunton.

I feel I should like to write & thank you for the beautiful & priceless parting gift of 'utter peace' which descended on me last evening & which no words can describe. The heavenly mantel enfolds me as strongly this morning as it did yesterday evening - long may I be able to retain it.

I¹⁸ do so hate to accept all & give nothing, except the feeling of profound veneration deep appreciation & gratitude you have invoked; but perhaps some day I may be able to have the privilege of doing something for your work in some way or other. Please let me know if such an opportunity should ever occur & thus enable me in some measure to repay my great debt to you. How I loved the run up Chamundi Hill.

God bless you.

Yours ever gratefully
Lina Chappell

L05.035

35 - 38

Incomplete letter from Lina Chappell
Cape Comorin
16-9-40 Full Moon!

Dear Dr Brunton,

¹⁵ Noted with a "C" added at top of page.

¹⁶ "Mrs Chappell died in 1942" is typed by PB himself at a later date in the upper left corner of the page.

¹⁷ "MED Reports" added by PB himself.

¹⁸ Page 33

Greetings from the Cape! I did manage to get here & at the full moon & the weather too is perfect; it really is a marvellous place, but one in which one rather longs to be quite alone, or with a spiritually congenial soul. On the way here, I went to Pondicherry & saw the ashram, unfortunately I could only stay a very short time so couldn't get much impression of the place but I don't think it appeals to me as much as the Maharishi in spite of the drawback of the latter. I¹⁹ enjoyed my month there, and particularly in having a cottage to myself after five months hotel life, it was bliss!

I also enjoyed re-reading your books, they are all in the library.

I did not get from the Maharishi the spiritual benefit I received from you, but this may come later?²⁰

I am returning to Tiruvannamalai at the end of this little trip to pick up my luggage, I shall probably stay there a few days, something seems to be pulling me back, & then I return to Delhi via Madras & Bombay.

I was so very glad to read in the mail about 2 weeks ago...²¹

L05.039

39 - 40

Letter from A. E. Cama,²² ACA²³

Mubasak Manzil, 50 Hughes Road Bombay

13th Sept 1934

Dear Mr Brunton

Your book "Search in Secret India," has carried me wandering in thoughts to various places visited & described by you. At first opening, I felt disdained, at seeing the pictures of Meher - & Upasni Maharaj; but your closing remarks in the interview candidly expressed by you; "Some men are born great, some achieve greatness & others appoint a press agent, Meher seems to favour the latter course." urged me on to complete your book, because that sentence conveyed Truth to my mind. Your astrologer Sudhei Babu advised rightly, when he said, seek after God as a guru. I am following this path to realisation. That couple you met on the wayside on your motoring through Western Ghats, the elder is remarkably correct in his statement, "The past is but a heap of ashes." "Do not ask me to poke my finger in the ashes & pick out dead experiences. I live neither in the past nor in the future." "I live in the eternal" I never seek to discover the events that coming years will pass over my head."

¹⁹ Page 37

²⁰ This sentence is marked for emphasis with vertical lines in left and right margins.

²¹ Subsequent lines are missing.

²² Noted with a "C+" and a checkmark in the upper left corner.

²³ "Chartered Accountant" in letterhead.

Your chapters on "The Hill of the Holy Beacon," are most appealing & illuminating. Yogi Ramiah, alleviating your mind on your disturbed financial condition, brings to my memory "When we have faith enough in the law of opulence to spend our last dollar, with the same confidence & assurance that we would if we had thousands more, we have touched the law of divine supply." I have experienced this by practice, so you will pardon my being personal.

Once I was penniless, with a family of nine & had no food for the evening meal, I sent for charcoal on tick refused, a kindly servant of mine lent me a rupee I²⁴ asked to purchase $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of butter & some bread, at the same time willing that through Grace of God I must have some ample provision of food & I felt sure I would not be forsaken. As the servant walked down the stair-way to purchase $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of butter, I hear a knock at the door, and a man has brought to me a gift of 10 pounds of pure English butter, from another friend of mine, who knew nothing about my embarrassed position that evening. When my servant brought me $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of butter purchased out of a rupee lent by her, I send her back to exchange it for jam of IXL which could be had for 5 annas & the children enjoyed, bread, butter, & jam, but one little mite had the audacity to express, what a funny evening meal to-night. I rolled off to bed without food; and my life rolled on smoothly onward. On another occasion I gave last of a rupee I had to a distressed Haji, in spite of my wife's enquiring gaze, "What about the Missus." I told her to part with that rupee, in the evening a friend for whom I had worked gratis, & did not expect a sum from him, turned up & placed an envelope in my hand, saying this is for the work you did for me. On his leaving me I asked my wife to open the cover, it contained five ten rupee notes, next morning a lady walked in, placed some work in my hands, & paid me in advance 120 rupees & in that day I reckoned that in all I had with me over 300 rupees after parting with the last rupee the previous day, I parted with that rupee believing firmly in the law of divine supply. I close, with a gift of my humble work, which I trust you will read & learn.

With kind thoughts.

I remain
Yours truly
A. E. Cama

Paul Brunton
c/o Rider Publisher House London

L05.041

41 - 42
Letter from Jorgen F. {Fander}

I.B.F. {heuirids} {Bingo} Alle²⁵ 16, Copenhagen, Denmark
5/12 57²⁶

Box 339²⁷
Times Square Station
New York 36
USA

My very dear PB

From Douglas K. you will have heard, that we have spent very nice and valuable times together here and in Govik. A contact, which automatically has grown. That is one of the very best things for little Jorgen in 1957. And I appreciate very much.

Report: Your Picture now can be bought – highly recommended for meditation use at Strube's Bookshop. Price 12,50 Danish Kroner, in nice looking Gold frame – I just want you to know.

Secondly: A colonel Goldney, follower of the Indian Meher Baba (?) whom you mention in "Secret India" has been traveling here, telling that your original name should be Raphael something and that you were a Jew, who had changed name to P.B. This told me by reliable person. Does not affect me, but I think it best that you know.²⁸ Of course you too later on had become follower of his prophet!!!

I guess some similar aspect to the Martinus case.

Hoping to hear from you both soon when suitable I give you my love and most ardent wishes for Xmas and 58

With my cordial blessings
for you both
Yours
Jorgen

L05.043

43 - 44
Letter from Lina Chappell²⁹
c/o Postmaster Bombay
22 · 12 · 40

Dear Brother Paul,

²⁵ "Allé" in the original. Diacritical removed.

²⁶ "P/P" and a circled "F" added in another hand at the top of page.

²⁷ Address found on page 42.

²⁸ This paragraph is annotated with two lines down the left margin, presumably by PB himself.

²⁹ Circled "C" and checkmark in the upper left corner of the page.

Best wishes for Christmas & the New Year. I do hope 1941 will see the publication of the first volume of your new book & that you will also be able to get the second volume, 'well under way.' Where are you now? have you been grabbed for the Army? Was the R. A. F. announcement I sent any use?

I am still in Bombay!!

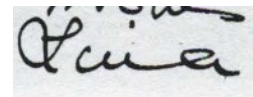
I had just been found accommodation with friends in New Delhi when sudden & serious illness descended on them, so I have had to again delay my departure, but I hope to be able to get there early in the New Year.

Peace³⁰ is still with me, though not quite so intense as when I left Mysore, but I feel at all times surrounded by a beautiful atmosphere of love & that feeling which a disciple of Sri Aurobindo described as a "solid block" is with me always. In his book "The Bases of Yoga," Aurobindo says, "This feeling indicates the descent of a solid strength & peace into the external being... & is always the foundation into which all else (Ananda light, Knowledge, Bhakti) can descend in the future..." So I hope & am trying hard to create the right attitude & right conditions.

When you have a moment to spare I should be awfully glad to hear what has happened to you. What is Rider's present address? I want to order the new book; the last letters I received from England took exactly three months. So I want to write soon, I feel so impatient for the book!

With the best of good wishes

Yours ever



L05.045

45 - 48

Letter from Mrs Rose Champion de Crespigny³¹

British College of Psychic Science, Ltd. 15 Queens Gate, London S.W. 7.³²

Dec. 10

My dear Mr Brunton

I return you my debt herewith with very many thanks for having come to the rescue! I feel as if I did not help look after {Jon} at luncheon yesterday in the way of salads etc. but it is not easy to switch off too suddenly from Mary & {Anisse} in to Martha so please forgive me.

³⁰ Page 44

³¹ Noted with a "C Δ" in the upper right corner of the page.

³² Stationery includes a list of affiliated societies, and telephone number.

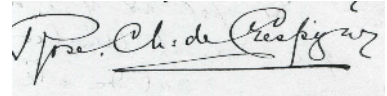
I was far more shaken than I hope I showed. It was a wonderful experience - to me - & seemed to bring something I have been looking for for a long time.

Your³³ perfectly beautiful chant is still ringing in my ears, & I still have that wonderful sense of "envelopment"

Words are not much good - nor I think required. You know that when I say "Thank you" - I mean it.

I am hoping to see you on Friday - 8. {o'c}.

Yours very sincerely



L05.049

49 - 50

Letter from N. V. Uitgeversbedrijf³⁴

Amsterdam

23 December, 1937³⁵

Mr P. Brunton
c/o Thomas Cook (Bankers) Ltd
Berkley Street
London W 1
England

Dear Sir,

I have your letter of November 27 with 45 illustrations enclosed of which a few were slightly damaged on account of the envelope being too big. I selected 16 and will return these after the blocks are made. Those which are not used, 29 in total, are being sent to you today under separate cover by registered post.³⁶

I asked Baron Pallandt van Eerde to introduce you to the Dutch public and he is willing to do so. On your suggestion I will retain the foreword by Sir Francis Younghusband, and add some qualifications to his name.

I must apologize for having kept your photographs so long, but I happened to be out of town. There was no opportunity of making the selection earlier.

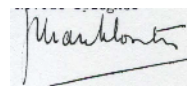
Sincerely yours
N. V. de Spieghel

³³ Page 47

³⁴ Noted with a circled "D" in the upper right corner.

³⁵ Stationery includes contact details for de Spieghel in Amsterdam.

³⁶ "received OK" handwritten in margin by PB himself.



L05.051

51 - 52

Incomplete letter from T. V. {Krishnasami}³⁷

19 Krishnapuram, Akbarabad P.O. Madras

3·6·1945

My dear friend,

After much tribulation I find myself settled in this quiet retreat, engaged in the practice of Nature cure on myself and others on a very small beginning, as predicted by you.

As luck would have it, I stumbled this morning on the book 'Confessio Medici'³⁸ in which the following passage is quoted: "...offering the most direct alliance between intellectual conquest and the social good... Lydgate was an emotional creature with a flesh-and-blood sense of fellowship which withstood all the abstractions of special study. He cared not only for cases, but for John and Elizabeth especially Elizabeth." on page 4.

My³⁹ health is still far from normal. I have no doubt discarded glasses since I read Dr Bates "Perfect Sight Without Glasses" 6 months ago and am now able to read the smallest print without glasses. A series of religious discourses are being given in the locality just apt to satisfy my spiritual hunger and thirst. Thus I seem to bid fair for an all-round improvement, if not complete renovation.

The transfer of my son from Vizag to this place is another most lucky circumstance.

You are so full of human sympathy, the milk of kindness that to think of you, I find myself and am recreated. ...⁴⁰⁴¹

L05.053

53 - 54

Letter from Justin Kotelawala⁴²

³⁷ Noted with a circled K in the upper left corner of the page. "BABA" written after name.

³⁸ Confessio Medici was written by Stephen Paget and published in 1908.

³⁹ Page 52

⁴⁰ Marked for emphasis with parallel lines in the left margin.

⁴¹ Subsequent lines are missing.

⁴² Noted with a circled K in the upper right corner.

Manohari, Ward Place, Colombo⁴³

4. July 39

My dear Paul

I have heard from young Jayawardene that you have asked him to give your remembrances to me – hence this letter. Many thanks for your kind thoughts.

I often think about you & discuss of you. I have been reading your books of late & I do certainly believe that your book⁴⁴ “The Quest of the Overself” is the most precious book for this age.

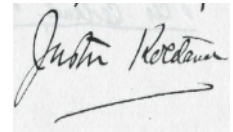
Will you not come to Ceylon? In my view you must in your Quest for truth ultimately arrive at Buddha’s teaching as the height of spirituality – the others are only half-way houses.

I may be wrong. But there are millions who hold my view. So why not come to Ceylon for research? My⁴⁵ “little island” is at your disposal if you like to stay there.

There is again the book for the people of Ceylon that I spoke to you about – the model spiritual state.

We are all keeping well & quite happy. Trusting that this finds you in a similar, or further in a better state

Yours very sincerely



L05.055

55 – 56

Letter from E. M. S. Gibbs proposing she write an abridged version of The Wisdom of the Overself.

Extract: “I have found your thoughts and your knowledge of the deeper mysteries of Life and Death, of the greatest comfort; especially during this year, which has been a sad one for us personally as well as for the world. ... Now, I do hope you won’t be offended, but I was so particularly comforted and moved by ‘The Wisdom of the Overself’ that I started to try to write it out in a slightly abridged, or condensed form. This was partly for my own satisfaction, to really absorb the wisdom therein; and partly because I longed to convey something of the comfort you gave me to my sisters and my husband’s sister. ... I have actually got as far as typing out

⁴³ “from Mr Justin Kotelawala, brother of Major J. L. Kotelawala, Minister of Communications and Works, Ceylon Government.” is typed in the upper left corner, presumably by PB himself.

⁴⁴ Page 54, right side of folded letter.

⁴⁵ Page 54, begins left side of folded letter.

the abridged version of the first eight chapters. Then of course I began to wish I could publish it. I wonder would you ever agree?

L05.057

57 – 58

Letter in German from Franz Gradwohl
A translation of this letter can be seen in L05.059

Extract: "Nach jahrelangem Suchen durch den Irrgarten der esoterischen Literatur habe ich in Ihren geschätzten Büchern⁴⁶ des Hermann Bauer Verlages endlich gefunden was ich immer suchte: Einer brauchbaren Weg."

L05.059

59 – 60

Letter from Franz Gradwohl⁴⁷
Dr Bahr – Gasse No. 13, A – 4020 LINZ/Donau, Austria
10th May 1972

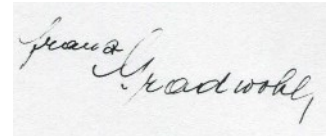
Dear Mr Brunton,

After many years search through the maze of esoteric literature I have in your esteemed books of the Hermann Bauer publishing house finally found what I always had looked for:

A usable way.

Although I still am at the beginning of this way, I have the only wish that sufficient time be left for my life to attain the lofty goal you have shown.

May your books make many more people happy! This is wishing you in thankfulness



L05.061

61 – 62

Letter from Eileen Garrett⁴⁸ to Mrs Hesper Le Gallienne Hutchinson

⁴⁶ "geschätzten Büchern" in original.

⁴⁷ Noted with a letter "G" in the upper right.

Discussion of personal spirituality in relation to the world news.

Extract: "Personally, I see in all that is happening man's desire to escape from what has been put over on him in the name of law and good and religion. There is an unconscious guilt in the heart of the whole world which is making it suffer. The only true spirituality as far as I am concerned reveals itself in the daily round, the very common tasks, the gruelling moments and the struggle; all these represent life and challenge one at every point."

L05.063

63 - 64

Letter from Eileen Garrett⁴⁹ to Mrs Hesper Le Gallienne Hutchinson and a handwritten note to Paul Brunton from Hesper

Eleven East 44th Street, New York, Murray Hill 2-0078⁵⁰

June 7 1948

Mrs⁵¹ Hesper LeG. Hutchinson
Camster
Camden Park
Tunbridge Wells
Kent

Dear Hesper,

I have been rather remiss in not writing you since my return from the West coast, but during my absence the work piled up and only now am I beginning to get some of it out of my hair. I had to take eight days out while I was there to overcome Virus X, a mysterious illness that seems to be prevalent in the west and about which no one seems to know anything. My face was swollen three times its normal size, my kidneys were affected, and I had to have penicillin and sulphur - and the latter is simply poison to me. So all in all, it was an experience I could have done without. I did manage, however, to visit most of the bookshops in the southern area and to speak before Book and Author luncheon gatherings and to do the other chores necessary to promoting the press and the magazine.

While I was there I saw Gerald Heard in Laguna Beach looking better than I have ever seen him. He is taking a sabbatical year to catch up with his writings and his other work. I also hope that he may allow himself to do some research with me - I sincerely hope this may be arranged. He has a fine, clear, intelligent approach and seemed to be

⁴⁸ Noted with a circled G in the upper right corner of the page.

⁴⁹ Noted with a circled G in the upper right corner of the page.

⁵⁰ "Eileen J. Garrett, President Creative Age Press, Inc. Publishers" found in letterhead.

⁵¹ Address and date found on page 64.

interested. I went out looking for funds so that the continuity of the work at Duke University would not be interrupted, and I have been promised some, although if they materialize is quite something else!

I had a picture of the growth in southern California which is so phenomenal that now Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Pasadena all link up with Los Angeles. I suppose this is due to the war and to the exodus of the young people from state to state, and certainly California and the entire north-west offers many advantages. If I were younger, I would do it myself.

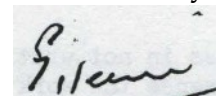
I saw Ted Spicer and spent a wonderful evening with him. His wife was so charming, an excellent cook, modest and unassuming. The boy is a strapping little chap and gives his father much joy. It was so good to see him happy and doing such excellent work. He is a rare individual and you should feel yourself a happy woman to have been so close to him at any part of your life.

Another unusual experience I had was a long week end in the desert in Indio. The place is fabulous with an outdoor pool heated to conform with the air, and magnificent fruits and all kinds of growing things. Jean Andoire became interested in their seedless grapes and a dozen or so plants were sent to him after we returned to New York. He took them to France with him, got them through the customs (how, I will never know) where they are now growing contentedly on his farm. Jean left about the 10th of May and why I did not go with him I will never know, except that I feel there is so much to be done here and I cannot leave until I have finished some writing.

I had a nice letter from Noel Beamish, of whom I am very fond, and I must ask Jean⁵² to go and call on her.

Much love to you and to Bobby. You are a very brave girl and I so admire you. Blessings.

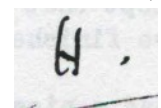
Affectionately,



Dear P.B.⁵³

This will interest you on several points. Do not return! I cannot but wonder what yarn T. spun! There appears to have been a separate one to scribe various people!

All the best,



⁵² Page 64

⁵³ Handwritten note found at the end of the letter by Hesper Le Gallienne Hutchinson.

L05.065

65 – 66

Letter in German from R. Helmut Fausel⁵⁴

This letter needs to be translated.

Extract: "ich habe Sie in den letzten Monaten mehrfach telefonisch zu erreichen versucht in der Absicht, Sei einmal zu uns, wie seinerzeit geplant, nach Gerra einzuladen."

L05.067

67 – 68

Handwritten note by Paul Brunton

R. H. Fausel 7 Stuttgart 1 Gahkopf 4⁵⁵

Undated

{adot} Riviera of Gambarogno on Lake Maggiore. Thanks to the favorable climate of this Swiss Riviera you will find there even orange and lemon trees. Informations:

"PRO GAMBAROGNO, VIRA □ town

G. ask F re this⁵⁶

Its {illegible} characteristics villages: Gerro, etc.

L05.069

69 - 70

Letter in German from R. Helmut Fausel⁵⁷

Letter needs translation

Extract: "besten Dank für Ihr freundliches Schreiben (ohne Datum). Hier in der Firma sind bis ca. Mitte September die Angestellten laufend im Urlaub und ich kann nicht abkommen."

L05.071

71 – 78

Handwritten notes⁵⁸ and map by Paul Brunton and R. Helmut Fausel

⁵⁴ Noted with a circled "H" in the upper right corner.

⁵⁵ Name and address from stationary.

⁵⁶ Arrow pointing from this section to "climate favourable"

⁵⁷ "He will phone middle of September too busy now –" noted by PB himself at the top of page.

⁵⁸ The content is transcribed below; please refer to scans for more clarity.

1.10.69⁵⁹

Herr FAUSELL & wife invited me to tea. He said he will collect me in his car. It is one hour drive each way if via Ponte Tresa⁶⁰ (short route across Italian pass so bring passport) & 1½ hours at his house in Gerra. I am to phone him when I want come. He resides there thru May June & July
17/20

R.H.⁶¹ Fausel⁶²

IN FIRMA J. FINK STUTTGART N HUBERSTRASSE 3 RUF 29 59 53

Ale⁶³ 1.10.69

Gerra (Gambarogno - / - Ticino)

Lago Maggiore

"Casa⁶⁴ Alleluja"

Swiss Kursbuch

P 217. Table 70d.

RR line Bellinzona to Luino leave Bell at 10.27 arrive Gerra 10.57 (it is 21 km fm Bell)

WARNING⁶⁵

There are two Gerras in Ticino

Mr F is in the Gambarogno district Maggia whereas the other is in verzasca district and on the RR line Locarno to Sonogno (p 243 Kursbuch)

{The rest of page 75 is a hand drawn map of the area including Lago Lugano and Lago Maggiore at the bottom of the map written on top of a "Guide to Swiss Hotels 1968/69"}

I⁶⁶ wrote 21 Jan 70

It is very important that you see this man! Herr R.H. Fausel - tell Poggeorse when you go {ZH} n/v to tell him I'll be pleased &
GERRA

⁵⁹ Date found on page 74.

⁶⁰ "Pontetresa" in the original.

⁶¹ Page 73

⁶² "(O)" noted in the upper right.

⁶³ Page 74

⁶⁴ "(O)" noted in the lower left of the page.

⁶⁵ Note from lower left of page 75.

⁶⁶ Page 77, noted with a circled "F" at the top of the page.

GAMBAROGNO

Ticino

"Casa Alleluja"

When the date 1st Oct arrives he will come to Ticino, so write him⁶⁷

Mr Fausel prints books for Rascher. He is a reader of PB books & wants to meet him.

He is building a house in Ticino (ready on) 1st Oct 69 when Fausel will live in Tessin

The address is on back of card illegible⁶⁸

Local info

Maggia (In the Val next after Centovalli going north) are two mountain villages - Menzonio and BRONTALLO where workers returned from California and put up villas, late 19th cent. Visit them with Fuseli

L05.079

79 - 80

Letter in German from Rudolf Schnabel
J. Fink Verlag in letterhead.

Extract: "Im Auftrag von unserem Herrn Fausel dürfen⁶⁹ wir Ihnen anbei das Bandchen⁷⁰ "Der Tag mit Yoga" zusendend. Sicherlich wird dieses kleine Buch Ihr Interesse finden."

L05.081

81 - 82

Letter in German from R. Helmut Fausel
Foreign language letter to be translated; likely it is business related.

Extract: "Noch wohne ich nicht regelmäBig⁷¹ in Gerra. Mein nächster⁷² Aufenthalt dort ist vom 21. März⁷³ bis 6. April 1970. Wenn Sie mir Ihre Adress für⁷⁴ diesen Zeitraum nennen würden⁷⁵ und auch einen Ihnen angenehmen Besuchstermin, so möchte⁷⁶ ich Sie gerne aufsuchen. Da ich motorisiert bin, ist kein Ort im Tessin für⁷⁷ mich ein Problem."

⁶⁷ Written on the right side of the page and boxed off.

⁶⁸ This sentence is boxed in on the lower right of a scrap of paper.

⁶⁹ "dürfen" in the original. Diacritical removed.

⁷⁰ "Bändchen" in the original. Diacritical removed.

⁷¹ "regelmäßig" in the original. Diacritical removed throughout.

⁷² "nächster" in the original.

⁷³ "März" in the original.

⁷⁴ "für" in the original.

⁷⁵ "würden" in the original.

⁷⁶ "möchte" in the original.

⁷⁷ "für" in the original.

L05.083

83 – 84

Handwritten note by Paul Brunton

Undated

I phoned 1 July Mrs Fausel replied. Husband is in Stuttgart. He arrives 17 July & stays till 20th. I left my # & she will tell him to phone.

At meeting produce or carry the book sent me & thank him for it when he phones go to serve no cakes only bread or toast & honey or jam

L05.085

85 – 86

Postcard in German from R. Helmut Fausel

Foreign language handwritten note needs to be translated.

Extract: None

L05.087

87 – 88

Letter in German from R. Helmut Fausel

Handwritten letter to be translated dated 31.3.70

Extract: None

L05.089

89 – 94

Letter from C. Heysen⁷⁸

P.O. Box 6443, Johannesburg (S.A.)

26th October 1952

Dr Paul Brunton
c/o Allens Service, 545 Fifth Avenue,
New York 17, USA⁷⁹

⁷⁸ Marked (TOPIC H. in the upper right corner.

⁷⁹ Address found on the bottom left corner of page 93.

Dear Dr Brunton,

I still have to thank you for your kind letter of the 6th February 1951 in reply to my letter of the 13th August 1949.

The reason for my to-days letter is based on your book "The hidden teaching beyond Yoga" which only now came into my hands and which I enjoyed tremendously. Let me compliment you on your "sharp" brain and your devotion to Ancient India and its Sages. It is a pity, that your way is not the way of your friend the Cabalist, as in my opinion the researches in India can only be fully explained together with those in Ancient Egypt, where the Pyramids and the Sphinx refer to the practical side of Mentalism expressed in Mathematics of the Ancient Sages. I am convinced that we both agree, that finally all dimensions, relativities, body and mind and matter and mind are united in the "Absolute" or whatever name you choose to give to the Supreme Mind or Intelligence. You chose to put Matter into the Mind and deny the independent existence of matter and try in this way to bridge the gap between physiology and psychology. From the point of the ultimate Truth, there can be no difference or no gap between these two branches of sciences, if apparently such a gap exists, it can only be an error of the "mind." Your solution appears very attractive but I fear an error in your conclusions too. My studies are based on Ancient Egyptian Knowledge and go back for their start at least to the time, when the Pyramids were built, be that 4700 years or 14000 years. The initials of my names refer to an ancient Egyptian name CHEPH of which to-days anagram HPECH and the ancient way of spelling was KAF-(ra) which is phonetically the same. My family's name refers to the number 76-42-64 forming a total of 182 or twice 91, which is the number of the three pyramids Cheops, Chephren, and Mikerino whose numbers are 176142 - 17647564 - 52565241 or 21-40-30 in full 91. This⁸⁰ knowledge is part of the Law of Karma and cannot be substantiated by modern science.

My solution to Mind and Matter is different from yours, though the final end may be the same. The errors in your conclusions are in my opinion:

1) Matter has Mind and is conscious and acts consciously (which is denied by modern science.)

2) The mechanical process of perceptions is up to now wrongly interpreted. You are right, that the "tools" of the Mind, i.e. eyes, ears, nose etc. can neither see, hear or smell, But these instruments are NOT transmitting any vibrations to the Mind, they actually stop vibrations from without to enter the "within." The Human body is a fortress in defence against any attacks from without and all instruments of Mind are kept under pressure of Mind vibrations from within. As an example: If sound waves or vibrations reach the ear-drum or the membrane, Mind waves or vibrations create an

⁸⁰ Page 91 "C. Heysen" and "-2-" typed at the top of the page.

equilibrium with plus/minus 1 vibrations and stop the vibrations from without to enter the "fortress." Thus the perceptions of the Mind are NO DIRECT perceptions but indirect perceptions created by the "defence" vibrations of the Mind. The difference plus/minus 1 is essential, as perceptions are only possible by differentiation, if the vibrations from within and without would be of equal number, they would fuse into one unit and you would hear nothing at all. The same process refers to the eyes and the other mind instruments. If you fix your reflection long enough in a mirror, you will see nothing after some time. Science calls this a manifestation of fatigue, it actually is the moment, when vibrations from within and without are in absolute balance or in harmony, they fuse into one vibration number or unit, and appear as "blindness," after you pierce this veil of "maya" your perceptions are in pure mind essence and these perceptions are timeless, spaceless and on the negative side of consciousness.

Thus perception is Mind in Body plus Mind in Matter divided by 2 plus/minus 1 or 100 divided into 49 and 51.

3) If you take your own example of the first 100 yards and the last 100 yards of a 4 miles walk and your reference to Mind, go a little further than 4 miles, go until you reach the point of exhaustion, and come to point of unconsciousness and then to the point of Death. What at 4 miles is only a Mind perception becomes entire absorption of Mind at the end. Matter (your body) is drawing the energy of your Mind, is living on it, feeding on it, until Mind is absorbed and the state of death is reached. If shortly before unconsciousness you would drink a mug of water, it is your mind, that would profit of it and extend the span of your life.

If supersonic waves or ultra sound waves attack your mind, the mind will draw all energy from every cell of your body, until no reserve is left and you die. This action is in defence against the waves from without.

The⁸¹ conclusion is, that Mind and Matter are the same, Mind can change into Matter and Matter can change into Mind and forms of Mind are indefinite in manifestation and interpretation. But Matter does not only exist in your Mind, it is the Mind in Matter and Body which causes the perceptions.

Your error in my opinion is the acceptance of the scientific explanation of unconscious matter and the mechanical functioning of sensual perceptions. Both scientific explanations can no longer be maintained, they are wrong.

You will have less difficulty in explaining this process to the mass of Men, than the pure psychological explanations of Mind's Reality, which finally runs down to an illusion and nothing more.

The coincidence is, if some of your laws are taken literally, they would confirm my knowledge, unfortunately your meaning that Matter is Mind was not indented to be taken literally in the material sense of things, but it actually ought to.

⁸¹ Page 93. "C. Heysen" and "-3-" typed at the top of the page.

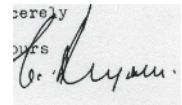
My conception may appear very unorthodox, but is based on Ancient Egyptian Knowledge, which in my opinion has priority to pure Mentalism of Ancient India, since it is much older than Indian Philosophy for the simple reason, that all this knowledge has been demonstrated mathematically in the construction of the pyramids. Ancient mathematics differs from modern science and traces of this ancient knowledge must be reconstructed from myths, cabalistic formulae, scriptures and fairy tales.

I have ordered the volume 2 to the Hidden Teaching beyond Yoga and I am really interested, how you succeed to explain the Truth, when there is obviously an error at the base of your thoughts.

With my best wishes for your inner welfare

Very Sincerely

Yours



L05.095

95 - 96

Letter from Connie {Jaquays⁸²}

Paramount Farms Sutton Co. Brome, P.Q.

April 27, 1954

Dear Dr Brunton:

Thank you again and again for Sunday evening. It means a great deal to people like me to know that people like you do exist. I felt like such a fool - with my little opening speech all memorized, and all I wanted to do was burst into tears. But I had been looking forward to that moment for so long, that it was just too much for my undisciplined emotions. Yes, I can see quite clearly that one must have discipline. And I know that GOD IS... within me. (I also know that the path would be easier and quicker with a teacher!) If I must have preparation, preparation I will have.

I still remember the echo of the bells - and that most extraordinary experience. By the time I got to the street, I was just singing with all my being, "God does exist, it's true, it's unbelievable, it's a fact, I am my Overself!" The most indescribable peace and happiness stayed with me all the evening and next day. Gone now, (sigh), but it will return.

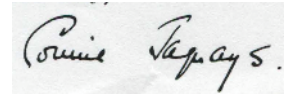
There is one question I did not ask you - about self abnegating work. Is this a part of the necessary preparation? I can't help feeling more and more self-centered as I concentrate on the Overself - is that wrong, or have I answered my own question?

⁸² Noted with a circled letter "J" in upper right of page.

I would appreciate it very much if Mrs Brunton would send me the name of her vegetarian book.

You mentioned in your letter that you might be coming to Canada next year. If there is anything, anything at all, that I can do for you, I would feel privileged. Hotel arrangements, reservations, meetings, anything. And I'm not a bad secretary if you should need one. (I ran my husband's business during the war). I can be quite efficient and am not always as un-poised as I was the other night. But I would like so much to repay you in some measure for what you did for me.

Sincerely,



L05.097

97 - 100

Letter from Swami Jagadiswarananda⁸³

Sri Ramakrishna Ashrama, Vontikoppal, Mysore, India⁸⁴

23 - 2 - 1934

Paul Brunton, Esq
38, Culverden Road,
London. S. W.12.

Dear Sir,

Though I am unknown to you you are very well known to us here through your book "A Search in Secret India" which we have all read here with great interest. I belong to the Ramakrishna Mission with whose ideas and activities, I hope, you are acquainted to some extent at least as I understand from your book. After perusing your book I wrote a review article of considerable length in the "Hindu Mind" of January 1935, a copy of which is posted to you today under separate cover. Please let me know how you like it. I am going to write soon another review of your book in the "Scholar" which as well as the "Hindu Mind" are popular journals of South India. These reviews will increase sales of your book in India.

Your⁸⁵ account of Master Maharaja (Disciple of Sri Ramakrishna) in your book was published in the "Prabuddha Bharat" of Calcutta and the "Vedanta Vesari" of Madras, the two English journals conducted by our mission in India. Hope you have seen them.

⁸³ Noted with a "J+" in the upper right corner with a checkmark.

⁸⁴ "sent his letter to Riders" added by PB himself at top of page.

⁸⁵ Page 98

I am a journalist and contribute to as many as 20 periodicals of India and elsewhere. I write (articles and reviews) in the "Aryan Path" of Bombay to which you have also contributed. In Aryan Path of August' 1933 in which you had published an article on the Holy men of Hindustani I wrote an article on the Harmony of Religions which you might have marked. My article on "An Englishman's search in Secret India" is faithful summary of your book in an appreciative way and nothing more.

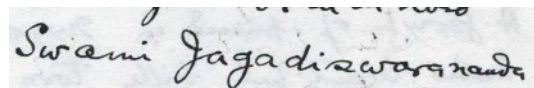
Will you kindly ask your publishers to send me a copy of your "A Search in Secret India" as I have reviewed the book in two above mentioned journals of India. They should present me a copy of it.

Will⁸⁶ you kindly also recommend me to your publishers to send me occasionally copies of new publications on Religion, Philosophy, mysticism, and psychology for review?⁸⁷ As said above I am a journalist and love to acquaint the Indian reader about the latest publications on oriental thought and culture in the west. Please do let me know about it. Herewith I am enclosing a letter to them (your publisher) which you may kindly forward to them with your recommendations.

I am told you are again coming to India soon. Please let me know the date of your arrival. I will be very glad to see you here. A group of friends in Mysore, a beautiful hilly town and the seat of a university are⁸⁸ eager to see and hear you. I hear you are writing a new book called "The Secret Path" to express the teachings of Sri Raman Maharshi. On publication please send me a copy of it which I will read and review in an article-form in an Indian Journal you will be glad to hear that in Bengali, my mother-tongue I have been writing a series of articles (illustrated) in a Calcutta monthly on the life and teachings of Sri Raman Maharshi who loves the monks of the RamaKrishna order very much.

On behalf of the Hindu nation I am sending you our grateful Thanks for the very beautiful appreciation of our ancient thought and culture which will open the eyes of many anglicised Indian and Westerners. Your book seems to me to be one of the outstanding publications of the present century. With kindest regards,

Yours ever in the Lord

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Swami Jagadishwararanda". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Above the signature, there is a faint, illegible stamp or mark.

L05.101

101 - 102

⁸⁶ Page 99

⁸⁷ Noted with two parallel lines and "Imp." in the left margin.

⁸⁸ Page 100

Christmas card from Doreen and John Knowles⁸⁹
Canadian Embassy, Apartado 1393, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic⁹⁰
Undated

Dear⁹¹ P.B. –

Once again we're uncertain of your address. Do let us know soon so we can write.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours in the Self
D. & J.

This⁹² thought is the truest one
Ever expressed
"Old friends and old wishes
Are always the best"
MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

L05.103

103 – 106
Letter from Johnny Knowles⁹³
Department Of Trade And Commerce Canada Foreign Trade Service Ottawa
September 22, 1958

Dear P.B.,

I am so sorry that I did not write you before now in reply to yours of last June. On August 25 our little son was born. On the 26 and 27 I wrote my last two examinations at Ottawa University, my 23rd and 24th full course completed in 3 years while working full-time during the daytime. Obviously, it has been an almost impossibly difficult three years, but has resulted in my appointment as an Assistant Trade Commissioner, causing me to leave Immigration after twelve years. I am now in training and shall probably go abroad next Spring to any one of 58 posts in 45 countries to commence a new overseas career.

⁸⁹ Noted with a circled K in the upper right and a check mark.

⁹⁰ Address added to card in another hand.

⁹¹ Page 101, left side.

⁹² Printed card greeting from right side of page 101.

⁹³ Noted with a "K" in the upper right corner.

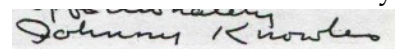
Doreen is still the truly wonderful person she always was. Unfortunately, I have not always acted in a manner worthy of her. I have, in fact, done some pretty reprehensible things, as might have been expected by anyone who had the misfortune to know me in my uncivilized days. Daughter Kathleen is a lovely if headstrong (Doreen says “tete⁹⁴ de cochon!”) young girl in Grade 2, and young John is a fine, sturdy baby boy. We have, in a material sense, practically everything we could wish for except money. The gods have indeed dealt kindly with us, but somehow there is always a shortage of that. Still, when we get back to the Embassy routine and the diplomatic allowances, our fortunes should rapidly improve.

Spiritually, all I can say is that I am a sadder, wiser, and much more world-weary man. My judgment has improved,⁹⁵ thanks to Doreen, and I have managed to diminish my self-love to a certain extent. Latterly I have learned more keenly to appreciate the meaning of service and discipline and real morality. I may say that my enforced study of Thomistic philosophy at the University has done me no harm. After no fewer than seven courses in Logic, Cosmology, Rational Psychology, Criteriology, Natural Theology, Metaphysics, and Ethics, I must confess that my mind is a keener and more flexible instrument than it was formerly.

I averaged 84% on all my philosophy courses – for a non-Catholic, this was little short of sensational! My professor (a priest) senses a convert, and has kindly lauded my “flair” for philosophy. He is a charming man, with whom I have spent many a pleasant if exacting hour in debate – my pantheism against his orthodoxy. We are good friends despite the fact that I could be counted upon publicly to champion practically all the views he sought to condemn in the classroom. I have found most Catholic priests to be decent, approachable chaps, in marked contrast to their Protestant confreres,⁹⁶ who seem largely to be nothing but stuffed shirts.

Now a balding and greying 35, there is little left of the brash young cub you once knew. My burdens have been many and troublesome, but I hold on and hope on with that “dauntless courage born of despair.” Through my life there has always run a golden thread of inspiration, with you largely as its source. Do let us hear from you much more often – please, dear friend.

Affectionately

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Johnny Knowles". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

P.S. Love from Doreen

⁹⁴ “tête” in the original, diacritical removed.

⁹⁵ Page 105

⁹⁶ “confrères” in the original, diacritical removed.

L05.107

107 - 108

Letter from Ella Maillart⁹⁷

Sri Ramanasramam

Tiruvannamalai

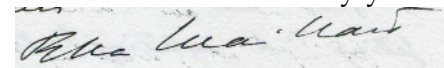
11 Nov. 1940

Dear Mr Brunton

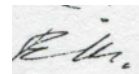
How kind of you to have answered so quickly. So far, unless there is an urgent necessity to do so, I shall not move from here, partly from a financial point of view, as I love to {spare} as much as possible. But also, the teachings seem to imply that what one has to find is really in one's heart, so I decided to explore in that direction at once. I shall probably suffer less than you did through that experience, because I have not so great an ambition as you might have had. Self-realization seems too far away; but peace of mind, balance, and capacity of discrimination so that I might engage into a real activity instead of rushing blindly - such are any of us at present. I begin to feel that the desire I have to help others, after I shall have found truth, is probably my ego getting tired, wanting to shine and gain hold on others.

Such a decision cannot be taken now. It would only be valid if I shall feel it imperatively in me later on, when I return to the outside world. I had thought, eventually, to leave this country via Colombo. That is why I consider moving Southwards from Tiruvannamalai. But just now, I have surrendered and have, or will have no more of my silly wills. So who knows what might not happen? I shall keep your address, in case. I should have to come north once more, - as I would much appreciate every word of what you could tell me. - I feel happy here so far, and have two roomlets in town, in the same street Dan Cohen who holds you in great esteem.

Sincerely yours



P.S.⁹⁸ I wonder sometimes, if your letter implies that one could find a master who would actively work at one's liberation, and not only inspire one and fortify one like here?



L05.109

109 - 110

⁹⁷ Noted with a circled "L" and a question mark in the upper right corner.

⁹⁸ Post script is found at the top of page 108.

Letter from Minda Lothar⁹⁹

A request to meet in New York City or London to discuss his writing.

Extract: "Your books, (which I borrowed from the Arcane School, and some from a friend's home) have not only been fascinating reading, but have given me new courage and a fresh start in life. Need I tell you how tragic and senseless life can seem without the inner understanding?

May I hope to meet with you when next you are in our City so that you may hear something of the results of your stimulating work?"

L05.111

111 - 112

Letter from Mac¹⁰⁰

5 Oxford Terrace Edinburgh 4-

August 10, 1948

Dear Paul,

This is to give you my new address. The Marchbank Hotel is impossible in this weather. I was the single guest. It was a large country house turned into an hotel - it had all the dank chill of a vault. As it has rained continuously for days - the whole atmosphere was like living beneath water.

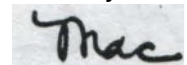
My patient is improving daily - Today I began the free association technique¹⁰¹ on him with remarkable results.

I am living with the {Greens}. They are being kindness itself but I do loathe being continuously on duty. However a month is not an eternity.

I hope we can have another bout of treatment. I don't think I touched rock bottom with you. There is an essential distaste for life and an unhappiness which I didn't reach. Both of these re-actions could provide physical re-actions if pressure increases on any point of your circumference.

No contract from Nigel -

My best to you -



⁹⁹ Noted with a circled "L" and a check mark in the upper right corner.

¹⁰⁰ Noted with a circled "M" in the upper right corner. "Macmillan" added in upper left by PB himself.

¹⁰¹ Page 112

L05.113

113 - 116

Letter from {M.} Macmilla¹⁰²ⁿ
144 Swan Court Chelsea Manor St - S.W3
July 5, 1948

Dear Paul -

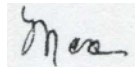
Thank you very much indeed for your kindness last evening. I am too shy to express my appreciation of your friendship directly - so I shall put it in writing. I am profoundly grateful.

To reply to your question what do I want? The answer is what I want and desperately need is financing for a year - I want to write, & travel and to think without the continuous pressure of treating.

It seems to be highly unlikely, but if you do know someone who might be¹⁰³ persuaded that my work merited a thousand pound scholarship, ideally such a move would be the next step.

It seems to me that it is important that I leave this flat by the first of August. But how I shall do so, I have no idea. I think my {work} should be started by the middle of August in a totally different physical and spiritual environment. If my "feelings" in this matter come from Heaven I realize the subsequent action will be inevitable.

Yours -



L05.117

117 - 120

Letter from Hesper¹⁰⁴
Camster Camden Park Tunbridge Wells, Kent, Tunbridge Wells 1655
Thursday evening

Dear P.B:

I left the two books and herewith are the {cards} & a note of yours I found tucked in a pocket of one of the books.

Since there is nothing in {Siken} G's letter that could be considered private I am sending it along. You will see that there is a chance that she may come over in September.

¹⁰² Noted with a circled "M" in the upper right.

¹⁰³ Page 115

¹⁰⁴ Noted with a circled "M" in the upper right, and "re MAC file in M" added by PB himself.

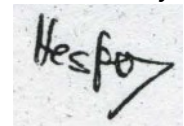
I was most grateful to you for allowing me to be with you today, especially since you were not feeling well. Whatever the malaria was doing to you, you looked better than the last time we met. The hot weather is, probably, better for you.

After¹⁰⁵ leaving you I went over in my mind that which I had said about Mac. I want you to know that I like & admire him & that in talking to you I am, in a certain sense, only thinking out loud & endeavouring to sift out the slight criticism in my own mind. I am perfectly willing to admit that it may be all my fault that I am not cured. But, as I said today, the concentration work & the hand applications work well with me; but when he propounds to me & gets, seemingly stressed & annoyed, I become uncomfortable & self conscious & unravelled. I told him as much & outwardly¹⁰⁶ he took it well. Whether he did, inwardly, I do not know. One admonition from you I go all out to endeavour to follow your advice. An admonition from Mac & - I feel like crying as tho' I were a naughty child! {Result of} - I cough! He says it is mostly nerves & so, becoming nervous with him causes the throat to react. I tell you this because, in our relationship of over {14} years, I have always done my best to be honest & open with you. And since words & remarks seem to have an added responsibility of late I am anxious to be fair on the subject! Tu comprends?

You¹⁰⁷ will be in my thoughts when you are away! Take care of yourself. I hope the journey will be comfortable & the countries & people interesting - apart from any work you will do. Be sure to tell me your reactions to {Gerdjeff} (how spelt?) - Blackwood, whose books I know well, strikes me as an interesting & brilliant writer, but he deals too much with the dark side of nature! Too much psychicism, astral, & not enough spiritual tendency in his tales.

God bless you P.B! And thanks!

Affectionately,



L05.121

121 - 122

Letter from Mohan¹⁰⁸ Singh

Oriental College, Lahore

26. 4. 43

¹⁰⁵ Page 118

¹⁰⁶ Page 119

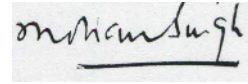
¹⁰⁷ Page 120

¹⁰⁸ Noted with an "M" in the upper right corner.

Dear Dr Brunton,

From one of your spiritual stature, commendation of my humble work is something ever treasurable. All Glory to this {puny} man who even in his worst days of aberration does not forget the Source of all Power & and the God of all Effort. May you approach the Goal more & more only to help the suffering brethren increasingly.

Kind words may butter no parsnips; they do sow seeds of the Vater Vriksha.



P.B.'s note.¹⁰⁹ Vater Vriksha is the huge banyan tree. The writer is trying to express appreciation

L05.123

123 - 124

Letter from Dorothy Mills¹¹⁰ (Mrs)

25. Littlemoor Road, Chalbury Corner, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset Preston 3318

5/12/67

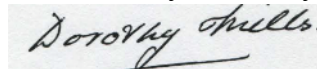
Dear Dr Brunton

Your books are marvellous; wouldn't be without them for all the tea in China!

Happy to report one hundred % success with the quest, after two years.

Bless you, with love & gratitude,

Yours very sincerely



L05.125

125 - 128

Letter from {M.} Macmillan¹¹¹

144 Swan Court Chelsea Manor St S.W3

August 2, 1948

Dear Paul,

Impossible as my typing is - my handwriting is much worse. At least the former doesn't require the same effort to decipher. The enclosed letter is self explanatory.

¹⁰⁹ Post script is typed in the left margin of the page.

¹¹⁰ Noted with an "M" in the upper right.

¹¹¹ Noted with a circled "M" in the upper right.

Very kind too – I think. Disappointing in a way but from another viewpoint rather a relief. I took it along to Nigel Sat. morning. He says that he will publish immediately. He was thrilled that you are to do a preface. His comment was, “that will be a new angle on the subject.” I shudder to think what your thoughts on this technique are. I have been re-reading The Wisdom of the Overself. I am wallowing in inferiority complexes.

My own feeling is that no large publisher will ever touch this material in its present form. But as you have forgotten more than I know about this world, I am all for doing what you suggest. Let me know when you want me to send along the material to Dutton. The dialogue mms is already in New York with Ruth and Maxwell Aley (friends and agents) 342 Madison Avenue, New York City. Another copy is sitting with Houghton Mifflin Boston, awaiting instructions.

As you didn’t telephone, I gather there was a hitch. Perhaps the meeting could take place in the Autumn. Heaven knows I need all the illumination that can be had from all planes and sources.

I go to Edinburgh on Thursday. My address is the Royal Hotel, Princes Street for two days. On the 7th, I go to the Marchbanks Hotel, Balerno nr. Edinburgh for three weeks or a month.

I hope that Paris isn’t proving too strenuous. It will be hot certainly. I¹¹² shall look forward to our next meeting – where ever it may be.

my best to you,



L05.129

129 – 132

Letter from Mac¹¹³

5 Oxford Terrace Edinburgh 4.

August 19, 1948

Dear Paul,

Your letter has just reached me. For some reason best known to themselves, the Marchbank Hotel has kept my mail a week before forwarding it.

I am delighted to learn that you are well. I have been fussing a bit about you. Your Eastern training has made your body so extremely sensitive to your mental impulses that it leaves you rather vulnerable.

¹¹² Page 127

¹¹³ Noted with a circled “M” in the upper right corner.

How very disappointing that your Paris interview should have turned out that way. Do you think his development was exaggerated by report? Or did you feel that he has fallen apart a bit? In either case it is a great pity.

What happened to the Czechoslovakia plan? Or did you go?

As a matter of fact, I am rather relieved that Holland has fallen through. Had the idea materialized I would have put all I have into it. But I was not looking forward to the prospect. But I am sorry that you have had all that wasted effort. Or to be more accurate, that the effort seems to have been wasted.

Nigel has written to say that he will pay me £35 advance. He offers 10 percent royalty. The draft agreement hasn't come yet. When it does I shall send it on to you for advice. Though I am certain it will be satisfactory. He is particularly keen about your proposal for a preface. He asked about the amendments. I suggested a compromise. Namely, that Mrs Watkins polishing remain; but that my wording and the informal atmosphere between me and the Master should be held. Really, this would mean¹¹⁴ that the split infinitives be removed but otherwise the mms would remain in its original form. Do you approve?

Thank you very much indeed for your letter of introduction. That together with a note from me and the mms. will be sent airmail tomorrow. I am having my note typed at Mr Green's office. The whole thing will be packaged and sent from there. I felt it would carry a less amateurish flavor than my erratic typing.

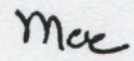
Thanks be to Heaven, this case is proving to be an enormous success. Would you like Mr Green to send you a resume¹¹⁵ of the entire history? It has been an all out effort. Psychological work in the morning. Physical treatment in the afternoon. In between teaching. It has meant showing him how to carry on one of the most strenuous existences I have encountered without undue nervous strain and to keep his values straight in process of full action. I have had to live in the house to do this.

As you can imagine I ready for the much discussed break.

I had a note from Mr Bottlier suggesting a meeting this Sunday. I explained why I could not and asked him to either keep the mms until we met or to leave it at your flat.

I hope to be able to return by Sept first.

With tremendous gratitude
and my best to you,



L05.133

133 - 136

¹¹⁴ Page 131

¹¹⁵ "resumé" in the original, diacritical removed.

Letter from. Alec MacAlast
c/o 13, Bronwydd Rd. Tremorfa Cardiff
24th July '47

To
Dr Paul Brunton

Dear Sir,

It was with real appreciation & delight that I received your letter just recently. Thank you indeed for replying! It was really an unexpected pleasure.

I note what you advise about the books. Apropos to this I might mention that your publishers advised likewise, & though rather reluctant at the time I did take their advice, & had the books sent on here. Allow me to express my very sincere thanks for your willingness to autograph¹¹⁶ them. Strange it is, that of all the books I've collected such a wish has never before entered my head!

Kinder still of you to grant me an unasked interview with you on your return to this Country. This thrilled me not a little, & believe me, I shall look forward to this as I have rarely ever done so before.

I must put on record here my appreciation of your remarks regarding my Aims. They are indeed most pertinent & astute.

And yet I am glad to say that such possibilities were seriously and surely considered. I shall not bore you with the details of why...¹¹⁷

L05.137

137 - 140
Letter from. Alec MacAlast¹¹⁸
c/o 13, Bronwydd Road Tremorfa Cardiff
27th June '48

To
The Secretary,
Dr Paul Brunton
5 Westmoreland St.,
Marylebone
London W.1

Dear Sir,

¹¹⁶ Page 135

¹¹⁷ Subsequent lines are missing.

¹¹⁸ Noted with a circled "M" and a check mark.

With some astonishment I see that after a whole year's interval we post a letter to each other on the very same day!

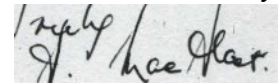
Please do accept my sincere thanks & very real appreciation for your message. It was most welcome! I hope you received my letter. It was¹¹⁹ addressed to Dr Brunton c/o Rider & Co., & posted on June 22nd.

Please do convey my gratitude to Dr Brunton for remembering me after all this time. The gesture still has me wondering, & I shall remember it for a long time.

If it is at all possible, could you arrange for me to see Dr Brunton sometime during Sat afternoon (Sat July 3rd) or a week later if more suitable. Saturdays & Sundays unfortunately are the only days in a week on which I'm free, but if this cannot be arranged just let me know & I shall come whenever you wish.

With Sincerest Regards to you & Dr Brunton

Yours Truly



L05.141

141 - 150

Letter from Alec MacAlast¹²⁰

c/o 13, Bronwydd Road Tremorfa Cardiff

22. 6.48

To

Dr Paul Brunton

c/o Rider & Co.

London

Dear Sir,

It is now a year since I deliberately pushed aside a host of fears & misgivings, & in answer to some great urge, sent you my first letter. I watched it slip into the letterbox wherein I had dispatched innumerable letters in the days gone by, but this time - for the first time, - I experienced a sudden doubt. And I really did wonder for a moment, if that letterbox was good¹²¹ & secure enough to hold that important message!

Yes, these fragile sheets of paper & pen were important, for they contained the sum total of all I have been; of all I had attained. And now they were off into the blue, winged messengers on my behalf.

¹¹⁹ Page 139

¹²⁰ Noted with an "M" in an upper right.

¹²¹ Page 143

Time seemed to stand still, as day by day I waited. No other thought came uppermost in my mind & one day I was rewarded. A reply came from across the Atlantic, first a single sheet of paper, a few typewritten lines & a signature. But it brought me more from the New World than the Galleons of old Spain ever took out. I tried to give adequate thanks for it in my second letter but I know I must have failed. Therefore, before I approach the main contents of this message,¹²² allow me the opportunity of acknowledging once again your kind letter, for which I have held undying gratitude, unchanging & profound respect.

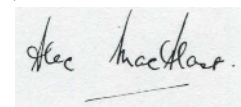
Part of your reply calls forth these words. A sentence or two in which you stated that when you arrived in this country the following Spring or Summer you'd be pleased to grant me an interview in which you'd give me your advice for my Spiritual Guidance. I am not given to sentimentalizing, but here I must tell you that for 365 days since I received this rare invitation, the wonder of it, the hope & inspiration it brought has filled my mind, & not even the shattering blows of Fate which pounded me in these last twelve months have succeeded in touching¹²³ it.

I had hoped to make this a full and complete letter, for there is much I wish to lay before you. But precious time has already been lost in trying to establish communication & at my present speed of progress to do so would take at least a week or two more. Therefore for the present I must limit myself to the following & make this but a brief note.....to the effect that if you would still receive me I will come to you at any place at any time, viewing the occasion as the most important, most sacred moment of my Life.

Please do forgive what must surely seem to be undue haste & brevity. But I am indeed sorely pressed for Time.

And now I shall bide my time in¹²⁴ Hope & with expectancy, for the long year has passed. And I know you will not fail me.

Unending gratitude, deep Appreciation & True Reverence to You Always,
My Unseen, Beloved Guide



L05.151

151 - 152

Letter from Mrs D. Oldroyd¹²⁵

¹²² Page 145, Noted with a II at the top of the page.

¹²³ Page 147

¹²⁴ Page 149, noted with III at the top of the page.

¹²⁵ Noted with a circled "O." in the upper right.

A letter praising PB's books.

Extract: "I would like you to know how much I love your books, to me they are very wonderful, and I am drawn to read again and again "A Hermit in the Himalayas."

L05.153

153 - 154

Letter from L. Gurney Parrott¹²⁶,
195/2 Tower Road Sliema, Malta G.C.
4th December 1971¹²⁷

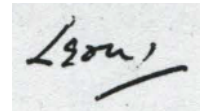
Dear Paul,

This may not reach you, so perhaps I may never learn how surprised you would have been to hear from me! However, I shall hope to get a reply from you. Maud passed away peacefully just before her 94th birthday in 1966; since when I have been living here with my sister and her husband.

During this time I have visited India three times, staying at the Ashram of H. H. Sant Kirpal Singh. I believe you have had some contact there and this prompts me to write.

Further news will keep, but it would be such a pleasure to hear from you.

Yours ever,



L05.155

155 - 156

Letter from Prof. J. Pintos¹²⁸
2, Mimmernmou Str. Athens 138
19th January, 1963

Mr Paul Brunton,
c/o Messrs. Rider & Co.,
178-202 Great Portland St
London W.1.

¹²⁶ Noted with a "P" in the upper right corner.

¹²⁷ "don't reply" added by PB himself above date.

¹²⁸ Noted with a "P" in the upper right corner.

Dear Mr Brunton,

I have studied your books and I was sorry to learn that during my lengthy stay in New York at the United Nations I had not the opportunity of meeting you, although as I learned, you resided for some time in this city.

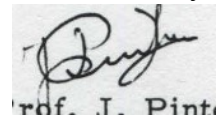
I had the information of your stay in New York from H. M. Queen Frederica of Greece, who as you know, was very interested in your work and who also informed me that you were in Athens for a few days some years ago.

As I am travelling quite a lot in Europe and the U. S. A., I am wondering if you would be kind enough to indicate your whereabouts during 1963 as it would be a great pleasure and honour for me to meet you.

I do not need to add that in case there is a possibility of reinserting Greece in your travel itinerary, you would be most welcome.

Hoping that the time-table of your travels will permit a meeting with you in the near future, please accept Sir, the assurance of my profound and sincere respect.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. J. Pintos

2 Mimnermou Str.,
Athens, Greece

Frederica¹²⁹ "His interest is shallow. He is intellectual a busybody & likes to have a hand everywhere. No advantage in meeting him – he is not real seeker. But reply fm U.K. or Zurich"

L05.157

157 – 158

Letter from L. Gurney Parrott¹³⁰

Royal Academy of Music, York Gate, Marylebone Road, N.W. 1 London, 7th

May 1936

Dear Mr Brunton,

I was so pleased to receive your letter of the 15th April. It was very kind of you to write to me. I was afraid that you might regard my letter as a part of your "fan-mail;" it was far from being anything of the kind!

¹²⁹ Written in ink in Brunton's hand in the left margin and then repeated in someone else's hand in pencil.

¹³⁰ Noted with a letter "P" added by hand.

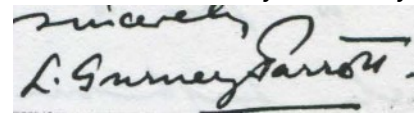
I saw a press report that you were in India. If and when you come to London I should be delighted to meet you. May I leave it to you to get into touch with me?

You¹³¹ seem to be so busy that I hesitate to ask more of you, but if you have time, to send me a short note sometimes, I should much appreciate it.

My own development has proceeded very much on the lines of your own, and while I am being taught to achieve the minor goal in the midst of the noise and bustle of a Western metropolis, I am hoping one day to be allowed to throw it all overboard – at least in so far as being bound up in it.

I shall watch for your writings. My grateful thanks for your letter.

Yours very sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. Gurney Barrow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

L05.159

159 - 166

Letter from R. Rabbani¹³²

Haifa

Feb. 11th 1944

Dear Dr Brunton:

Your letter of Jan. 13th has been received, and the Guardian has instructed me to answer it on his behalf. He was pleased to see the open-mindedness of your approach to religious subjects, and is happy to clarify the questions you raise in your letter.

1. Baha'u'llah¹³³ prophecies have referred to not only events in the 19th cent., which have already transpired, but also to events in the 20th cent. which have also already taken place – such as the afflictions that would overtake Berlin and the Banks of the Rhine; the flame which would devour the cities; (news of which we read every day, alas in our papers) the wars that would rend mankind asunder; the decline of the Kingship and priesthood, etc. He has also foretold many things which have not yet come to pass, the fulfilment of which, however we¹³⁴ anticipate.

2. The Baha'i teachings set forth that the Prophet, or Manifestation, has two aspects: on one hand He is a man, as other men, possessing a body like them, on the other though, His essential nature is different from ours. He is the mirror of divinity,

¹³¹ Page 158

¹³² Noted with a circled red "R" in the upper right corner. A circled black "S" in the left corner has been crossed out in red.

¹³³ "Bahá'u'lláh" in the original.

¹³⁴ Page 161

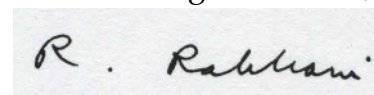
we can never reflect the attributes of God in their entirety as He does. His soul is pre-existent; our souls come into being when we do, i.e. when we are conceived. If you accept this premise you can readily see there is no reason only the relation between, say Jesus Christ, and God should not be entirely different from the ordinary man's relation to Him because Christ's nature is essentially from ours. We do not believe at all that Baha'u'llah is the embodiment of the Divinity. On the contrary such a thought is blasphemy in our eyes. What we do believe is that, as the world is maturer today than in the days of either Christ or Muhammed, a fuller measure of divine Truths can be given us. This is what we see in Baha'u'llah; His position is greater because His function is greater – not because the other manifestations are inherently inferior to Him.

3. Abdu'l-Baha Himself has stated that Buddha is a Prophet, like Jesus or Muhammad. Baha'u'llah, in His "Kitat-i-Iqan"¹³⁵ has mentioned many Prophets. We believe that God has never, from the dawn of time, left the soul of man without a Divine Educator, a Prophet. Their names are forgotten, but they must have existed. What Abdu'l-Baha" was referring to in the passage you wrote in your letter was the infinite number of sects, philosophical societies and various "isms" which one finds in such abundance these days, and which produce, in spite of their noble discussions, no fruits at all because they have not got roots. Roots are in this sense the teaching from God which a Prophet brings to us. The tree of Buddha has certainly yielded wonderful fruit in the past. In religions of great antiquity we can no longer be sure that the name of the Prophet has survived and not been superseded by that of some reformer. But when we see, as in Hinduism, that a religious belief has changed and molded the thoughts of millions for centuries, we can be sure the source was a Divine Manifestation of God.

The Baha'i Faith offers to the conscientious¹³⁶ student of religion, like yourself, an advantage he will not find elsewhere, as all our literature is authentic, the original writings and Tablets, being available. It is truly a wonderful message God has given us today through the lips of Baha'u'llah, and Shoghi Effendi hopes you will study it thoroughly as you are sure to find much of interest and help to you.

He will pray for you here in our Baha'i shrines, that God may bless and guide you on your way, and he wishes to assure you if you are ever in this part of the world you will be warmly welcomed here if you can call on him.

With cordial good wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. Rabbani". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

from¹³⁷ R. Rabbani
P.O. Box 155

¹³⁵ Page 163

¹³⁶ Page 165

¹³⁷ Typed in the left margin of the page.

HAIFA, Palestine.
(Shoghi Effendi's brother)

L05.167

167 - 168

Letter from N. Raghavan¹³⁸
3, Union Street¹³⁹ Penang Straits Settlements
19th March 39

My dear Doctor,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 1st instant. I received the book also and noted your markings. Thanks very much. The volume to me is now of very much added importance.

Pillar showed me the letter from the Maharshi gave us the 'Prasadam' sent by him. I hope you found him in good health. Will you be at Tiruvannamalai for long, or are you travelling in India? Our trip to Europe has been cancelled due to the sudden turn of events in Central Europe. I do not know when we shall again be able to go to Europe. We hope to visit India sometime this year when I wish to see some portions of the Himalayas also!

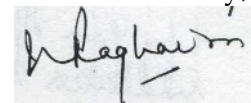
Thank you very much for your assistance & for your offer of future help. I am more like a rudderless ship at present. In my profession I have had a fair amount of practice, but somehow or other apart from a happy domestic life, life seems to be empty. Theosophy, I am experimenting with; but I find there is a good deal of¹⁴⁰ chaff mixed with the bran in Theosophy. Hindu philosophy is an intellectual treat but not easy enough for modern conditions of life. Of course I have touched only the very fringe of the subject.

I shall keep on the practice of meditation & concentration for a few minutes every day. Perhaps it may open up a way.

We hope this will find you in good health. Convey please, my humble namaskarams to the Maharshi whom one day I hope to visit in person.

My wife sends you her kind regards and thanks you for your blessings. After you left we have been reading your "Quest of the Overself"

With best regards
Yours sincerely,



¹³⁸ Noted with a circled "R" in the upper right and an "R" in the upper left.

¹³⁹ Raghavan & Coy. information in the upper left corner.

¹⁴⁰ Page 168

L05.169

169 – 170

Letter from Giulio Rospigliosi¹⁴¹

Letter expressing admiration for many of PB's books and asking to meet with him in England to get some advice.

Extract: "It is with great interest that I have read some of the books written by you... I presume you are living in England and therefore, if it is not asking too much of you, do you think I might come to see you when in England? I shall be there for a week from Oct. 18th. I would very much like to have some practical advice and suggestions from you."

L05.171

171 – 172

Letter from publisher in French from O. Reville¹⁴²

This letter is needs to be translated.

Extract: "Je ne vois pas, en France, un ecrivain, meme spiritualiste, ayant sur un contact avec un Maitre, et donc capable de comprendre – sinon intellectuellment – tout ce que comporte ma documentation, d'on le conseil de cet Editeur m'adressant a vous par l'intermediaire des Editions Payot."

L05.173

173 – 174

Letter from (Mrs) Lao Stebbing¹⁴³
Carnegie¹⁴⁴ Hall New York 19, N.Y.

July 24/48

Mr Paul Brunton
Box 34 Station D.
New York, 3, USA

Dear Mr Brunton:

Although you may not remember writing a letter to Dr Russell in April – I am writing this short letter to you now so that you may know the true facts why you did not receive an immediate reply to your letter dated April 18th.

¹⁴¹ Noted with a circled "R" in the upper right.

¹⁴² "Réville" in the original. Diacritical removed throughout this foreign language letter summary.

¹⁴³ Noted with a circled "R" in the upper right corner.

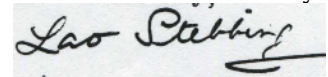
¹⁴⁴ Name on letter head is Walter Russell.

Dr Russell has had intense illumination this year – it started in April and has continued through until now. Knowing your own cosmic consciousness through reading your books – I know that you understand and appreciate Dr Russell's silence. All of his personal correspondence has been answered by me and I found your letter today in one of his personal files when trying to find something he wrote asking me for.

Will you please forgive him this seeming incourtesy and when you are next in New York – or the States – let him know of your whereabouts in order that he may have the pleasure which he has so long anticipated in meeting you and sharing some moments of Oneness with you?

I do hope that your visit to Europe will be of great personal fulfillment for you.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs) Lao Stebbing

Associate and co-worker with Dr Russell

L05.175

175 – 176

Letter from Swami Ramdas¹⁴⁵

Anandashram, Anandashram P.O.

November 8, 1950

Beloved Friend,

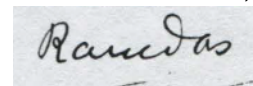
Ramdas received your loving letter of the 22nd October enclosing a cheque for Rs.23/- of which Rs.3/8 being the renewal of your subscription for The Vision and Rs.24/8 your donation to the Ashram. We are grateful to you for your love offering.

Nowadays Ramdas is freely corresponding with friends. So the seekers on your side may write to Ramdas whenever they wish to do so.

May Divine grace ever enlighten your path and may you always live in perennial bliss and peace.

Hearty love and blessings,

Ever Your Self,



Dr Paul Brunton
545 FIFTH Avenue,
New York 17, USA

¹⁴⁵ Noted with a circled "R" in the upper right.

L05.177

177 - 178

Letter from Yogi Rama¹⁴⁶

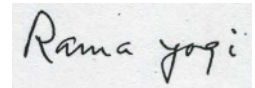
Sri Ramasramam Annareddipalem Butchireddipa'em P. O. (via) NELLORE
(ANDHRA)

7. April '41

Dear Mr Brunton:

No letter from you since for a long time. Hoping you all are well by the grace of Almighty. I am here in the Ashram and all are well. Please let us know your welfare whether you wish. God bless you in Every Success.

With love



L05.179

179 - 180

Letter from Ramesam¹⁴⁷

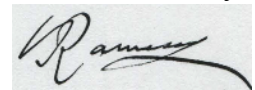
Sir V. Ramesam¹⁴⁸ Gopal Vihar Mylapore Madras
19.4.1937

My dear Mr Brunton,

A relation of mine Mr T. {Veukalakushnick} is going to Tiruvannamalai this night. He proposes to stay there one or two days with the Maharshi. He is a gentleman of devout temperament. Probably your guidances will help him in getting a {full} benefit from his visit. I request you to help him in his search after truth.

With best regards

Yours {kindly}



L05.181

181 - 182

Letter from M. K. Reddi¹⁴⁹

¹⁴⁶ Noted with a circled "R" in the upper right and "R unanswered" on the left.

¹⁴⁷ Noted with a letter "R" and a checkmark at top of page.

¹⁴⁸ "Retired Judge

High Court, Madras" in letterhead.

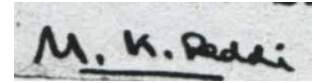
¹⁴⁹ Noted with and "R" in the upper right and a check mark in the upper left.

Dareswar Gardens Vepery, Madras
12th June 37

Dear Mahathma,

I have read all your books twice. I shall continue to read them as long as life lasts in me. It gives me all inspiration to carry on my prayers as laid down in your 'Secret Path.' I find the necessity of an ADEPT to put me on in the proper track. I await your arrival in all sincerity, so that I can prostrate before you and take a few lessons from you. I do not know when that happy day will arrive. However, every day before, I commence my prayers I worship you and your Great Master mentally.

Your most Sincere Student



L05.183

183 - 184

Letter from Ponaka Kanakamma¹⁵⁰

Sree Ramasramam, Annareddipalem, Nellore Dt.¹⁵¹

27. 6. 1937

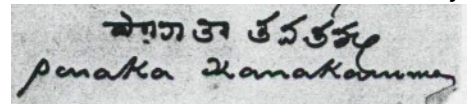
Dear Sir,

You promised to go over here in response to our initiation at Tiruvannamalai. As you did not come up to now we wrote to Sri Ramanasramam to {informate} your address to us. We received a letter from Mr Gonapati Sastri, written as per directions of Sri Bhapanan, that you were {expected} at the Asramam on or about the 4th July and that you would be leaving for Paris after a stay of about a {month} at the Ashramam. We {try} to be informed if you can kindly go over here before you leave for Paris. We are anxiously awaiting your arrival here. Sri Rama Yogis {JamanoAhsanam} takes plane on 14th August.

We are all doing well here. Please let us know about your welfare.

Thanking you in anticipation of your kind reply,

Yours sincerely



¹⁵⁰ "Ramiah" noted in the upper right corner.

¹⁵¹ "urgent wise Today" noted in the upper left corner.

L05.185

185 - 186

Letter from Sir V. Ramesam¹⁵²

High Court, Madras 'Gopal Vihar' Mylapore¹⁵³ Madras

18. 2. 1936

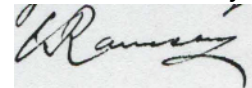
My dear Mr Brunton,

I hasten to give you information of a genuine yogi or sadhu, now living in Southern India. My friend Mr S. Ranganathan Ma., Librarian of the University Library, Madras, who first lent me your book "Search for Secret India" has given me the following information.

From Salem Railway Station, if you go 30 miles by bus, you reach a place called Namakkal. Probably you can reach the same place from Trichinopoly. Both Salem & Trichinopoly, you can easily find them¹⁵⁴ in the Illustrated S.I. Railway Guide, as they are District Capitals. From Namakkal, at a distance of 7 miles, is the village of Sendamangalam, which is the property of my friend Justice Sundaram Chetti (Retired judge, High Court), a devotee of our Maharshi. There lives a saint Swayambaba Swami, who is worth visiting. He is an avadhuta i.e. he is absolutely naked. He had a similar history to our Maharshi. He lived in a cave for 20 years, during which time he was silent {re}. Mr Thomas, an Englishman in search of sadhus like you & whom I met in Madras 2 or 3 times, had been to this yogi and got some initiation from him.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



L05.187

187 - 188

Letter from K.D. Sethna¹⁵⁵

Hamilton Villa, Nepean Sea Road, Bombay

9-7-45

¹⁵² Noted with "RR" in the upper right, a check mark in the upper left, and "re Yogi's address" in the middle of the top margin under which an arrow points to a spot (as marked in comment below) in the letter.

¹⁵³ "Sir V. Ramesam.

Retired Judge" in letterhead.

¹⁵⁴ PB has drawn an arrow from the center of the top of the page pointing to this phrase.

¹⁵⁵ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper left corner.

My dear Brunton,

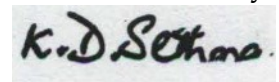
I was very sorry indeed to learn that you had been so ill and that even now you are not your old self. Yes, you must cut down your writing work and rest as much as possible.¹⁵⁶

I shall be glad to hear what you have to say about my letter when we meet. Of course my letter cannot make anything more than a reasoned-out case. The real backing for it is the actual realisation of Sri Aurobindo that is fast moving to its goal. I am referring to the transformation or divinisation of the body. Involved in that are, I imagine, all the other points I have tried to make.

I am happy that people in Europe are taking more and more interest in Sri Aurobindo. And I admire the spiritual instinct or intuition in you which lets no difference in philosophical position cloud your appreciation of his Yogic greatness. Could you tell me what exactly is the way people in Europe are expressing to you their interest in him?

With kindest thoughts,

Yours sincerely,



P.S.¹⁵⁷ Thanks for liking my All India Weekly {articles} and also for reminding me to write to Mrs Hutchinson. I'll be {posting} to her soon.

L05.189

189 - 190

Letter from {Y. Siystearn}¹⁵⁸ (Major)

1 Queens Gate Place LONDON S.W.7 1 QUEENS GATE Place¹⁵⁹

27th Feb 46

Dear Sir,

I have been thinking of writing to you for some time as I have read your latest books {with the} greatest interest & feel I must let you know that I have found Them most helpful. In my opinion I think you have done a wonderful work in putting into print such a difficult subject & so clearly explained.

¹⁵⁶ Two vertical lines marked in the right margin of this paragraph.

¹⁵⁷ Written vertically in the left margin.

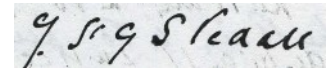
¹⁵⁸ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper left

¹⁵⁹ Address is partially added by PB himself.

Whether you like letters of this sort¹⁶⁰ from people you do not know or {not} I feel {it is} at least my duty to write to try & show my appreciation. I must say if you are ever in London & have any free time I would very much like to meet you some time.

With many thanks

Yours Truly



(Major)

Mr Paul Brunton

L05.191

191 - 192

Letter from {I. G. Sundaram¹⁶¹}

21. 4. 38

My dear friend,

Let me apologise to you for the delay in answering your very kind letter of 16th March. I was not at all keeping {fit}. Mr V. {Schumann} again came up with his family & spent a fortnight with me in {Athens}. He insists that I should go on a mission {to} Italy as planned by you. If God shows me the way, I shall try to be in London sometime in June and stay for a week or two at the most. When have you planned to deliver your lectures in Italy?

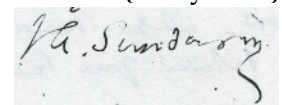
I¹⁶² am anxious to know about your health. Have you got rid of {this} asthma? Don't take any food after sunset. You will find great relief my friend. Please take honey with warm water in the mornings.

I am happy that you are quite fit now.

I often remember with thankfulness our meetings in Bombay.

With loving regards

{I'm yours}



L05.193

193 - 194

¹⁶⁰ Page 190

¹⁶¹ Noted with an "S" in the upper right.

¹⁶² Page 192

Incomplete letter from K.D. Sethna
Nepean¹⁶³ Sea Road Bombay
20-7-44

My dear Brunton,

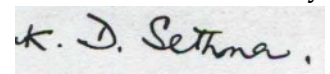
I was wondering what had happened to you. Even worrying sometimes. It was a great pleasure, therefore, to get your letter at last. I am very sorry to hear about your ill-health. You don't need to apologise for not writing to me earlier nor do you need to inconvenience yourself by forcing yourself to write when you are ill.

Thanks for your appreciation of my articles and the Dante-poem. For the last three and a half months I have contributed regularly to The All-India Weekly (at present a fortnightly). I'll send you copies whenever I feel my stuff will interest you.

The compliments you pay me are very generous. I wonder if I deserve them. It is always a joy to write letters to you because I am writing not only to a fine man but also to a genuine traveller on the out-of-the-common track that leads inward and upward. I write to you with a frank mind and say freely whatever seems to me true, aware that you will take no offense where none is meant in the liberty with which I comment on your views.

Your remarks on the four points you find raised in my letter are interesting. I should like, however, to say a few more things on those points so as to enable you to get my meaning as fully as possible. I have an instinct that you above all cannot really stop short of it. When you say that you could very easily put yourself in the receptive mood which would see Sri Aurobindo's teaching in the light that I see it, I feel more at work the understanding and sympathy which you later declare you have. I feel a natural turn in you, pregnant with large spiritual possibilities which I cannot but think are ill-served by the "critical intellect" which you believe will keep emerging and asking insistent questions. I do not dispute that you have preserved a proper relation between the critical intellect and the mystical intuition, but ...¹⁶⁴

With kind thoughts and best wishes,
Yours sincerely,



P.S. Forgive me for writing a whale of a letter and a rather critical whale into the bargain! Do write to me as soon as you can your reflections on what I have said.

¹⁶³ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper left corner.

¹⁶⁴ Body of the letter abruptly ends here, subsequent lines may be missing. The signature and postscripts were cut and pasted below.

P.P.S. It will be a delight to me to meet you if you are coming this side and passing through Bombay. I hope you will let me know a little in advance.

L05.195

195 - 198

Letter from P. N. Srinivasachari¹⁶⁵ (MA) to Maharaja Saheb
Sri Krishna Library. 2 Chitrakulam Eastward Street. Mylapore, Madras¹⁶⁶
14th June 1944

My dear Maharajah Saheb,

I am very sorry I could not reply to your letter and that of Mr Paul Brunton, earlier owing to my absence from the city for over three weeks.

The letter of Mr Brunton is delightful reading. The ideas are, as usual, clear and lucidly expressed & of the four points summed up in the note, the first three are entirely satisfactory to me. The theories of 'creation out of nothing,' of the world as construction and as illusion are repudiated and rejected. But my difficulty lies in understanding the fourth point namely that the world of nature is mentalistically regarded.

Among western theories which deny the externality of the world and explain nature in terms of consciousness are mentalism, monadism, subjective idealism, objective idealism, Personalism and absolute idealism. Mr Brunton rightly rejects the Buddhistic version. But the question is "Is the world of nature, matter, or acit [*Sanskrit*: unconscious] in the medium of consciousness ('mind' or 'idea') human or Divine? True, it is not sudden creation, mental construction or an illusory projection. It is not even an emanation of the "One" as¹⁶⁷ Plotinus says or fulguration as Leibniz says or Brahma parinama [*Sanskrit*: transformation] as the bheda abheda vadin [*Sanskrit*: a follower of the school of Difference & Non-difference] Yadhava says.

According to Ramanuja, matter or acit is eternal {with} the self or cit [*Sanskrit*: consciousness] but is at the same time not external to Brahman. Brahman is in matter but is not matter. He is both in and beyond it, immanent and transcendent. The terms used in the letter namely 'spun out', 'self revelation' and 'essence of the world' rightly stress the aspect of immanence but they do not bring out the aspect of transcendence or eminence; acit is in Brahman but Brahman is also beyond it and is not affected by the persisting changes of matter. The point is both logical and ethical.

The whole point is technical and difficult and even amongst western thinkers it is a hard problem. There are various schools and shades of idealism and realism.

¹⁶⁵ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper left.

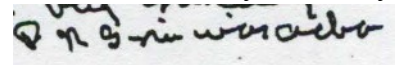
¹⁶⁶ "Pn. Srinivasachari. M.A.,
Retired Principal, Pachaiyappa's College" in letterhead.

¹⁶⁷ Page 197

Ramanuja in his theory of Brahman as Sariri or the oversoul seems to avoid the pitfalls of materialism and mentalism and of monism and pantheism. I think that Mr Brunton on the whole accepts this view of Ramanuja though he uses the language of mentalism to satisfy his western readers.

I am afraid I have to deny myself the pleasure of your company & that of Mr Brunton, as I have urgent domestic business. If the business is over, I shall certainly go there for a week.

With loving regards,
Yours very sincerely



L05.199

199 - 202

Article written by Ezio Saini¹⁶⁸

Inform of Princess Sophia of Greece's engagement to Prince don Juan Carlos of Bourbon, heir to the Spanish throne, translated from Italian.

Extract: "The princess Sophia of Greece and the prince don Juan Carlos of Bourbon, heir to the Spanish throne, will have their official introductions to the international press on Tuesday morning, the 24th of April, offering their graceful smiles of a "royal engaged couple" to the flashes of the photoreporters who have assembled at Athens from all over the world."

L05.203

203 - 204

Letter from Delos V. Smith¹⁶⁹ (Jr) to Evangeline Glass

November 68¹⁷⁰

Xmas¹⁷¹ Blessings! Since this letter went to press I made a picture, "Stiletto," & they wanted to fly me back from Kans. Xmas holidays for 1 day of interiors. Now I {may} to Paris movie & will they fly me round trip from Paris?

¹⁶⁸ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper right. "(Translation from Italian weekly "Spoca")" handwritten in the upper left in PB's hand.

¹⁶⁹ Noted with an "S" in the upper right.

¹⁷⁰ Dated written in PB's hand.

¹⁷¹ This paragraph is handwritten at the top of the letter. The rest of the letter is typed.

Friends,¹⁷² yes we must always be friends and of all who offer your friendship let me be ever the first, the truest the nearest and dearest...Longfellow

Dr Max Jacobson, my fabulous friend for 36 years and doctor of Jack & Jackie Kennedy, said, "You are younger today than you were ten years ago." An hour later I was bitten on the arm by a junior jaguar; guess one can be too young? So I shall never ski, motorcycle or cuddle jungle cats again in this incarnation.

From snowy Kansas, I rushed back to Odets' "Winter Journey," dreamed of for two years and directed by Mitchell Nestor, produced by Canadian Herbert Alpert and a Love-In of actors Walter Allen, Patrick Baldauff, John Batiste, Jean Fowler, William Hare, Carmine Pontilena, Gilberto Zaldivar, Robert Viharo and adorable Barbara Loden Kazan. Audiences of actors loved it but lukewarm critics killed any box office hopes.

Next came Donald Moreland directing "Waltz Me Around Again," pre-Bwy tryout with deluxe summer bookings, produced by Arthur Cantor with Robert Ludlum and George Brown's able assistance, redirected for theatre-in-the-round, new scenes and new stars by Paul Blake. Playwrights were Norman Barash and Carroll Moore; stars were Darryl Hickman and Lee Lawson; Franklin E. Cover, Charles C. Welch and Richard Clarke were my colleagues at Playhouse-on-the Mall (N. J.) and Pocono Playhouse (Penna.), and Frank Aletter & Dixie Marquis starred in Springfield, Mass. and Corning, N. Y.

I left the last week to return to N.Y. to play "Scapello," the mean librarian employer of hero Richard Benjamin in Philip Roth's "Goodbye, Columbus," a Paramount Picture. Top star was Director Larry Peerce (of MetOpera tenor Jan and woman-of-valor Alice). His warmth, enthusiasm and Svengali-charming of a performance from happy actors will show in finished film. Like Elia Kazan and Arthur Penn, his relaxed authority percolated through the producer, Stanley Jaffe and the young crew, the friendliest I've ever worked with. Even if I end up on the cutting room floor in the final editing, it was a pleasant work experience other film and teevee companies would do well to duplicate.

A fortnight later I was with Martha Scott's fantastic Plumstead Theatre and stars fell on Mineola. John McGiver, Henry Fonda, Robert Ryan, John Beal, Jo Van Fleet, Estelle Parsons et al gave trillion candle power to "Our Town" directed by Edward Hastings. Anne Jackson came later for "The Front Page" directed by Leo Brady. These shining stars passed up huge cinema and stage salaries to appear in great American plays because they were dedicated actors. They were a privilege to work with: always inspiring, considerate and concentrated craftsmen.

Woman of the year was easily lovely actress Anna Mizrahi, young Israeli bride of Lee Strasberg, A Frances Dee type of beauty, instant hit with the many Strasberg and

¹⁷² "Newsogram DVS, Jr '68" typed in the right margin at the top inside an outlined box.

Actors' studio friends. The twelve John McGivers were again "Happening of the Year;" I visited their Catskill home when free and saw eldest son, Terry, off to year in Greece.

Relay my tendresses to Peebee,



Dilatory domicile:
The Lambs, Box 86
130 West 44th Street
New York, N.Y. 10036
Permanent residence:
226 East 12th Street
Hutchinson, Kansas 67501

L05.205

205 - 206

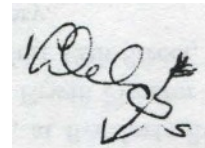
Letter¹⁷³ from Delos V. Smith (Jr) to Evangeline Glass
[(Rec'd June 67)]¹⁷⁴

Hail and relay P.B. my mid-Season Report.

Come to my Parade of Stars if you can or are in the city. It is my Farewell Tournee¹⁷⁵ for 1966/7 Season - I leave the next dawn for my second season with Bill Gibson's Berkshire Festival.

Then on to Expo '67; thence to premiere¹⁷⁶ "Odd Couple" and "Barefoot in the Park" for Canada. Not many rupees but I'm starred and get Cost Approval. Where else would I get that this incarnation?

Shanti,



¹⁷³ This letter is written on the back of a Memorial Tribute for "Erwin Piscator, Man of the Theatre" which is not transcribed.

¹⁷⁴ Date written in PB's hand in the upper right.

¹⁷⁵ "Tournée" in the original, diacritical removed.

¹⁷⁶ "première" in the original, diacritical removed.

L05.207

207 - 212

Letter from Delos V. Smith (Jr) to Evangeline Glass
Undated

DELOS¹⁷⁷ V. SMITH, JR. (Magistrate and Justice) A member of Actors' Studio appeared in Lee Strasberg's *THREE SISTERS* with Kim Stanley and Geraldine Page at the Morosco and London's Aldwych Theatres. He was Rev. Phelps in Burgess Meredith's *BLUES FOR MR. CHARLIE* and in Andreas Voutsinas' *FUN COUPLE* starring Jane Fonda and Bradford Dillman at the Lyceum. This past summer he was a member of Berkshire Festival Co. starring Anne Bancroft in Arthur Penn's *SKIN OF OUR TEETH* and Viveca Lindfors in George Tabori's *MERCHANT OF VENICE*. His TV credits include *JANE* with Jane Fonda and *THREE SISTERS*, film roles in Elia Kazan's *SPLendor IN THE GRASS* and *STAGE STRUCK* with Henry Fonda and Susan Strasberg.

This¹⁷⁸ was my Debut & Farewell Appearance as a Producer. I would rather Act.

L05.213

213 - 214

Letter from Elizabeth S. de Ortiz Echague
Contains are praising his books and asking PB to visit Argentina.

Extract: "I have read many of your books, enjoying them immensely. Then, of course came The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga: a cold shower for many people as you say yourself (in other words). Yes the disillusion given to them was perhaps clad into a too brusque form. By it one had to come back to the exact thinking of the Western world, which never has brought anyone the Inner Reality. The Wisdom of the Overself is a marvelous book, but it stays "colder" as the other ones."

L05.215

215 - 222

Letter from Delos¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁷ Biography from a playbill.

¹⁷⁸ Page 209, hand written at the top. The rest of the pages (209 - 212) are a playbill from "An Evening with "Guy de Paupassant", six one act plays," with Delos' name underlined wherever it appears. They are not transcribed.

¹⁷⁹ "Attach Delos letter ask question about "Nite of the Iguana"" is a noted preceding this letter written by PB himself.

Dear¹⁸¹ PeeBee:

Shades of Nicholas Chauvin! I'm not sure we have anything to wave the flag about at the moment.

At Expo '67 I ran into a table of N.Y. and Montreal Yogis dripping Bhakta and Kerista {(Hippie} Love) all over the place. Acid Heads really loused up Anandashrama. Dr. Mishra sent me a couple of letters critical of the Indians in Guiana. Then resumed his aerial world tour given him by the Willoughby Camera Store widow {Bhaktini}. She is smart enough to want no part of local group but the Guru's Wont is her Delight.

He has gained weight and I doubt if there is any brain damage from his L.S.D. experimentation. He knew O'Leary & Alpert when they were still at Harvard. O'Leary is really way out now & somebody said he was growing gill slits that saw him. I doubt if he's regressed that far.

I know Susan Strasberg's baby, with Hippy L.S.D. and Heroin hooked father has been spiraling since birth. Didn't like milk. God only knows what chromosome damage she has. John Strasberg, the child's uncle, is very Hippy now. Lee. is rather disgusted with them. But like the Rusk girl, parents aren't considered now.

The N.Y. Ashram had some busted marriages and chelas cohabiting and bringing little Ramas and Shivas into the world. And speaking of Kali in the Black Aspect, Oscar Weinland, the German boy who drove you, is still with his husky negro wife & her 2 children, one by him.

Eva writes annually from Zurich¹⁸² and I don't worry about that little family. She was delighted when you saw them two years ago. I hear from Kenneth at Xmas but never contact him as you would materialize or write if you wished it.

Professionally I had a wonderful summer. I played Pinero's (dated) "Magistrate" for 5 weeks at 2nd Berkshire Festival in Stockbridge, then to Montreal where for 10 days I {saw} Pavilion & {Privy} on the Expo '67 grounds. I used Press Pass so no waits. It had theme which helped most but hindered the Art displays. The crowds were 80% French speaking - the horrible patois and argots of Quebec,¹⁸³ but I liked the provincial people.

¹⁸⁰ The page 217 copy of the letter is partially covered by a piece of paper with a biography of Richard Furman (theatrical designer) on top of the letter (not transcribed). PAGE 218 is a poem about Thanksgiving by Edgar A. Guest and a reflection on Thanksgiving and the holiday season. PAGE 219 is the identical letter with the biography removed. so (almost) the entire letter is visible and it is transcribed here.

¹⁸¹ Page 219

¹⁸² "Zürich" in the original, diacritical removed.

¹⁸³ "Québec" in the original, diacritical removed.

Quebec¹⁸⁴ City I love, shrine of the Ste. Anne de Beaupre¹⁸⁵ with Lourdes healing get up was a lovely boat trip. Also the bus trip along St Lawrence river to Trois Rivières¹⁸⁶ where I turned East through the beautiful St John River Valley to Rothesay Playhouse.

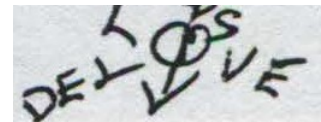
There I was starred in 3 plays: "Period of Adjustment," 98 yr old "Nonno" in "Night of the Iguana" and debonair Victor Velasco in "Barefoot in the Park." I remember you and Eva coming to my "Mlle Coulombe" at the old Davenport Theatre. It won't be too long till my Retirement, unless some burst of activity and important money show up.

"Country Girl" which you came to see at Mermaid Theatre on West 42nd near your postal box 2 years ago, will be done off Broadway soon. The director is only using three of us in that showcase cast – is going after names. I will play the "Producer" again and Will Hare who played the drunken actor will still be with it.

The director told me and said, "Aren't you lucky you don't have to read for shows you don't want; know you have a job? I said, "Maybe you're lucky to have me; all the past lives I bring on the stage!" We'll see how much longer I follow Maya.

Only 2 Xmas cards from India last year; one a Parsi and one Muslim. They are more Western & do things more like the West. I shall write the Yogi's family, as he may be with them – though I doubt it. I threw out 64 non-answering from my Xmas list. Also receive notes now that people have died, from families or lawyers. So I make new younger friends. I hold the post with open hands and spread fingers.

LOVE



DELOS¹⁸⁷ V. SMITH, JR

Four periods of world travel have varied Delos's credits of Harvard, Phi Beta Kappa, films in four languages, radio and television. His favorites are Andreas Voutsinas' Broadway FUN COUPLE with Jane Fonda, Lee Strasberg's THREE SISTERS with Kim Stanley, Geraldine Page, and Shirley Knight, London appearances in THREE SISTERS and BLUES FOR MR CHARLIE, Elia Kazan's SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS, Henry Fonda and Susan Strasberg's STAGESTRUCK films, JANE with Jane Fonda and the unreleased THREE SISTERS with Sandy Dennis and Shelley Winters for T.V. Delos has appeared in 18 Off-Broadway shows including SECRET CONCUBINE, BAR

¹⁸⁴ "Québec" in the original, diacritical removed.

¹⁸⁵ "Beaupré" in the original, diacritical removed.

¹⁸⁶ "Rivières" in the original, diacritical removed.

¹⁸⁷ Page 221 is a bio of Delos V. Smith Jr from a playbill and part of the previous letter showing on the copy.

ROOM, and COUNTRY GIRL. This is his third Rothesay season coming once from Europe and twice from the Berkshire Festival, Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Delos's teachers have been Paula & Lee Strasberg.

L05.223

223 - 226

Incomplete letter from Delos V. Smith (Jr) to Evangeline Glass (PB's third wife)
{1968} December 26

Happy Boxing Day to Kenneth & Peebee.

You can relay this card & colored Xmas letter to Peebee slow mail when convenient.

Here I am¹⁸⁸ on the front page of Sunday N.Y. Times Drama Section, with an assist of Anna Maria Italiano (Anne Bancroft) to you.

Several have made promises of shows, two have broken them & I fail to be upset and think about going to Kans. at Xmas. My heart is in the country, my heart is not {lone}.

Dr Mishra, our sabbatical yogi, has been at Indian House in London.¹⁸⁹ The¹⁹⁰ Indian women's cooking in Guyana fattened him up again and he wrote they were westernized and {conniving} down there. I know one bunch of cousins had committed a murder and were {frowned} on by Mishra Brahmins. So he went on to London to found a center there. He is also visiting a female painter {Bhaktini} who has a house in Paris.

I doubt if he goes back to India. India is screaming because 16,000 Indian doctors are outside India and many long past residency and internships. The Indian practice of medicine results in fights with medical associations, court fights with benighted patients and you about have to establish your own pharmacy. {Doctorji} also mixed in native Ayurvedic medicine.

I have just spent 4 more days with McGivers in upper Catskills; went to football game in snow to see two teenage boys play and really more popular with 10 kids than the understandably busy parents. I rode the Palomino who now has heavy winter coat and the summer goslings are now underslung geese who honk and flop when Canadian

¹⁸⁸ Photo of Delos and Anne Bancroft in a play to left of letter, presumably from the New York Times article.

¹⁸⁹ Marked "OVER" in the lower left.

¹⁹⁰ Page 224

V's sail along the Flyway high above. Schoharie County is rural and lovely place to raise kids. But {then clever friend marijuana} & was in Hutchinson, Kan...¹⁹¹

...¹⁹² Capt.¹⁹³ Stevas and 1st Off. Loulouais of the S. S. {Ellsason}¹⁹⁴ {...} in "almost luxury accommodations". So, unless Bwy. beckons you may find me making my Final Farewell Tour of the So. Am. capitols and up the Amazon without a paddle!!!! Doubt if I go at this time, but you know how when I think "India" it is apt to materialize a few months later.

Christ Mass Blessings.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt,
As young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear,
As young as your hope, as old as your despair.
So long as your heart receives messages of beauty, cheer,
courage, grandeur, and power from this earth, from man,
and from the Infinite, so long are you young...Ullman

NEWSBEAT DVS 1967¹⁹⁵

New faces gleaming at 2nd Berkshire Festival were Peter and Beatrice Cookson, Larry and Rose Arrick, Bill Libermans and Lois Markle. Beaming from last year were the William Gibsons, Arthur Penns, Walter Scotts, Peter Maloneys, Phil Barbers and Joe Pelkey. We did Pinero's Gay Ninety Farce, "The Magistrate," and John McGiver proved The Happening of 1967. In the Catskills he and Ruth rear ten wonderful, unspoiled children in a converted Baptist Church, literally brats in a belfry. I spent four weekends and three midweek overnights with them and a Mother Goose who attacked the Palomino. Expo '67 took eight days to see every pavilion even with Press Card to skip waiting lines. Czecho-Slovakia and France were my favorites. Fair theme tied it together one minute and cancelled nudes from art collections the next. No zillions to spend like corporation purses at the N.Y. Fair, but less commercial and really a French fair, 80% of viewers jabbering in differing village patois and argots.

Adown the beautiful St Lawrence and St John river valleys to my maritime Loyalists at Rothesay. F. Storer Boone directed me in "Period of Adjustment," Andreas Voutsinas megaphoned his ideas to my 97 year old "Nonno" in "Night of the Iguana," and Pat Baldauff directed and starred me in "Barefoot in the Park" which held over 2nd week.

Back in N.Y. Mitchell Nestor will direct me in his revival of "Country Girl" after Jan. 1st.

¹⁹¹ Likely that a page or more is missing here. This part is hand written and the following page is typed and handwritten.

¹⁹² Likely that the first previous part of this portion of the letter is missing.

¹⁹³ Page 225

¹⁹⁴ The top part of this word and the following words have been cut off in the copy.

¹⁹⁵ Typed inside a box outline in the left corner of the following paragraph.

The Memory of things precious keepeth warm
The heart that once did hold them. They are poor
That have lost nothing: they are poorer far
Who losing, have forgotten: they most poor
Of all, who lose and wish they might forget.
For life is one, and in its warp and woof
There runs a thread of gold that flitters fair,
And sometimes in the pattern shows more sweet
Where there are somber colors. It is true
That we have wept, but O, this thread of gold
We could not have tarnish; let us turn
Oft and look back upon the wondrous web
And when it shines sometimes we shall know
That memory is possession.....Ingelow

Delos V. Smith, Jr
The Lambs, Box 86
N.Y., N.Y. 10036

Broadway permitting, I'll go to my Kans. home 12/15 to Jan. 3, 1968

Love
Delos¹⁹⁶
[for Delos¹⁹⁷ Smith]

L05.227

227 - 228

Letter from Leslie Loring Savage¹⁹⁸
109 Pennington Avenue Passaic N J
Undated

Our very dear Paul -

We see you so often in our imagination but - your surroundings are somewhat vague! Only the generalities of the desert country of which I am very familiar. They draw me as a magnet.

Richard and I continue our tri-weekly visits and chats at the club and wish you had time to join us. Yes, he too is a mystic and of the magi. He communes with "The

¹⁹⁶ Signature is a combination of Love and Delos with an arrow through a heart of the combined letter "o"

¹⁹⁷ Page 226 Written in PB's hand.

¹⁹⁸ Noted with an "S" in the upper right.

ethereal order of the above" at will and is being continually instructed. He is doing his part to help humanity which seems to be in a trance.

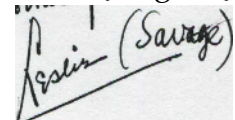
While you each might be designated as a lone voice crying in the wilderness, I wish you could know more of each other. Each has so much to give and your joy would be mutual I am sure. There are so pitifully few who can comprehend!

Richard will give me but a part of an equation for my pondering or rather, for an inspirational or intuitive answer. I am not qualified for more, and somehow I do not practice the codes for awakening that which is "frozen" in one Leslie Loring Savage! Is it mental laziness, procrastination or just reckless ignoring of what seems to be an ever increasing yearning and urge. Paul, I'm a bum chela!

The news of Gandhi was a very great shock to me. Looks like this race of humanity is on the skids. Maybe we'll all have to be shoved off and a new start. So few bodies left that but the worthy may reincarnate and thus a better world citizenry - for a "time?"

I doubt if we start west before your arrival east. So - we'll look forward with joy to seeing you the latter part of April or early May.

{illegible}

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie Loring Savage", with the name "Savage" in parentheses.

February 11th
1948

L05.229

229 - 232

Letter from Matilda Merle Seip¹⁹⁹
355 East 187th Street New York 58, N.Y.
February 27, 1962

Dear Dr Brunton:

Mrs Paine sent me your London address and I hope you won't mind my addressing you there. It seems that she and I have sent you cards and

I have also written you letters to the old box at the Cooper Station in New York and at one time hers was returned. However, your birthday card with a letter was sent to the Times Square Station and I hope that was received.

I think of you very often, in fact many times during the day as I have your picture on my dresser, the one that was on the paper cover of your book "The Spiritual

¹⁹⁹ Noted with an "S" in the upper right corner.

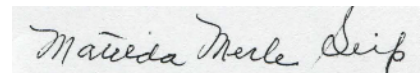
Crisis of Man" which I have read about 4 or 5 times and with everything you have written, I am inspired. I have given two copies of the book to friends as gifts and hope they will find something in them to give them some understanding of spiritual things. I think if "The Spiritual Crisis of Man" would be read by a large number of really intelligent persons, (those with open minds) it would make a great difference in the decisions that are being made in these critical times.

I often think of Dr Bernadine Renault and wonder if she still has her retreat in Canada. I had letters and pamphlets from her a number of years ago but the last time I heard there was not enough money to take care of the literature. Samuel Lohr has been very wonderful to me and has helped me so much. I am feeling well but I am not satisfied with my progress. I am not ungrateful and I think you know what I mean.

I have never known anyone as great as you, only in a very remote way and I feel that it was a very great privilege meeting you the way I did which I will cherish all my life. The more I think of you, the greater you become in my mind and there is no other word than "SAGE" that fits you.

I²⁰⁰ hope you are well and I am looking forward to reading any more books that you may write.

Sincerely with affection and admiration



L05.233

233 - 234

Letter from Aubrey {Sangster²⁰¹}
18 Alexander Street, London, W.2.
9 May 68²⁰²

Dear Dr Brunton,

I expected that you would take my real thanks for granted, and that you would not expect a formal reply to your very kind letter and sound advice given in it (9/3/68). In fact you most probably had forgotten all about me. I am the person who sent you a photo and rather a long letter about my life, and who asked you to write a Foreword for my book "Self-Education."

Then I subsequently became interested in your handwriting which at first glance did not seem to fit in with the type of person I had expected would write as you have done: there seemed so many contradictions, but then a deeper study revealed those

²⁰⁰ Page 231

²⁰¹ Noted with an "S" in the upper right corner.

²⁰² "{They not have received my letter}" noted at top of page by PB himself.

traits that supported your capability. But the personality seemed disappointing. I thought that you might like to have a brief resume²⁰³ of my extractions: - (what you stand for; what you are)

²⁰³ “resumé” in the original, diacritical removed.

[POSITIVES]

204

Idealism:

planning too far ahead, but
with full sympathies for
fellow-men;
strong sympathies
sensitive
unassuming
humility

simple tastes
courage (fearlessness)
persistence
sincerity
clearheaded
reasonably good constitutional
(organic) condition

[NEGATIVES²⁰⁵]

the dreamer
an accomplished sublimation;
sublimation of the libido;
self-discipline
logical, systematic thought
shyness
abstract reasoning
deductive thinking
integral thinker
cautious
sluggishness
good manners;
formal
unemotional
circumspect
reserved
secretive
steadfast
precise
depressive
sedate
commonsense

pedantic
too²⁰⁶ self-contained
lacking in zestfulness, elation
colourless personality (lacking
strong expressive notes of an
inner music, a harmony – the song
of life)
Will not succeed in this life to
fully open yourself (unite; be-
come integral with) to your
Unconscious; your development
at this stage has been (necessarily)
mental – even your love has been
mentally expressed; you have lacked
real love – in you, and to you.
Love is the final expression, the
ultimate human thought; the final
aim and power.

atonic – lacking in spiritual tonicity

(PLEASE let me know how close to truth my observations
have come)

I have not done anything more towards the publication of my book, but then I am not in a hurry. However, I am going to re-title it, "THE ART AND PRACISE OF BEING HUMAN." Meantime, I have had some articles accepted, "WHAT IS DISEASE;"

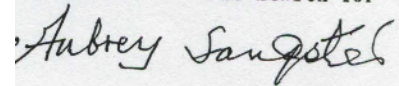
²⁰⁴ "Positives" written in PB's hand.

²⁰⁵ "Negatives" written in PB's hand.

²⁰⁶ Beginning here and ending below at atonic there is a line drawn to the left of this column for emphasis by PB himself.

"HOW TO CONQUER DISEASE;" "A CLOSE HARD LOOK AT HEALTH," "SOME HARD THINKING ABOUT MIND." I believe that I have made a significant breakthrough in my articles on disease. They are all going to be published in "The Health for All" Magazine. Hoping to hear from you one day.

Blessings and cordial greetings, Sincerely,



L05.235

235 - 236

Letter from S. Karan Singh²⁰⁷

207/B, Chittranjan Avenue Calcutta.

5. 1. 46

Dear Dr Brunton,

Your letter of 20th. Dec was received. I have noted that you have decided to shift to Nilgiri by the 7th. Jan. Your letter does not provide a perfect idea of the new address hence this letter is sent at the old one. Hope the new environment will suit your body and mind.

I am very thankful for your expressions of sympathy for my cause. My confinement to my own inner thoughts seldom give me opportunity to gain active sympathy from others in worldly affairs. I have no desire to put before the unmannerly world the truth which I have found. People do not want it, as they are too busy with their material preoccupations and I am the last man to exchange my wealth for material gains. This has put me in more troubles. I do not wish to express my helpless position in material affairs before any man. My own inexperienced efforts to seek a way through have always resulted in losses. Nature wants me to remain in constant uncertainty for that.

I have diplomatic and political administrative training as the only asset to start in life and that too can not be expressively told to any body, though I can well adopt to business of a fair type. I can and shall never adhere to nor support unfair practice in business or any walk of life - that is a draw back I suppose every where (in this country in particular). Often I think to raise a loan of Rs 25/-thousand from a friend and start an agency or some such business with any foreign concern, but as a new man I dare not take such risk. If you have any sincere friend in England or America interested to start any kind of business in this country or establish his concern here I shall deem it a favour to be recommended for contact on mutual agreement. I am ready to go over to any foreign country on business or even on political mission.

²⁰⁷ Noted with a circled "S" in the upper left.

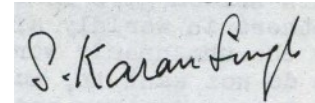
I have stated in rough how I think to organise my future if opportunities come. If business will not be possible, I shall have to take to some political or private service. But I prefer business particularly foreign which can afford me opportunities to leave this soil for a²⁰⁸ certain period to establish closer contact with thinkers of some great nation – with their culture and achievements.

My progress in mental development shall be maintained under all circumstances. The only thing I wish at present is to ensure a regular material living.

I shall ask your pardon if this kind of letter would cause any undue inconvenience to your peace. Do not take care to go through it seriously in that case.

Is Calcutta included in the list of places you are likely to visit while on your proposed tour. I shall be glad to learn more about your present jungle abode. How life is spent there and how could you think I can get a cottage there to spend 3 months next summer.

Awaiting your reply
With peace and regards



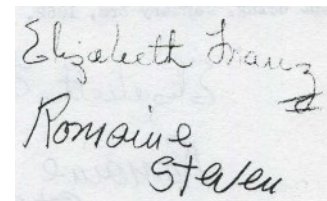
L05.237

237 – 238

Note from Elizabeth Franz and Romaine Stevens²⁰⁹

January 3rd, 1952²¹⁰

Received from Romaine Stevens on behalf of DR PAUL BRUNTON 1 Oriental Shrine which he held for me at my request and which has now been returned to me in perfect condition. I now freely and willingly state that DR PAUL BRUNTON has returned the shrine and I have nor hold no further claim for it. This day of acknowledgement being, January 3rd, 1952.



²⁰⁸ Page 236

²⁰⁹ Noted with an “S” in the upper right. “CRITICS” written in the upper left in PB’s hand.

²¹⁰ Date from contents of note.

L05.239

239 – 240

Letter from Korachi M. Sayed²¹¹

Requesting permission to translate a portion of A Search in Secret Egypt into Arabic.

Extract: "I believe your lucid and admirable analysis upon the subject would appear of more interest to the local readers if it was translated into the Arabic, and given in turn to one of our wide-spread news-paper for publishing. I therefore, wish to ask your permission in translating some lines from the part containing your statement about the Sphinx."

L05.241

241 – 250

Letter from Mr W. A. Tinkler²¹²

Glanrafon, Paradwys Bodorgan, Anglesey

15th Sept. 1967

Dear Dr Brunton,

After reading your book, "The Secret Path" I have a strong urge to write you, if only to express my thanks for the hope & inspiration it has given me.

I first became slightly acquainted with your books more than twenty years ago, when I was serving in the R.A.F. or perhaps just after my release from service. I recall that the ones I read at that time made quite a considerable impact upon me, & I felt the²¹³ same urge to write you. However, I let the message go & drifted into a very materialistic way of living.

Recently I have felt drawn somewhat towards the Yoga Philosophy & saw in a bibliography mention of several books by yourself, as a result of which I obtained the "Secret Path" through my local library.

For the past fourteen years I have been occupied with my small dairy farm (with the help of my wife) which means a rather hard life, with little in the way of holidays or real relaxation. During this time I have gradually become more & more disillusioned & have allowed my life to become a rather aimless affair. This has caused me²¹⁴ many hours of misery & despair, with the feeling that life had very little to offer me with each succeeding year. I am now 53 years old.

²¹¹ Noted with a circles "S" in the upper right, and a circle in the corner. Also a check mark in the upper left.

²¹² Noted with a circled "T" in the upper right.

²¹³ Page 243

²¹⁴ Page 245

During the past two weeks I have been trying the meditation practice as suggested in your book. I find difficulty in deciding the subject to meditate on. "What am I?" or "Who am I?" usually comes to mind. The Trouble is that whilst I can hold the subject reasonably well, my mind generally becomes devoid of thoughts. Almost as though a screen erects itself between the conscious and sub-conscious.

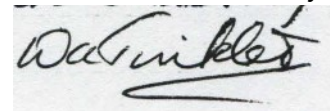
I think my most urgent need is some-thing to which I can anchor my life, some aim or purpose, & I think²¹⁵ perhaps this is the reason I am writing to you, in the hope that you can offer me some guidance out of your wisdom & experience.

Incidentally I was delighted to read that you have such a high regard for the essays of Emerson. His essays have delighted & helped me for some years now, & I often turn to him in my darkest hours.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for a reply. If this is not possible though for any reason, I shall understand & still continue to follow the teachings contained in your book.

I would appreciate your advice on any further line of study, or reading²¹⁶ which would assist me in my search for a small part of my true self, including any books by yourself.

With Respect & Gratitude,
Yours Sincerely,



L05.251

251 - 256

Letter from Dale Torkelson²¹⁷

1635 N. Hobart, Hollywood, 28 Calif²¹⁸

9 - 16 - 66

Dear Saint Brunton

I trust that you are in good health and in a creative mood and have al-ready started writing your next book. I would be most happy to be the one who first receives your next great book, when it comes off of the press.

I have seen you a number of times in the world unseen, having great spiritual Master control power, and directing this vital power force to me.

²¹⁵ Page 247

²¹⁶ Page 249

²¹⁷ Noted with a circled "T" in the upper right.

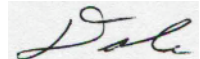
²¹⁸ Address written in PB's hand at the top of the page just under the date.

I have had some very un-ordinary happenings in my life since I last saw you on the physical plane. I do not want to tell you what they are, till I receive a letter from you proving that what I have come in-to is completely true²¹⁹ to the earth plane. I have come in-to contact with people on another plane and one of them claims to be the man I met in 1961. He completely changed my life as you know.

I²²⁰ am very sure that I am in contact with the same man and by your help in telling me where you are aprox, and what you have been doing and what you plan on doing and²²¹ if you have seen me and others that I know on the physical plane, from the unseen side of the earth plane. Part of my contact with this man and others has come about by automatic hand-writing word for word with-out no scribbling and have been given drawings also. I need your help, you can trust me in keeping ever-thing secret.

I do hope I will hear from you very very soon.

In Love & Wisdom
your Brother



Please²²² write to this address.

Dale Torkelson

care of

Miss Anita Ellis

1635 North Hobart

Hollywood 28, California

In thankfulness

Dale Torkelson

L05.257

257 - 264

Letter from Dale Torkelson²²³

3, 10, 66

Dear Father Paul

I pray that this letter finds you in peace and in good health.

²¹⁹ Page 253

²²⁰ PB has marked this paragraph with vertical lines on either side and an "X" in the left margin next to the line.

²²¹ PB has marked this portion of the paragraph with vertical lines on either side and an "X" in the left margin next to the line.

²²² Page 255

²²³ Noted with a circled "Tor" at the top and a "1" in the left corner margin.

I visited the Vedanta Ashram before I received any letters from you.

I thank you ever so much for putting in such a good word for me. Miss Gayatri Devi and I decided it would be better for me to wait till she gets back from her trip. Please forget the Greek Orthodox pamphlets. I have bought your book titles A Search in Secret Egypt and have found it very enlightening.²²⁴ The Adept Ra-Mak-Hotep gave you truths about the tombs of the living. Adepts who shall rise again at the second coming. I have found this very same truth written in another book published in the year 1958. The title of the book is The Voice of Eros, it is clairvoyantly received by Ernest L. Norman. It is a second volume of the place of creation, Publisher is Unarius P.O. Box 41017 Los Angeles 41 Calif.

Madame Blavatsky states thus through her channel Norman.

In the beginning of the Osirian Era, Osiris taught the²²⁵ separation of the spiritual consciousness from the physical body or trance, as you know it now, in such a state those who have so separated themselves could travel in the spiritual dimensions for any length of time which they desired, returning in several weeks or in several months and there in the temple they would write in their books the knowledge & wisdom which they had visited. It is also truly said that at the end of the Osirian Age one hundred of the priests or initiates voluntarily entered into lower astral realms, which were closely connected with the earth plane, after leaving their bodies²²⁶ in a suspended state of animation, suitable embalmed, wrapt & sealed in waxes and gums, & then hidden in a deep subterranean cavern where they remain to this day.

I will be part of what is called the second coming when these priests again re-enter their bodies and manifest themselves to the earth people. Meanwhile they have been working closely with the various nations of the world for the good and the advancement of mankind. I am not working at the present so this is my

[new address²²⁷]

Dale Torkelson

In care of

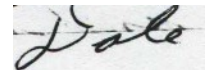
Glad Dunn

1251 College View Drive

Monterey Park Calif

91754

For truth



²²⁴ Page 259

²²⁵ Page 261

²²⁶ Page 263

²²⁷ PB's hand has drawn an arrow pointing to "new address." There is a "(entered" written to the left of the address.

L05.265

265 - 268

Letter from Dale Torkelson²²⁸

4, 12, 66

Dear Friend & Brother

I pray that this letter finds you in better health than ever, for as I see it your work here on earth has just begun, As I said to you when we first bumped into each other that you are a wise man. I did not know how wise you were till I started reading your great books.

All of your books are the most, but I think of them all, I would choose "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga," for it seems to bring out the real Paul Brunton that is to say the real self of PB. I didn't know that you accepted me as a student of yours, I am happy indeed if you really have? For it would be just great to work with you physically or not. I met a man shortly after you left, that says he knows you on the astral plane.

His²²⁹ name is Raumer Torgelson and his address is:

Drawer A D

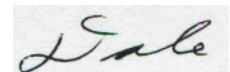
Atascadero, California

93422

He has studied under Paramahansa Yogananda for over ten years while he was alive. He says that Yogananda thought very highly of you. He says of himself that even though Yogananda died, he still has visits with Yogananda now and then from the invisible.

I find Ashram & the like of little use to me. I whole heartedly believe that when man finds his real self he will have evolved the whole world mystery for he is surely at the center of the world.

I have gotten me a big huge apt with kitchen bath and all the works, as long as I live in the world I just as well enjoy life. I'm for truth



P.S. write soon

L05.269

269 - 278

Letter from Mary Thornell²³⁰

²²⁸ Noted with a circled "Tor" at the top and a "1" in the left corner margin.

²²⁹ Page 267

Post Flat. Lapworth, Warwickshire²³¹

November 6th, '62

Dr Paul Brunton.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in the hope of obtaining your advice.

My first reading of your book, 'The Wisdom of the Overself' was in June, 1950, when I was 33 years old, and I have just recently re-read it. In the interim I became an alcoholic and my life became unmanageable. Fifteen months ago I joined Alcoholics Anonymous and since then I have been gradually coming²³² to the surface out of a sea of complete misunderstanding of life.

My first sensible act was to approach the Catholic faith. I had the good fortune to find an utterly sincere and inspired old priest who was of great help and comfort to me and I spent a short time in a convent as a layman. However I could not become a Catholic as I still have intellectual difficulties which have driven me to explore your teaching again. Several books on Buddhist meditation have come to my hand and I know that I am now²³³ on the brink of discovering the answers to the questions which I have been asking all my life.

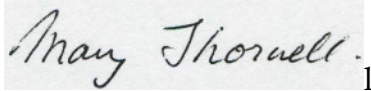
To fill in the background a little, I am married, legally separated from my husband, who is now a very good friend, and I have one grown-up son.

If I may presume on your advice I should be most grateful. Perhaps there is a section of the Buddhist Society in the Birmingham area which I might contact, or maybe you could give me the names of some people to who I could go for help.

May²³⁴ I say a very sincere 'thank you' for the light of your book which has continued to shine for me for so many years although it was dimmed almost to extinction for a long period.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,



Mary Thornell. ¹

Mrs²³⁵ Mary Thornell,

Post Flat,

²³⁰ Noted with a circled "T" in the upper right.

²³¹ "refer to Nell" added by PB himself.

²³² Page 271

²³³ Page 273

²³⁴ Page 275

²³⁵ Page 277

Lapworth Stores,
Lapworth
Solihull,
Warwickshire

L05.279

279 -280

Letter from Peter G. D. du Toit²³⁶

P.O. Box 10246, Johannesburg

21st June, 1966

Paul Brunton, Esq.
United States of America

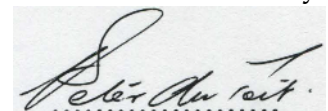
Dear Paul,

Forgive my contempt in calling you Paul but your Inspiration throughout a couple of your books has been such that it feels as if our Acquaintance goes well beyond insignificant formalities.

Somebody mentioned to me casually a few weeks ago that you tried to visit South Africa some time ago – unfortunately, however, I believe you had some problems concerning visas or passports. If at any stage in the near future you require assistance in helping you to comply with South African formalities, then my services are at your disposal.

The urge in meeting you at some time or another proves mutual experiences and interests.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Peter G. D. du Toit', written in a cursive style.

(P.G.D. du Toit.)

L05.281

281 -282

Letter from N. Thuraisingam²³⁷

49, Nissan Road, Inginiyagala. Ceylon.

7th March, 1966

To,

²³⁶ Noted with a circled "T." in the upper right corner.

²³⁷ Noted with a circled "T." in the upper right.

Dr Paul Brunton
c/o American Express
Postbox 671
Athens, Greece.²³⁸

Sir,

I read a very few of your books and the recent book was "The Secret Path."

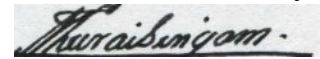
For a very long time I thought of writing to you but the idea did not work.

Now for a few days the urge in me was so much, i.e. requesting me to write from my inner self I am writing this letter. I cannot explain as to why I am writing to you.

Please be good enough to write to me any message that you feel to write to me. And also I request that I would be pleased if you can send me one of your photographs for remembrance.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully.



(N-Thuraisingam)

L05.283

283 -284

Letter in Spanish from Ricardo Martinez de la Torre²³⁹

Miraflores, Lima,

1° de Enero²⁴⁰ de 1960²⁴¹

Doctor
Paul Brunton
Boxe 339, Times Square Station
New York, 36. USA

Estimado doctor:

On²⁴² September 9 last, I wrote to you telling of my interest in following, under your direction the esoteric philosophic studies, providing some personal information.

²³⁸ Address found on page 282.

²³⁹ Noted with a circled "T." in the upper right.

²⁴⁰ Enero is January in Spanish.

²⁴¹ "Enclosed {illegible} I returned." noted by PB himself at top of page.

²⁴² The letter has been translated into English, with translation typed between the lines in Spanish.

I ratify the contents of my letter referred to, and repeat my request, which is not simple curiosity or momentary impulse but a fervent desire to come nearer to and get to the bottom of the Truth to which I have consecrated myself in my search for many years of my life.

etc. etc.

y S. S.



Ricardo Martinez²⁴³ de la Torre
General Borgono²⁴⁴ 394,
Miraflores, Lima- Peru²⁴⁵

L05.285

285 -286

Letter in Spanish from Ricardo Martinez de la Torre²⁴⁶

Letter is from Miraflores, Lima dated 9 September 1959 and address to Doctor Paul Brunton Boxe 339, Times Square Station New York, 36 USA and needs to be translated.

Extract: "Habiendo leído²⁴⁷ su libro Mas Alla²⁴⁸ del Yoga, me he sentido muy interesado en establecer relación con Ud., con la plena seguridad de que por intermedio suyo me será²⁴⁹ posible continuar mis investigaciones y experiencias que en las actuales circunstancias, tienen muchos puntos de contacto con sus actividades."

L05.287

287 -290

Letter from Robert S. Tatum²⁵⁰

US Army Engineer Supply Center²⁵¹ Far East, Apo 503, San Francisco, Calif.²⁵²

7 August 1957

²⁴³ Martínez in the original, diacritical removed.

²⁴⁴ Borgoño in the original, diacritical removed.

²⁴⁵ Perú in the original, diacritical removed.

²⁴⁶ Noted with a circled "T." in the upper right.

²⁴⁷ "leído" in the original, diacritical removed throughout extract.

²⁴⁸ "Más Allá" in the original.

²⁴⁹ "será" in the original.

²⁵⁰ Noted with a circled "T." in the upper left.

²⁵¹ Supply & Stock Control Division, PS included in address.

²⁵² "mail selected Oct {illegible} to be answered" added by PB himself.

Dear Dr Brunton,

It has been quite some time since I wrote you last and I haven't received a reply, hence this letter.

In my first letter I described an experience which I had and also asked you many questions. As I look back at the questions I realize that there were many which have been answered by reading all of your books. The {illegible} unanswered ones are, as I see now, of no importance in the attainment of ultimate spiritual consciousness. Even though I sense intuitively and through logical reasoning, that the subject matter presented in your books, The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga and The Wisdom of the Overself is all conclusive and necessary in the attainment of spiritual consciousness, still have the desire to read the Occult literature. This desire is mostly out of curiosity and provokes no real enthusiasm for any of the exercises advocated or a desire for deviation from your prescribed meditation practices. The material, however, is so closely related in some ways, but very diverse in others that I wanted to obtain your viewpoints. I have assumed that the related matter was gathered from similar sources to which you obtained²⁵³ your knowledge. Further that the diverse portions were the writer's attempts at a conclusion which he failed to find through lack of tenacity and lack of ability to interpret that which was at hand. Please, Dr Brunton, do not feel that I am trying to judge you or use you as a critic merely for reasons of satisfying an idle curiosity. I am not; I hold you in deeper respect than any person in the world, more so than any one I have ever met and anything you write holds the most profound meaning for me. It is my deep felt desire to meet you and I humbly request that you reply to this letter. Getting back to the books I was mentioning; they are: THE KYBALION by the "Three Initiates," published by the Yoga press of Chicago. The various works by Yogi Ramacharaka published also by the Yoga Publication Society of Chicago. In Search of the Miraculous by P. D. Ouspensky this concerns the theories and teachings of G. I. GURDJIEFF. Please tell me what you think of these books. If you have never read them please advise me and I will send you a copy of each.

When I didn't hear from you after posting the first letter I wrote to E. P. Dutton requesting your address so that I could correspond directly. E. P. Dutton advised that they had probably forwarded my letter to your office and that they assured you were somewhere in India - therefore it was impossible to give me your present address. Could you tell me what you do²⁵⁴ on occasions such as the aforementioned and if you are still writing?

As I mentioned in my first letter to you - I am an American, 27 year old, working for the U. S. Civil Service in Japan. I am living in Yokohama. Is there any possibility

²⁵³ Page 288

²⁵⁴ Page 289

that you will visit Japan? If so please give me details. You would be more than welcome to stay as my guest as long as you like. I am extremely interested in all of the classic music and I have a record collection which I am sure you would enjoy.

If you don't intend to visit Japan could you give me your itinerary so that I may possibly meet you in some other country? I would be very grateful.

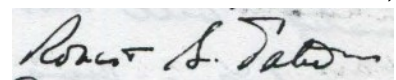
You are the most inspiring writer whom I have ever read and your books will be responsible for my spiritual attainment long before the evolutionary cycle forces me there. At the present time I am doing nothing towards that goal for several, not very cogent, psychological reasons. However, at the end of this month I am going on a full schedule of spiritual endeavor which I have estimated will not end for approximately ten years. I am going to give up eating meat, fish and fowl completely. I have found that not this²⁵⁵ flesh food greatly enhances the spiritual aspirations. Incidentally, could you advise me whether or not you included eggs in the "dairy products" which you mentioned in The Spiritual Crisis of Man as substitutes for meat, etc.?

I cut your picture out of the jacket covering The Spiritual Crisis of Man and am going to use it to gaze at in the manner you prescribed in Wisdom of the Overself. Do you still consider this feasible? Do you think this will put me in closer contact with you?

I almost forgot! There are several books published which were written by George Adamski concerning "Flying Saucers." One book in particular which I found very interesting was Inside the Space Ships. In this book Mr Adamski related how he was taken up in the space ships several times and how he met several "Masters." Some of the things he said sounded very much like your writings. If you haven't read this book please let me know and I will send it to you.

Again, Dr Brunton, let me implore you to answer this letter as your doing so would give me unparalleled joy.

Your sincere friend,



Robert S. Tatum, DAC

L05.291

291 -294

Letter from Bianca Remy de Turique²⁵⁶

22 Via Piediluco 00199 Rome Italy²⁵⁷

21 Dec 1968

²⁵⁵ Page 290

²⁵⁶ Noted with a circled "T" in the upper right.

²⁵⁷ Country added by PB himself.

Dear Mr Brunton

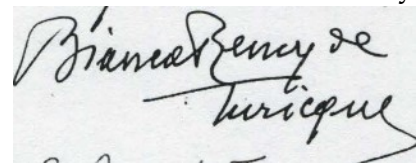
I want to send you my best wishes for Christmas and New Year, and at the same time to express my feelings of appreciation for your work which is expressed in all your books so well.

I always remember my encounter with you in Lugano in January 1967 and the very interesting conversation I had with you.

I still persist in my daily meditation in the morning²⁵⁸ and in spite of the results which are not too very satisfactory so far, I feel confident that the day will come when I can really enjoy that state of beatitude to which this practice must lead.

With my greatest devotion

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bianca Remy de Turique". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L05.295

295 -296

Letter from Bianca Remy de Turique²⁵⁹

22 Via Piediluco Rome

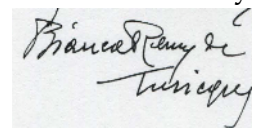
20 Dec 1967

Dear Dr Brunton,

Now that Christmas is approaching I feel the need to tell you how much I owe you for having put me on the right way.

Every day, thanks to your writings and the advice you were so kind to give me a year ago, brings me nearer to the meaning of all things – I feel restful and think of you with gratitude. With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and also a good 1968

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bianca Remy de Turique". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L05.297

297 -298

²⁵⁸ Page 293

²⁵⁹ Noted with a circled "T" in the upper right.

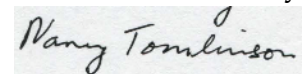
Letter from Nancy Tomlinson²⁶⁰
Mrs F. S. Tomlinson 1 Beekman Place New York 22²⁶¹
27 October

Dear Mr Brunton

A note of explanation about the enclosed letter, which comes from an invalid acquaintance of mine in West Berlin where we lived 1959 – 61. My husband is now posted here as British Consul General.

Miss St Paul sent me this letter some months ago and it was only the other day that I was able to find an address (from our local bookshop) to which to forward it.

Yours sincerely



L05.299

299 – 300
Letter from Miss I. Helen St. Paul
217 {illegible} 1 Berlin 19 Germany²⁶²
11 – 4 – 65

Dear Mr Brunton,

During a time of blood and horrors I came to read one of your books and in a mystic way found his way back to me after twenty years. My great hope – this letter may not be written too late.

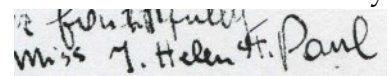
Since childhood I am suffering – I see things beyond the range of ordinary knowledge –

This second sight {choseth} me through my whole life and I would love to send you a few of those “pictures” as I call it – special those during world war II –

I know at “Home” I would find “{fairies}” but here in foreign country – so I am always alone but not lonely –

Looking forward for a short reply

I remain,
Yours faithfully



²⁶⁰ Noted with a circled “T.” in the upper right.

²⁶¹ Address found on page 298.

²⁶² “yes, ask what it is now” noted by PB himself.

L05.301

301 – 302

Extract of letter in French from Dr Tahra Bey²⁶³

Asking to see his book *A Search in Secret Egypt*²⁶⁴ sent from Paris le 21 Novembre 1935.

Extract: “Je vous remercie d’avoir bien voulu consacrer²⁶⁵ deux chapitres pour moi, et je serais certes très²⁶⁶ honoré²⁶⁷ de recevoir une copie de votre ouvrage comme vous me proposez.”

L05.303

303 – 304

Extract of letter in French from Dr Tahra Bey²⁶⁸

Letter is thanking PB for sending him “*A Search in Secret Egypt*” and inviting him to visit him in Nice over the summer sent from Paris, le Nice, on May 19 1937.

Extract: “C’est avec un vif Plaisir que j’ai reçu²⁶⁹ votre livre A Search in Secret Egypt” don’t je vous remercie vivement.

Vous savez que malheureusement, je ne comprends pas l’Anglais, mais j’ai demandé²⁷⁰ à²⁷¹ mes amis, qui ont bien voulu me traduire, et qui ont été²⁷² enchantés.²⁷³”

L05.305

305 – 306

Letter from W. Tudor²⁷⁴ Pole

W Tudor Pole & Co., 2 & 3 Duke Street, Saint James’s, London, S.W.1

4 – 1 – 43

Dear Mr Brunton,

Many thanks for your letter of 26 Aug/42 to hand today. One wonders where these letters get hung up but it is remarkable that the majority do reach their

²⁶³ Noted with a “T” in the upper right corner with a check mark on the left.

²⁶⁴ “send hm copy S.E” is noted at top by PB himself.

²⁶⁵ “consacré” in the original.

²⁶⁶ “trés” in the original.

²⁶⁷ “honoré” in the original.

²⁶⁸ Noted with a “T” in the upper right.

²⁶⁹ “reçu” in the original.

²⁷⁰ “demandé” in the original.

²⁷¹ “à” in the original.

²⁷² “été” in the original.

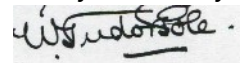
²⁷³ “enchantés” in the original.

²⁷⁴ Noted with a circled “T” in the upper right and a circled “P” in the upper left.

destinations ultimately. Much gratitude for passing on our message to China. We should like to feel that awakened people in that great & sorely tried land could join with us in a daily minute of prayer & silence. We value your sympathy & interest & I hope that Destiny will bring you to England before long. Little as such an idea can be understood by the masses in any country, yet it remains true that Silence is the only common denominator known to us, where all can meet freely & without rancor – The ideals of Brotherhood & real Peace & Wisdom must surely be borne in Silence before they can begin to manifest in the outer world.

Every good wish for you & your work.

Yours very Sincerely,



L05.307

307 – 308

Handwritten note by PB²⁷⁵

{illegible} (XII)

{For his} letter & memory

- {illegible}

- body drawn out of Me & not vice versa

- C

L05.309

309 – 310

Incomplete letter written by Tony Du Verger²⁷⁶

Undated

...²⁷⁷ been comforting and encouraging illusion on the pilgrimage, but only once have I felt completion. That has remained with me ever since as a reality, not merely as a memory, to act as a guiding light...²⁷⁸

L05.311

311 – 314

²⁷⁵ Noted with a check mark in the upper right.

²⁷⁶ Noted with a “(3” in the upper right and TOPIC written in PB’s hand across the top.

²⁷⁷ Previous lines are missing.

²⁷⁸ Subsequent lines are missing.

Letter from Tony Du Verger
c/o the Westminster Bank Ltd. Tothill Street London S.W.1
7th March, 1965

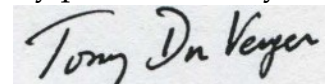
Dear Dr Brunton,

I²⁷⁹ have been re-reading your book "The Wisdom of the Overself" and Chapter XII "The Unveiling of Reality" the section on "The Mysterious Void," rather went over my head. Then it came to me that I have had twice the following experience. I was in deep sleep and yet I was conscious. Everything around me was black and darkness and yet I could see. Nothing moved, all was a great stillness and yet, this is the only way I can put it, I could almost hear the silence. There was nothing yet there was something. I was neither happy or unhappy.²⁸⁰ I can't really describe it in words. But perhaps this is something like the Void? I know you are very busy, but if you have a moment I would appreciate it if you could write me on this point.

I have been going through a very troubled period and yet, without any knowing effort on my part, there has been a great quietness and confidence inside me as to the final outcome. This does not mean that at times I did not feel desperate, but always the balance has been restored. Once I even called out in despair, in language hardly fit for human-beings much less the Overself, but a miracle took place and that call was answered. I have never forgotten the experience I told you about, when I got into my car and for an instant was completely fulfilled and completed.

I now know I must return to the World-Mind, but coupled with this I have a real desire²⁸¹ to help other people. My problem is "How" rather than "When." However I must be patient, and as you once said, "Turn it over to the Supreme Power." This path is indeed a difficult one, because human-beings are so accustomed to deluding Themselves that it has become second nature to them, and the ego is ever present. But I now know you are right when you say mankind can walk with God here and now. I am only at the beginning of the path, but your books have helped me a great deal.

May peace be with you,



P.S. I am sorry I was so pompous about Swami Premananda. He is doing much that is needed in this world of ours.

²⁷⁹ There is water damage on this first page causing the ink to run.

²⁸⁰ Page 312

²⁸¹ Page 313

L05.315

315 – 316

Article in a French language newspaper *Feuille D'Avis de Lausanne*

Topic is the arrest of Louis Kalloupis in California that was enclosed in the letter below
from Tony Du Verger.

Extract: None

L05.317

317 – 324

Letter from Tony Du Verger

c/o the Westminster Bank Ltd. Tothill Street London S.W.1

13th January, 1965

Dear Dr Brunton,

I am writing to you from Switzerland, but the above address will always find me.

I am enclosing a cutting from the *Feuille d'Avis de Lausanne* which is self explanatory. I believe it is this sort of item, that appears from time to time in newspapers all over the world, that makes people wonder if "God" really exists. We are all within the World – Mind²⁸² and the love and justice that surrounds us because of this is ever present. Even in madness the Overself is within us. This in a way is the crucifixion of Christ all over again. But what about those, like myself, who are feebly groping towards the Light? We need help now. Perhaps you could write a book exploring this aspect of the love of the World – Mind. It is difficult to put this down on paper using our ordinary daily language without appearing mad! For me it is not so difficult, having experienced that feeling that has no-name, because no matter what happens even if my brain cannot grasp the truth my faith remains.

I²⁸³ have had several booklets from Swami Premananda and I can only say that at the time my Ego must have been very much in evidence! I believe he is a force for goodness, but not for me. I hope this does not sound too awful and pompous.

At the moment I am at a cross-roads in my life and can only leave everything to the World-Mind. This does not mean I am being purely fatalistic and accepting everything.

I am sorry I was not able to contact you again before you left, but I²⁸⁴ had so many things on my mind at the time that it was not possible.

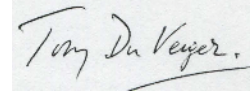
²⁸² Page 319

²⁸³ Page 321

²⁸⁴ Page 323

Perhaps we shall meet again – I sincerely hope so – but if you have a moment to spare I would appreciate it if you could write me.

May peace be with you,



L05.325

325 – 328

Letter from Tony Du Verger
c/o the Westminster Bank Ltd. Tothill Street London S.W.1
5th April, 1965

Dear Dr Brunton,

I have recently been going through a very difficult time, even being without a job for the last few months. It has however had its good side in that it has given me a further opportunity for prolonged reflection. Much of what has happened is really my own fault and the lesson has been quite forcibly impressed on me this time. It has also shown me that I have strayed from the real goal and rather tended to wander down some attractive side path with the usual result. Mental stagnation. I have therefore returned to my original starting point, where for the first time in my life I felt complete, fulfilled. There is no short-cut or easy path to the Overself. It is not sufficient to want to be good and, without patience and the understanding that the Overself is prepared to wait many millions of years for²⁸⁵ us to learn our lesson here, then we shall make a difficult task even more so. Worse still we can fall into the other pit of laziness, self-satisfaction and even hallucinations.

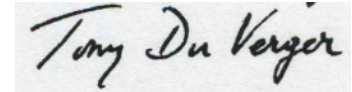
Life is indeed a paradox. First of all you have to find the secret path to the Overself with your mind and then you must discard mind in order to live in eternity's sunrise! The greatest shock I experienced was when I finally understood that in the end I am the Overself and everything that means. I am one with the Universe and the hidden Observer.

I shall be going to work and live in Germany on the 1st June and my address will be as follows: -

c/o Mathers International Gmfh
7 – 9 Fellnerstrasse
6 Frankfurt AM
Tel: 55:06:91

Should you be visiting Frankfurt this summer I would appreciate it very much if we could meet. I do appreciate how busy you are, but I would like to be able to discuss one or two things with you.

May peace be with you.



L05.329

329 – 330

Letter from J. L Varma²⁸⁶

Varma makes corrections for the books *The Quest of the Overself* and *The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga* but also thanks him for writing such good books.

Extract: "I have read with great pleasure & benefit the books written by Dr Paul Brunton & published by you..."²⁸⁷

I want to draw your attention to the printer's devil on page 170 of the book 'The Quest of the Overself' Fourteenth Impression 1961."

L05.331

331 – 332

Letter from George and Helen {Forsdyke²⁸⁸}

40 Kawau Rd One Tree Hill Auckland SE4 New Zealand

15-3-64

Dear Dr Paul,

Auckland is not the same and we do miss your presence very much.

Helen is worried in case the hot climate of India might affect your health.

Thank you very much for your kindness; and the question and answers at our home, and the Peace is still with us.

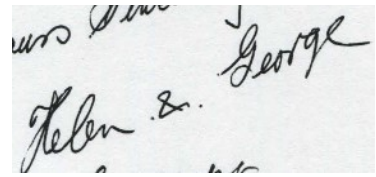
Peace be with you.

Yours sincerely

²⁸⁶ Noted with a circled "V." in the upper right corner.

²⁸⁷ Content in original left out of this extract; review original for full text.

²⁸⁸ Noted with a circled "V." in the upper right.

Handwritten signatures of Helen and George in cursive script.

ack receipt
NZ Picture Calendar²⁸⁹

L05.333

333 - 334
Letter from Seeta Vaid²⁹⁰
Undated

For the New Year. '68

Really wish to meet you somewhere sometime, somehow.

Seeta²⁹¹ Vaid
J F Kennedy Apts
#3.
Camelot Dr.
Endwell,
Endicott
NY
USA

L05.335

335 - 354
Letter from Ruth Vetter²⁹²
68 Ezra Avenue, Waterloo, Ontario Canada
Jan. 12th, 1964

Dear Dr Brunton:

Last summer I happened to pick up your book "Discover Yourself" at the library and have read since what other of your books where available. And ever since reading that first book I had the feeling I should write to you and tell you how much I enjoy your books - for the many things I have begun to understand since then and the feeling

²⁸⁹ Written in PB's hand

²⁹⁰ Noted with a "V" in the upper right.

²⁹¹ Sender name and address noted by PB himself.

²⁹² Noted with a "V" in the upper right.

of hope and essential goodness there is in everything that they convey. But still there are so many things I do not understand, things that puzzle me. For instance: what was the sense of the slaying of the two thousand 2 year old boys for Jesus in Bethlehem? If I had lived there I am not sure I would have accepted Jesus because it seems to me that bloodshed for any cause can not be good even much more a bloodshed of little children who would not in any case understand that this²⁹³ might be for something they did in earlier lives, it would not do anything for their spiritual awakening. Or could it? In any case all suffering of very small children seems to me rather senseless. I have often wondered about healers, you know ministers in churches who heal by the laying on of hands and different such people. Is that right and good? I mean if most diseases are only our deeds coming back to us, have we then the right to make use of such a person's healing power? Or doctors being able now to help so many sick people, so many diseases even wiped out, how does this fit with one's {bearing}? It is true that there are more accidents and people suffer from them but on the whole people are far healthier. And prayer – is it wrong or rather does it help at all if one prays for other people? It seems so selfish to me to pray for my own spiritual enlightenment and not for that of my family and especially for that of prejudiced and hating people. Or to pray for people who are in great distress through some disaster?

What²⁹⁴ about these prayer groups that pray day and night for whoever they are requested to pray and there have been some miraculous recoveries?

As I said at the beginning of the letter, every time I read one of your books I feel I should write to you but I have never yet written to the author of a book and as I did not really know what to write did not do so. However, lately there is a personal problem and I cannot put it out of my mind and I don't know who else to turn to, so perhaps just by writing to you – even if you do not answer, because in your prefatory to 'Discover Yourself' you say you do not want any followers, disciples, etc. and of course I have no right to expect an answer – I will be quieter in my mind, knowing I have done all I can. Last May I happened to see an announcement in the paper that a Swami Devanand Maharaj was giving a lecture and he wanted to establish a branch of the Spiritual Regeneration Movement (which is worldwide, the centre being in Rishikesh with²⁹⁵ his Holiness Maharishi Mahesh Yogi as its head.) I had just begun to turn my thoughts towards Indian Philosophy being somehow discontent with reading novels and yet I love to read. Swami said it was a simple method of turning one's attention inside, of finding quiet, peace, energy inside oneself, of thereby also helping to lessen world tension, etc. Perhaps you have heard of the movement? Well, my husband and I and our 7 year old son were initiated, - one is given a word which one has to repeat in one's

²⁹³ Page 337

²⁹⁴ Page 339

²⁹⁵ Page 341

mind for ½ hour twice a day, sitting quietly. I knew nothing about it, you see and Swami kept repeating nothing would happen and what ever did happen would be all right. As soon as I sat down to meditate with Swami all sorts of things did happen to me – never, not then or afterwards to my husband or son – a strong current going through my hands, the air around me was going r-r-r- or shaking, I can't explain it. It was as though with my closed eyes I could see snow falling around me or somehow spreading centrally from me outward. 3 days later while²⁹⁶ meditating there seemed to rise from my seat something which forced its way up through the spine into the head, that really frightened me and I wrote to Swami also telling of other experiences, some I mentioned already and some as though waves were passing over me, buzzings around my ears and so on. Swami wrote back saying everything was fine, not to pay any attention to it all. That is really easier said than done if one was as unsuspecting as I was. The first time I meditated it seems I was granted the inner quietness, only I did not realise it and afterwards it seems a bit of a paradox to be aware somehow that everything was still and no thoughts, when it seemed to me there, to be aware of it must mean in spite of it that I was thinking. So I did not mention this to anybody until last fall when I went to Toronto to talk to a meditation guide and she was surprised and told me this was the goal of it all. For a few days at the beginning – I cannot remember exactly when after starting meditation nor for how long – I began to feel peace such as I had not²⁹⁷ known for a long time, everything seemed brighter, music that I always loved but never really understood took on new meaning, and so forth. I was not consciously looking for anything like that, I was very surprised by all this.²⁹⁸ Then after a while I noticed that I was just as jumpy and nervous as before and I thought it was just my imagination this sharpened understanding of all and so naturally could not last and thought it really was impossible that meditation could so soon have had any effects. Now this is always tantalizing me – was it my imagination? Soon after I began to notice that an allergy to cold which I had for about 12 or 13 years began to get worse, headaches increased and became far more intensive, slowly I began to notice I developed a different kind of nervousness from what I had (which in turn had developed during the Cuban Crisis when at any moment we expected to have atom bombs over us) a sort of inner trembling, which was especially worse right after meditation, a bad tension inside which made me shout at the children. Twice I had a terrible experience during meditation, I got terribly dizzy, everything²⁹⁹ seemed to be whirling around in my head and then something seemed to come rushing towards me, closing over my head as though it would crush me. And I thought all this can not be

²⁹⁶ Page 343

²⁹⁷ Page 345

²⁹⁸ There is an "X" here and a sentence in the left margin noted with an "X" which I have inserted here.

²⁹⁹ Page 347

right any more, when I heard that his Holiness Maharishi would be in Toronto for 1½ days, I went alone but did not manage to get a private interview, he was so busy and I just could not bring myself to tell him of all my troubles in front of all the new initiates, it might frighten them and really I believe in Maharishi's sincerity and I just could not do it. I did find out I had said the word silently in my mouth and throat when I was supposed to be saying it only in my mind. So I thought perhaps my troubles will be over. But everything was getting worse continuous head aches I could hardly leave the house because my allergy was so bad (I can't take pills for it, they make me sick), I often woke up from sleep with the feeling I was falling into a black bottomless pit, there developed a twitching of muscles, then whole limbs and whole body first during meditation, then upon³⁰⁰ going to sleep and it would keep me awake. Then I finally gave meditation up – last October. I wrote to Maharishi twice and to Swami once, never getting any answer. As soon as I stopped meditation, that falling into bottomless space stopped and slowly everything began to improve. Except these twitchings, some nights they are absent and I sleep well, other nights they keep waking me up, sometimes every 15 minutes, sometimes just a few times upon going to sleep. If only somebody could and would explain to me what this is all about. What did I do wrong? Did I do some permanent damage to myself somehow that I will always have these twitchings now? Is all this a sign that meditation is not for me or just not this kind? Just now, so long as I still have some remnants of bad effects of the other type I am afraid to try anything else, even praying the way you advise by just stilling the mind. Believe me, it was terrible for a while in the fall, depressed and trembling, always a headache and no one to turn to, at first always³⁰¹ hoping for an answer from Maharishi and none coming. Wishing a thousand times I had never started with what I knew nothing about. And yet reading your books make me long so for finding and going the right way but I am so bewildered. If only I had money to travel I would go to Maharishi perhaps by just being in his presence I would find the right way to meditation again. But then you warn against people who are unstable to do any meditation or other exercises. Do you think I belong to that group? I never considered myself to be overly nervous or excitable and while I worked – I am a nurse – I did not easily lose my head. At home too, I like the quiet, we have no television, the radio usually is not on from one week to the next, we don't go out much except to a concert or very occasional visiting of friends. I was first the Berlin crisis that began to make me jittery and the Cuba crisis made it worse and really sent me trying to find a way out of all this and reading your books made me realize and begin to understand about the Overself. But understanding and believing it³⁰² apparently is not enough, somehow

³⁰⁰ Page 349

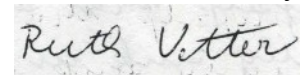
³⁰¹ Page 351

³⁰² Page 353

telling myself that all is just an illusion does not really sink in, it is only in the surface of my mind. How I wish I could stop thinking and puzzling about things and just accept them. But I can always see the chain-reaction of one thing leading to another and so on and man being the initiator it just gets worse. And when you write that even World-war II was really for the good of people, for their awakening, I get so terribly sad thinking that for instance German people have learned nothing, nothing whatsoever, on the contrary. I can say that and with especial sadness because I was born in Austria and have relatives in Austria and Germany. To my mind bloodshed never accomplishes anything it only leads to ever widening circles of bloodshed.

Forgive me for rambling on so, and your books have helped me a lot. And of course I have to study them through much better than till now, so far I have only read them through eagerly. Dr Brunton, if you could spare a little time answering me and perhaps give me some advice about my unfortunate meditation experience I know I could³⁰³ never thank you enough.

Sincerely



L05.355

355 - 356

Letter from Gillian M. B. Wegerif³⁰⁴

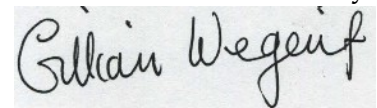
130 The Wicket. Mullins Estate Mullin's Lane. Dibden Purlieu Hants³⁰⁵

13.12.63

Dear Dr Brunton,

I would so like to show you some paintings and ask your advice about them. The theme of them is mystical and they are quite newly painted. Please let me know if I can show them to you.

Yours sincerely,



L05.357

357 - 360

³⁰³ Page 354

³⁰⁴ Noted with a circled "W" in the upper right.

³⁰⁵ Hampshire

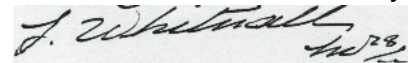
Letter from Whitnall³⁰⁶
299 Hunstly Road Leeds 10 Yorks.³⁰⁷
2-10-57³⁰⁸

Dear Sir.³⁰⁹

On behalf of a friend in India {whom} has read all Paul Brunton's books wishes me to find {out} if it is possible to buy a photograph of her favourite author & if so please will you state price & I will send money for same.

Trusting³¹⁰ I am not putting you to any inconvenience.

Yours faithfully



L05.361

361 - 362
Letter from Ronald Walker³¹¹
8 Deanswood Place, Moortown Leeds 17 Yorks England
23.8.72

Dear Dr Paul Brunton

I am writing to thank you for your books they marked a turning Point in my life. I am 32 years old. Married with one boy aged 7. I am a self-employed gardener.

My main interest has always been the search for truth and knowledge. As a child I suffered a broken home which caused a great deal of distress which in turn was the cause of various complexes. However my wife has been largely responsible for my present contentment.

There is one problem that has puzzled me for some time. From birth I have possessed a birthmark almost in the centre of my forehead it is about this size of this circle and is a light brown colour.

Has³¹² this any significance or is it a meaningless coincidence, in the last two years aprox my wife has also got a mark in the centre of her forehead it is small white raised lump about as big as this o.³¹³

³⁰⁶ Noted with a "W" in the upper right.

³⁰⁷ Yorkshire

³⁰⁸ "tell him get free au on cover SPpaperback" added by PB himself.

³⁰⁹ There is a mail stamp from Hutchinson House on the letter to the right of salutation.

³¹⁰ Page 359

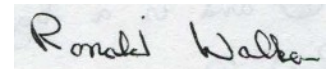
³¹¹ Noted with a "W" in the upper right corner.

³¹² Page 362

There is one other thing to ask, a friend of mine swears by the cult of Scientology and claims it is a sure way to enlightenment, however I feel it is not the way for me. I would welcome your comments on this cult.

I do not practice any form of formal meditation or yoga, but as I work long hours alone I meditate at work to some depth. I can't claim to have any mystical experiences, but sometimes I feel to be gently pushed along a particular path. However please don't think I am making any claims about myself I am no better and probably a lot worse than the average person. Once again thanking you for your help.

Yours



L05.363

363 - 364

Letter from John M. Watkins³¹⁴ (Father John) to Mrs Hesper Le Gallienne Hutchinson
Publisher and Bookseller, 21, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London W.C.2.
{14}/2/68

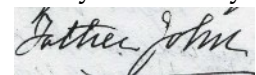
Dear Hesper,

Nigel tells me that Brunton wishes to come & see me on March 21st. I shall be glad to see him but do not want to go up to {Fifty} John's Ave it is rather a bother to me getting about in town so perhaps he will come to Cecil Court about 3-30. & I would take him to some quiet-place nearby to tea, or if he prefers it, about 5-30 when the usual turmoil is over & it is fairly quiet here. He might let me know which time suits him.

I hope you are well, not blown away, frozen or snowed³¹⁵ under, a really bleak day here.

Our love & kindest wishes to you & to Mr Hutchinson

Always Sincerely,



L05.365

365 - 366

Letter from Nigel W.³¹⁶ to Mrs Hesper Le Gallienne

³¹³ A filled in circle drawn here describing size of the lump.

³¹⁴ Noted with a "W" in the upper right and a line linking the writer's name with the Telegram address on the stationery, presumably by PB.

³¹⁵ Page 364

³¹⁶ Noted with a circled "W" in the upper right.

21, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.
Easter 1951

[to H. Hutchinson]³¹⁷

I should have got the statement off last week, but somehow we became swamped with people and with work. One afternoon it was quite fantastic. There was a sweet old man with the most beautiful white hair and the slight grouchy, gruffish manner affected by some elderly people. He was Smith, a bookseller from Long Beach and a branch establishment in Cincinnati, he advertises himself as "Acres of Books." He pottered round for about three hours piling up the oddest collection of what I should call dud New Thought stuff, chattering to himself and anybody who was around. At the same time there was a sleek bespectacled young man, with an air of quiet efficiency, he was the buyer from Brentano's of Chicago. He and Smith had a little competition with each other for the use of the ladder. When one got down and left it to put a pile of books aside, the other would quickly grab it and nip up to the top for all the world like a cheeky monkey. To keep these two company there were a young man and his wife, from Los Angeles. He was the Second Secretary to one of the US Embassies, staying in Surrey and on the way back to report to the State Department in Washington. These two pottered the whole afternoon, going out to tea and returning. All the time there were, of course, the usual customers in and out. All rather entertaining, but a bit exhausting for me and afterwards there is all the packing and mailing and accounting to organise.

I am really happy that³¹⁸ Leigh is so pleased with your work. He's no fool and his judgement is sound. I don't think he is a profound student, he can't afford to be too one-pointed so far as any particular subject is concerned, but he is sound enough to recognize a good piece of work and he has the necessary experience to know what his public needs. He is quite genuine and is truly anxious to raise the level of the periodical as far as he is able.

The house that you have in view sounds attractive enough, but what a price! What does Bobby think of it?

We had Christopher home for the afternoon yesterday - Sunday - he was in good form and is looking forward to his Easter holidays, which begin on the 3rd. April. Our house seems to turn more and more in to an eating house and hotel. We've had somebody or other staying here since the end of January, now that Christopher will soon be home and his room occupied, we are putting another room into commission. Dr Jeanne Palmer, whom, I think you have met at Cecil Court - a very vivacious

³¹⁷ Written PB's hand.

³¹⁸ This paragraph is noted with a vertical line for emphasis in the left margin, presumably by Hesper for PB.

psychiatrist – has been in hospital with some spinal trouble and is coming out shortly and will need some care, so she's coming to stay with us for a few weeks until she is able to gain enough strength to run her own flat, this weekend we are looking after the daughter of my friend Jeanne Hirst, whom you may remember as Jeanne Duff. The daughter is at the Webber-Douglas Dramatic school nearby and she's staying with us while her³¹⁹ mother is away.

Did I tell you of my tea-party at the Sesame Club a short while ago. My hostess was about 80, one of the other guests – an old friend of Father John was to celebrate her 90th birthday during the following week, the other guest was in her seventies. And what gay old ladies they were, I thoroughly enjoyed myself and flirted with them all. The occasion was a lecture by dear old Dr Margaret Murray on witchcraft – unfortunately I couldn't stay for the lecture.

Eileen's surname is Seignior – Miss – and her address is 281, Chelsea Cloisters, Sloane Avenue, Chelsea, S.W.3. It is kind of you, I'm sure a small parcel will be welcome and a little letter. It will help to make her feel that she's remembered. Klim and cheese sounds excellent and perhaps a tin of bacon is what I suggest.

If you see³²⁰ PB again, please give him my warm greetings, I should so much like a long talk with him again. I have never forgotten our long walk through town together and our talk. His earnest sincerity and detached kindly comments on things and people made a great impression which I have not forgotten.

The other evening Dinah and I went with the Liebenroods from T. Wells³²¹ to some centenary celebration at the Ramakrishna Vedanta mission. Kenneth Walker spoke – not very well – followed by a queer old boy, Sir John Stewart Wallace who spoke – also not very well. Then dear little Swami Ghanananda spoke, although his English was a little queer he made quite an impression. He's very sincere and one felt that he did know something, but the meeting on the whole was a little drab, the people not very inspiring and the room, which was in the Kingsway Hall basement, not very cheerful. Afterwards we found a rather pleasant little café where we had a Bass each to cheer ourselves up.

There's too much talk going on round me at the moment for me to write more at the moment. Oh, I must tell you that Dinah booked seats for "Kiss Me Kate" on Saturday week for Christopher and me and herself, of course. A special Easter holiday treat for Chris. We are looking forward to it and I'll send a special greeting to Ann, bless her. I do hope that one day she and Ricky will come over and I'll take them to some more 'low dives.'

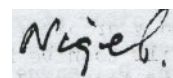
My love to you Hesper dear, I could do with a sight of you.

³¹⁹ Page 366

³²⁰ This paragraph has a box drawn around it.

³²¹ Tunbridge Wells

As ever



need not return³²²

L05.367

367 - 368

Letter from Gerald Yorke³²³

The Hutchinson Publishing Group 178-202 Great Portland Street, London W1

Undated

Dear Mr Brunton

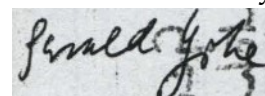
Many thanks for your letter of Nov 23. Do please continue to bring typescripts that you think worthwhile to my attention, for I value your opinion.

I read a MS by Arthur W Osborne about a year ago and turned it down, but now forget the details. One has to develop the art of forgetting anything one has turned down or one's mind gets cluttered with rubbish. You would be amazed at the appalling nonsense that comes my way as the arbiter for what Rider and Co publish. But I may well have missed something valuable in this instance. I had just had my allocation of books to publish cut in half, so that my list for 1961 had to be spread over into 1962 and so could not accept anything that would not clearly sell in the range of 5000 copies in its first year. But things are easing up for me in 1963. So I have written to ask Mr Osborne to resubmit his typescript if it has not been accepted elsewhere.

My trouble may well be that the market for books on Precognition is on the wane, while that for books on Buddhism and Hinduism is on the increase, so that I may turn it down a second time. But I would like to read it again.

We all wish you would write something more yourself.

Yours sincerely



Gerald Yorke Literary Adviser
Rider and Co

Paul³²⁴ Brunton
Box K-819
Perth

³²² Written in Hester's hand.

³²³ Noted with a "Y" and "ARCH" enclosed in a box outline in the upper right in PB's hand.

³²⁴ Page 368

W. Australia

L05.369

369 - 372

Letter from Alice R. Windiate³²⁵

Mrs James Windiate 44725 E. Florida Avenue Hemet, California³²⁶

June 14, 1962

Dear Dr Brunton -

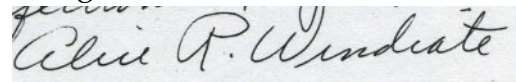
May I quote Jim: "Alice, with all the millions of persons in this country - why isn't there a single spiritual teacher?" My poor darling! He has read and studied all of your books until he has a truly great mental understanding of your philosophy - and you would be amazed to hear his profound discussions (as am I) when we contact one who is seeking! But he³²⁷ needs personal spiritual guidance. Is there such a one in this country?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if one could sit with a teacher, and meditate and gain guidance and wisdom as you did in India!

I don't matter! I'm certainly not far enough advanced - but I yearn over my dear beloved Jim.

Have you written a book since "The Spiritual Crisis of Man?"

We hope you are well and send our affectionate regard -



L05.373

373 - 376

Letter from Alice R. Windiate

Fairview Park, 44725 E. Florida Avenue Route No. 2, Box 302-A Hemet, California

May 18, 1961

Dear Dr Brunton,

My darling Jim lived! I'm sure he would not have - had it not been for you. He is weak and frail - but up and around. How grateful I am - to have his lovely presence

³²⁵ Noted with a circled "W." at the top of the page

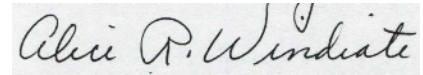
³²⁶ "do not give interview out send letter fm Nice" added by PB himself in upper right.

³²⁷ Page 371

with me! The weeks and months of fear and suffering are over – for me – and I think Jim is glad to be with me.

May³²⁸ I send you our love and our blessing, and our thanks for holding Jim's hand, through his illness!

With sincere regard



L05.377

377 – 378

Telegram from Alice R. Windiate³²⁹

Fairview Trailer Park Rt 2 Box 302a Hemet Calif

Undated

Dr Paul Brunton

E P Dutton And Co Inc

Dear Dr Brunton

Jim is in a critical condition following a stroke. Please hold his hand we both need your help with sincere affection

Alice R Windiateb

L05.379

379 – 380

Letter from Tina Westers³³⁰

360 van Alkemade laan The Hague

16-8-1964

Dear PB

A few days ago, I visited Arthur in Hospital.

When I asked him, if he had heard from you, he told me about your visit.

It made me happy, that Arthur spoke so openly and very carefully added that...perhaps...you will come again...before not such a very long time...

We sincerely hope that all this travelling in will not exhaust you too much! The climate in Europe is so changeable.

Arthur looked more relaxed than he has done for years. The doctors now seem to know, what his trouble is and were able to ease his pains.

³²⁸ Page 375

³²⁹ "Text included in letter to PB CL" written in script at top of the telegram.

³³⁰ Noted with a circled "W." and another "W" in the upper right.

What an unfortunate illness this Rheumatism is. Though there are many varieties, it is all so painful.

How frail our bodies are and it can influence so much (at least with me) our approach to other people.

The 3 weeks we spent in Switzerland have been wonderful. Since many years we did not have such fine weather, so that we could sit all day outdoors under the pine trees or near a rivulet, just doing nothing. What a great help nature is with all its lovely trees and fine fragrances.³³¹

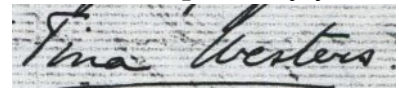
One would like to continue such days a little bit longer...

However, there will be the joy of the seeing again one day.

I felt I must write you again after my impulsive first letter.

My head is soothed and somehow I feel that you have not gone out of our horizon!

With heartfelt greetings
respectfully yours



L05.381

381 - 382

Incomplete letter from Tina Westers

360 van Alkemadeaan The Hague

12-8-1964

Dear PB,

How unfortunate that we were not in Holland when you visited this country!

At least, I do not know exactly when you were here or even if you intended to see us!

It is all very secretive and I hardly dare to speak about it but...my ears have heard...

Why did I not feel that you were coming. We have been talking (Weardi and I) daily about you. A few days before Kenneth came, I felt it and why not this time?

We are still awaiting your coming and will always be...

These last weeks we were on holiday in Switzerland and attended the lectures of Krishnamurti in Saanen.

I very strongly feel the lack of love...the Ultimate Love - God...within me and how important it is to find this. It makes me weep - weep and weep. Do not think that this is meant sentimentally.

I shall send this letter to an address in London which you once gave me, hoping that you are still in Europe. Of course I can come to you. When shall

I wonder {...}

means tho {...}

{...} meals were in Holland?

{...} wish I could have cooked for you³³²

Weardi and I send our love to you

respectfully,

Tina Westers

L05.383

383 - 386

Letter from Tina Westers

360 van Alkemadeaan The Hague

4 - 4 - 1965

Dear PB,

We are often thinking and talking about you, and wonder if you have the intention of visiting Holland before long.

Intensely we hope this time to be at home!

You see we are bound to Weardy's teaching holiday and they are always in July and August.

This year we have again rented a 2 roomed flat in Schönried Switzerland. We leave here on the 2nd of July and travel slowly by car. We shall be back on the 10th of August.

Usually the last part of August we either go to my brother in England or his boys come and stay with us. This can easily be changed if...you happen to be here. In September Weardi starts her work again.

I³³³ shall anyhow give our address to Arthur.

Since Christmas Weardi has been very unfortunate in getting one flu after the other. She is still not well and unable to teach.

³³² Page has been scanned poorly as the other side of the letter was folded over and covered the scan.

³³³ Page 385

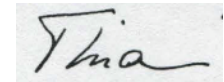
The peace and relaxation is wholesome for her and she gets her heart's desire of being able to read a lot but when getting up, I find her terribly weak.

Our doctor, who is an anthroposophist, does not give strong medicines but as you know, believes in giving the illness time to cure.

I hope you are keeping well!

With love and kindest greetings

Yours sincerely



L05.387

387 - 390

Letter from Tina Westers

360 van Alkemade laan The Hague

3-11-1965

Dear PB,

So, we have not seen you this year! We lived a long time in hope! There are so many questions we would like to ask you. So many things, we find difficult to understand but we shall bottle them until we see you.

When we met you the first time, I was so ignorant, so stupid, so nervous and though I am still all that, there is a change and a new encounter would make all that difference. Besides, we love to see you...we long for it.

Some time ago, Arthur came to see us, after I invited him. He never comes without us asking him. At the beginning he sounded a bit sarcastic criticizing us, that we got to the lectures of Krishnamurti and that this might be the cause that we don't see you!


I thought this sheer nonsense and we went on quarrelling a bit until I told him: Well I love PB. It is something deep down in my heart. It cannot be taken away. A feeling one has for some people, without, emotions and that's that. Basta. He piped down and after that we had quite a nice talk. I could see that he had several "flashes. His face was lighting up. He seems far happier and content. You have done him a lot of good. Still often I wonder and wonder. What would you say?

While³³⁴ we were in Switzerland this summer, I met a young Greek Homeopath doctor. George Vithoukas. He is giving me a treatment with his powders for I complained about my shaking of the head which I had from my 18th year but is now getting very bad.

I write to him once a month, then he sends medicines. One day we came to talk about you. He once wrote to you and would very much like to see you.

It was lovely to meet a person, who also had such a longing to get in touch with you. I guess, he is a gifted young man.

Weardy and I are well and happy. Physically it has been a bad year but with help, it is now improving.

Still I have not got that "Liberation." Only once it occurred to me, when listening to an anthroposophical lecture and full of criticisms for them, that suddenly I thought: no, this is not the way to behave and pushed all thoughts away – then suddenly in the heart started a  movement a rush – well difficult to describe but I felt heavenly for some time and not walked but soared home. Too soon it disappeared then.

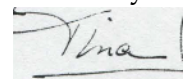
Why is it so tediously long waiting before coming again? Still every minute I see, how wrong³³⁵ I often think – do – act etc.

Perhaps this is the long way – but more and more there is the urge for Freedom of all that self.

Would it be in any way possible to give us a message on a tape? As long as we are so closed up for other messages?

We sincerely hope that you are well and that all this travelling is not tiring you too much.

With our deep respect and love
to you



(Westers³³⁶)

L05.391

391 – 392

Letter from Clara Wagner³³⁷

Sept. 6 – 1966

Dearest PB,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of August 30. Your words are always a great help and a source of Peace.

At the time of Fred's death I was in a state of shock and my emotions became unbalanced.

³³⁵ Page 389

³³⁶ Last name added by PB himself.

³³⁷ Noted with a circled "W" in the upper right.

Now, although I shall always have a little corner of pain and sadness in my heart, I am beginning to go about this business of living as usual. I find it amazing how much I depended upon Fred and it is hard to make some decisions "on my own." There are still times when I dare not think of the years ahead without him, as they seem agonizingly empty and I frightens me to be so alone this mad world.

My financial status is not the best. It is going to be a nip and a tuck for me to manage on the interest from savings accounts which will be about one hundred dollars a month. But my needs and wants are not great so I suppose I'll get by. Social Security checks ceased with Fred's death as I am not 62 and have no minor children.

Thank you again, PB, for your help to Fred and I in the past and now in this crisis. We both thank you.

I know that you are far too busy to write many letters to me but do so when you can.

Take care of yourself and God bless you

With Thoughts of Love and Peace,



(Wagner³³⁸)

L05.393

393 - 404

Letter from Smida Waeder³³⁹

13 Mt. Albert Rd., Auckland, S.W.2.

30. 6. 62

Dear Dr Brunton,

Please forgive me for breaking through your privacy. I am not aimless in doing so, nor am I paying lip-service to a great writer. You are a great writer – how otherwise would your mind come through to others as your teaching has come through to me! My letter puts you under no obligation to answer, but the urge has been in my mind continually – even before I heard that you were in Auckland – to write to you, to express some of my thought, to put it into black and white symbols, poor thinking or otherwise.

Your "Secret Path" has been on my shelves for some years and I believe it had a great deal to do with the course of my seeking. A year ago I read "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" – I champed at the bit until it was followed up by "The

³³⁸ Wagner added by PB himself.

³³⁹ Noted with a circled "W." in the upper right.

Wisdom of the Overself" which to me is a work beyond price. I felt that the Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga was wonderful, cruel, and dissected the very brain while it worked towards illumination, smashing through conformity of religious beliefs and at times seeming to put nothing in place of that which was thus taken away. It was a hard lesson, but your Wisdom of the Overself filled my very soul to overflowing. Thank you for what it has given me. There are so many questions one would like to put to you, so much that I would like to set you talking about in a quiet, fire lit room, where no faces would be clear and no voice would interfere. In a group one finds it impossible to find that true soul to soul discussion which is more like a communion of thinking aloud, with self forgotten in the needs of the spirit. I would ask you of "Jesus," of your inner feeling for Him and of Him, of the "Christ," of the meaning of one to the other and of the application of both to³⁴⁰ the time, to the work of that life and to man in general since that time, and the time to come. I am sure that no man can reach the ultimate of knowing in this life, but we do go from one state of knowing to a higher progressively if we truly seek the absolute truth. Whatever this final knowing is, if it breaks every belief or destroys every preconceived idea I have ever had, let it be clear, untarnished TRUTH.

When the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi came to Auckland a few months ago I joined the Spiritual Regeneration Movement. It is rather strange that I should have felt an urgent to do so because, in meeting this man, I felt no aura of deep spirituality about him, but more of a driving, pin-pointed ambition. It is almost as if the teacher does not matter – that I must do this meditation and learn from it, but that the man who brought it is incidental as far as I am concerned, spiritually. I could almost imagine that he despised us all for being Europeans or, perhaps for being British, but that he was out to deliver the spiritual "being" of us from its encasement in such poorly envired souls. I could be wrong, but either way, it does not worry me. He has shown me a further step.

At nearly 64 years, time seems to be important – so little time to learn what is to be learned, and with that horizon growing wider and wider all the time – so very much, and so very much more to be learned, and among those with whom one seeks, so many who make it a part-time job, something glib on the tongue as a subject for fascinating, at time truly sincere conversation, but without that naked, selfless communion of expressed thinking. Do you ever find that kind of fellowship? I had it with a very great friend who left³⁴¹ us early this year, and I suddenly found it again, less in the mental range, but greater in the spiritual understanding and reach, in a woman whom I have known and loved, but had not "found" in this way until we both went into this meditation with the Maharishi. I want to talk about Dora, the friend who passed on.

³⁴⁰ Page 395

³⁴¹ Page 397

You will probably understand why I had begun to write to you with the full intention of including the story of our telepathic tests, etc., and then, on picking up your Secret Path and slipping through its pages, I should suddenly remember that it was while I was reading this book, in 1956, with it actually in my hands, these tests were carried out.

We had arranged to send pictures, drawn at times, and sometimes thought pictures, at 10 p.m. each Monday evening. This particular night I was in bed, had been reading your book and had begun to consider what picture could be sent. I held a piece of paper over the book, and suddenly dark lines appeared. Barely thinking what I was doing, I let the pencil mark them in, a few more coming as I worked. The result was a picture of a curly stem with leaves, not particularly beautiful, and yet I knew it was a beautiful picture from which this came, even though it was a knowing without evidence. I tried to "send" this to Dora. The next evening a similar thing happened – the picture became complete as far as flowers and stems were concerned, and they were framed on a little ~~thing~~ box of silver which looked to my inner eye, very old. This happened again, and this time, complete with a top knot which formed of the hinge of the box, was a wonderful old face with a long graceful beard making its wavy way through the pattern on the box. I "sent" this picture to Dora. She wrote ~~to~~ describing this picture she had received, but it was definitely minus the old man's face. Your book was used to back the paper each time as I was studying it closely each night.³⁴² We had other tests, but this one was the most striking.

Dora was my very close and dear friend for 20 years, the kind of woman who big enough to have many friends and to be special to each in the way most needed, and she and I understood each other so well that we made no demands on each other. The times of our needing each other fell at the right place always. I feel that I have been enriched beyond words by knowing her so intimately. As you might see, I suffered rather badly from this loss, and one day, very much under the weather from illness as well as this sense of loss, together with family difficulties, I was standing alone in my bedroom. Some strong force moved me towards the easy chair – I could feel her presence. As I sat, it was as if the etherealized particles of her mind, her body, her very being, were there gathering into an unseen cloak of warmth and love, in and around me. There was her smile, and it seemed to be the whole of her, her voice in and through it all, known but not heard aurally, and I was comforted as only once before in my life. That was about 15 years ago when my father had been gone only two weeks and I was suffering something of the same sense of loss, combined with a rather bad hurt dealt me and connected with the time of his passing. I was overcome by grief, when suddenly his presence was about me, warm, healing and comforting. The bitterness was wiped away as if it had never been.

During this visitation of the presence of Dora, there were no actual words spoken, but I knew that I had to write to her husband. His answer came back at once. He was in the hospital where she had died so recently, with the same trouble, and had been very sad and unhappy. There was the same urge to write to her son, and I wrote with the feeling that I was not the actual writer. I told him that his³⁴³ mother and I had always felt that they two had been together in close association in an earlier life. His reply said that he had been in a state of deep heartache when my letter arrived, that another old friend had written to him also and had put the same words in her letter about a possibility that he and his mother had been together before. There was a clear message for me, too, not heard but impressed somehow, "Do not try to sell the goods to the salesman." It seems quite silly but, believe me, when I held it in silence awhile, it became clear. It applied to the manner in which I was accepting a difficult family situation. The laughter I knew so well seemed to be in and through the part of the experience, and so warm and loving that it lighted and lightened my very soul.

The other experience I had was on the day I began this letter – the final push which made me begin. My father passed away about 15 years ago. He was gentle with the gentleness of a strong man, of a wise man. After his funeral these words were written: "This was not a funeral ~~procession~~ we attended. This was a triumphal precession." To us as children, he read Charles Dickens, Gulliver's Travels, Mark Twain, the funny old "Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," and the Australian, "Back at our Selection." Humour and literature, it came always in serial form, a certain amount each night, then a snap closing of the book and nothing would induce him to reopen it. He would read until he came to an exciting point where we could scarcely wait to hear more, then we would see one eyebrow go up, a droll note would come into his voice and there would be the awful "no more tonight." Only one facet but it may give a picture. He came to me in meditation, warm and benign, loving, then over his hair came a mass of white hair, a long beard came, he was all in white, an Indian Sage, very, very old, but from his brown upraised³⁴⁴ long fingers streams of filmy white came out to me in blessing.

I do know that these appearances do not always link up as we imagine they do, but these are not meaningless pictures. I have always had a "further sight" even from small childhood. Have always wondered what was meant by a dream at 7 years of age, when angles flew with me between them, and from the heights I watched great whorls of flame throwing off flame as they rolled across the far horizon, one after the other. In those early days I was always being escorted heavenwards, but for some unaccountable reason I never told a soul about my dreams. Could be derangement of course, but if so, I am still queer. One thing I do know is that I have always been alone, in the midst of

³⁴³ Page 401

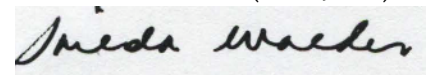
³⁴⁴ Page 403

friends or of loved ones, any time and anywhere I can be taken with such an aching yearning, unexplainable, that all I want to do is to go outside and look up or be near trees.

This is definitely an "I" letter. Sorry. Perhaps it's a sort of statement of accounts with the details omitted, in the hope that an auditor might be able to work out the true picture.

I don't think I have had a desire to meet you because meeting can take away more than it can give at times, but I have a longing to hear you speak on so many subjects, some of which I have brought to your notice in this letter, and I have an odd feeling that, if you thought about them, something of that thinking may seep through to me, perhaps in meditation. Something has made me write so, something which has now left me with a kind of "shriven" feeling. It's almost as if some "knowing" were edging nearer my awareness, and I know that no thing happens by chance. Bless you in your work and in your life.

(Mrs J. A.)³⁴⁵



L05.405

405 - 408

Extract from an article³⁴⁶ in *Psychic News*³⁴⁷

Titled: "Medium Who was Controlled by a Living Being - has the "Gift of Tongues"."

Extract: "Alfred Vout Peters is our most widely travelled medium. He is also one of the old school. He is sixty-three years old and has been in the Spiritualist movement for thirty-seven years.

When he was quite a child, he was conscious of the presence of two other children, and he used to remark to his mother, "I suppose they are God's angels who come and play with me after you leave me?"

L05.409

409 - 410

Article about Princess Irene of Greece

³⁴⁵ "(Mrs J.A.)" added in another hand.

³⁴⁶ "Vout Peters is also mentioned in Hannen Swaffers book "Northcliffe's Return"" is written in PB's hand at the top of the article.

³⁴⁷ Noted with a "PΔ in PB's hand in the upper right corner.

Extract: "Her Royal Highness, Princess Irene of Greece, visited President Rajendra K. Saboo in his office at R.I. world headquarters on 9 September (see photo). The princess and the president discussed Rotary's international service activities and the Princess Irene's work with World in Harmony, a humanitarian organization based in Madrid, Spain of which she is president."

L05.411

411 – 412

One page biography of PB, up to 1953

Extract: "Paul Brunton Born, London, 1898 Educated at Central Foundation School and St. George's College. Also by Private Tutors. Doctor of Philosophy Travelled extensively in Europe and USA Early interest devoted to literature, art, religion, mysticism and philosophy."

L05.413

413 – 414

Phone numbers of Sophie and Irene, in PB's hand, Princesses of Greece

Extract: none

L05.415

415 – 418

Extract of notes in French from a biography of Saint Claude, in PB's hand

*Extract: "Biographie Universelle *RR-AA N.Z. Pub. Lib. 1844 MICHAUD 8 CHA-COM CLAUDE (SAINT) est l'un des plus illustres prelates³⁴⁸ qui aient gouverné³⁴⁹ l'Eglise de Besaucon;³⁵⁰ mais la chronologie des eveques³⁵¹ de cette ville est si obscure qu'on ne peut fixer d'une maniere³⁵² certaine l'ordre dans lequel St. Claude en a occupé³⁵³ le siege."*

³⁴⁸ "prélats" in the original, diacritical removed.

³⁴⁹ "gouverné" in the original, diacritical removed.

³⁵⁰ "Besauçon" in the original, diacritical removed.

³⁵¹ "évêques" in the original, diacriticals removed.

³⁵² "manière" in the original, diacritical removed.

³⁵³ "occupé" in the original, diacritical removed.

for A PREFACE TO THE CZECH EDITION OF MY BOOKS
A MANIFESTO TO MY CZECH READERS

The Czech people were destined in the past to play a unique part in the spiritual history of Europe. Geographically, they have been placed in the very centre of that continent and are thus open to receive quickly as they are situated favourably to send widely currents of new ideas. Their mental culture and material progress are the highest attained by the Slav race. From personal observation as a wide traveler, I do not hesitate to say that Czechoslovakia was the most advanced truly democratic country in Central Europe before the war. Ethnologically, they are Slav people. Therefore they are more intuitive and more responsive to true spirituality than the Anglo-Saxons. Psychologically, they are a clear-headed, self-composed practical people who comprehend that half the value of a religion lies in its moral effectiveness and practical sincerity. Indeed, the Reformation really started in Bohemia under Huss and was only later taken up in Germany by Luther. Huss passes with glory the test which a world-wide experience has taught me to apply to all men – the test of character. Only a few figures in history possess so much moral grandeur and shine so nobly as he. The Czechs under Huss penetrated to the pre-eminent fact that unless a religion yielded the fruit of good ethical practice it was a half-failure. If this was the great service which the Czechs rendered to humanity in the religious crisis of the medieval period their character and karma – for the two are so intimately inter-related as to be inseparable – have prepared them to render a still greater service in the religious crisis which will arise after the colossal upheavals of this unprecedented war.

Incidentally it is noteworthy that the Czechs alone of all the European nations passed through the World War without having to suffer the horrors of actual fighting, although they were the first to fall victims to Hitler.

The ruins of medieval fire-temples long existed – perhaps still exist in Bohemia, as a memorial of a medieval Czech knowledge of the mystical character of Light. The little group of mystically-minded students which is arising in Bohemia will not only have a notable part to play in the inner history of their own country, but there are some amongst them who are philosophically bent too and who are destined to affect the inner history of all the Central European peoples, including the Germans, the Austrians, the Hungarians, the Yugo-Slavs and the Poles. We consider it therefore to be a sacred duty

³⁵⁴ Noted with a question mark in the upper right corner.

as well as a satisfying privilege to be called upon, as we have been, to help Czech mystical and philosophic aspirants.

421 – 426

Retyped essay written by C. V. Hanumantha Rao about the history of Czechoslovakia

Extract: "In the reshaping of Europe after the Great War, through the fall of the Austrian and the Russian Empires, the most striking and romantic change was the emergence of the Republic of Czecho-Slovakia. It has also prove the most important and most completely successful.

By a tremendous effort of will and statesmanship it had to make a fresh beginning across the vast gap of history. But it has accomplished the miracle with a success that can be called unparalleled, a tremendous achievement, which is at once a tribute to the strenuous and single-minded purpose of its people and an example to other nations striving to do the same, and which therefore calls for sympathetic and admiring study by all mankind."

L05.427

427 – 428

One page advertisement for books written by PB and other authors on related topics including prices and reviews.

Extract:

"September 1983

The works of Dr Paul Brunton

Dr Paul Brunton travelled extensively in the Orient, living among yogis, mystics and holy men. He was one of the few students of the East who had the ability to illuminate his understanding, and convey it to the reader. The progress of his growth of awareness is charted in this series of books."

L05.429

429 – 432

Folders from the file

B1I5 Readers Letters

Box 1

Item 5

Letters from Readers, Editors to PB EC³⁵⁵

Organized alphabetically by last name

Some letters are not complete (missing pages) Also many letters need translation:

³⁵⁵ These initials are circled.

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