

## Readers' Letters 09

*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 1957 and 1977.*

*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*

### L09.001

1 - 2

Handwritten note by PB  
Undated

Attach to Schlubeck letter. Do write him but say I'm retired<sup>1</sup> and can't see. Reply that his translation was later rejected as not being literary enough<sup>2</sup> by publisher and a new one had to be made. Post from {England}

### L09.003

3 - 4

Letter from H. Schlubeck<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "retirement" in the original.

<sup>2</sup> "enuf" in the original .

Schulauer Str. 52, 2 Wedel, Hamburg, Germany<sup>4</sup>  
March 20th, 1966

Dr. Paul Brunton  
c/o National and Grindlays, Ltd.  
13, St. James Square  
London, S.W.1

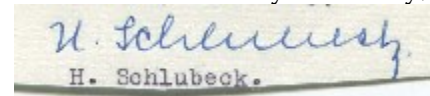
Dear PB:-

A hearty welcome to Europe. - Ted Spicer just wrote me that you might be in London.

Should your plans also foresee a visit to the continent, then please let me know. I would be very happy to see you again.

My very best wishes and kindest regards.

Yours very sincerely,



H. Schlubeck.

**L09.005**

5 - 6

Letter from H. Schlubeck  
Schulauer Str. 52, 2 Wedel, Hamburg Germany  
April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1966

Dr. Paul Brunton  
c/o National and Grindlays, Ltd.  
13, St. James Square  
London, S.W.1

Dear PB:-

I am following a suggestion of our dear friend Ted Spicer when writing you today<sup>5</sup> about the following:

The German edition of THE SECRET PATH is in its 5<sup>th</sup> edition now since 1938. The copy is being sold retail at DM 12.90 Deutsch Marks = approx. 21 shillings 6 pence or \$ 3.25.

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<sup>3</sup> Noted with circled "Schl."

<sup>4</sup> P.B. inserted "Schlubeck" on top of page by hand.

<sup>5</sup> "to-day" in the original.

The standard of living is high in Western Germany. But for books of this kind, at such a price, in my opinion we cannot reach those who are real seekers of truth, as these are not so frequently found in the upper social classes.

I have been realizing for quite a time already that something must be done to draw the attention of lower income classes to your books and once thought of suggesting to prepare an extract of it.

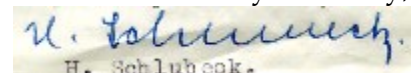
But while in London on a short business visit some two years ago, I saw in Mr Watkins' bookshop a pocket book edition of THE SECRET PATH, a GREY ARROW edition at 2/6 net retail. THAT seems to be the solution for the German edition as well. The paperback<sup>6</sup> editions in Western Germany have reached enormous proportions. It solves the problem of the price in comparison to the cloth-bound editions and enables us to reach social classes where, in general, there is more interest in books of this kind. The cheapest paperback<sup>7</sup> edition, simple volume, sells at DM 2.50, equiv. to approx. 4 sh or 60 cents, the double volume at DM 4.80, equiv. to 8 sh or \$ 1.20

I do not know your commitments with the publishers of the German version of THE SECRET PATH, as translated by me in 1936, Messrs. Otto Wilhelm Barth Verlagat<sup>8</sup> Weilheim, Upper Bavaria. But perhaps you would give a thought to this suggestion and take the matter up as soon as possible so that no time is being lost to bring into the masses what you have to tell them.

Mr Watkins wrote me recently that he is hoping to see you in London in May.

My very best wishes and kind regards.

Yours very sincerely,



H. Schlubeck

**L09.007**

7 - 8

Photograph

Annotated "Wedel/{Hamburg}, the Schlubecks Dec. 1965"

*Extract: None*

**L09.009**

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<sup>6</sup> "Paper Back" in the original.

<sup>7</sup> "paper back" in the original.

<sup>8</sup> "Otto-Wilhelm-Barth-Verlag" in the original.

*Extract: None*

## **L09.011**

11 - 14  
Letter from H. Schlubeck to Ted Spicer  
Schulauer Str. 52, 2 Wedel, Hamburg Germany  
February 7, 1966

My dear Ted:-

That was the most pleasant surprise to receive your letter of February 1 and a long waited-for answer to frequent wishes for years to have again my old contact to friends whose loyalty in most difficult times and sincere devotion to the work of truth has always been uplifting me when thinking of past times.

In December 1963, while I was in London for a couple of days, I saw our old friend<sup>9</sup> Mr Watkins'<sup>10</sup> son. Only a couple of days ago, with an order for "The Secret Path," did I ask him to let me have again your address.

I wrote to your old address in Watford in 1946 and had a kind answer from your friend Sir... who promised to convey my letter to you to California, without giving me your address. At that time I was in Hamburg. You will remember that at the outbreak of war in 1939 I was in South Africa. Just before every German National was interned in 1940, although I had a "clear sheet" as they told me, I managed to reach South America. One day I found myself as {a}<sup>11</sup> German soldier in Russia in 1941, realizing soon after being wounded during the first winter that the war was lost to communism and that a great part of Europe would become bolshevist. In 1945, the Americans only kept me for two months as prisoner of war, apparently finding out soon everything about me and the "clear sheet" and sent me to my family in Hamburg.

In 1949, I gave up my position as director on the board of an incorporated company, at that time considered as most foolish and returned to South Africa where I soon started on my own, handing over to the natives, last year, as demanded by the authorities, the last of my trading concessions in a district, now being independent native land. But my savings are blocked in South Africa where they have severe foreign

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<sup>9</sup> "friend's" in the original.

<sup>10</sup> "Watkin's" in the original.

<sup>11</sup> "a" added for readability.

exchange regulations. I have been {illegible}<sup>12</sup> to get out whatever I can, for this reason keeping up my {illegible}<sup>13</sup> rights in South Africa, occasionally returning there. It is {unsatisfactory} and unpleasant affair.

My family is here, but {illegible},<sup>14</sup> {when} you will remember, left me in 1953 in South Africa. She had taken a liking to a young employee of ours, but I did not know how far that went and struggled against her determination to get a divorce which only was granted in 1957, the custody of our son, born 1944, being given to me. The influence of Ilse's new surroundings at the boy's occasional visits were so bad on him that I had to send him to Europe where the widow of an old friend of mine, having no children, received him with open arms at her home at Wedel/Hamburg. In 1960, Annelise and I got married in South Africa.

Until recently, part of the year I was overseas. Helmuth, now 21, is just finishing his three years of practical apprenticeship in the export, import and wholesale line in Hamburg, being in the midst of his business college examinations. Being only 69 now, I am still working, of course, being the contact man<sup>15</sup> for building up business in certain lines with South Africa. That you are still working at 80 gives me great satisfaction and joy, as it also means that you are enjoying good health.

Ilse,<sup>16</sup> my first wife, whom you had met in London in 1938, married immediately after the divorce which she wanted to have with all means, her husband being 14 yrs. her junior. I was 15 years older.

My German translation of "The Secret Path" has its 5<sup>th</sup> edition now, and for the first time, my name as the translator is given. In 1937, when we started to publish it, it was demanded from me to join the Nazi Party if the translator's name was to be mentioned. That I refused, and we bridged it by simply saying that it<sup>17</sup> was the only authorized translation. I made a number of presents of it in business circles in Hamburg last Christmas and am pleasantly surprised how great the interest in this subject is with men only known to be hard money-makers.

I am going to write to Hesper today, thank you very much for the address.

By giving you a picture of my life of the last 25 years, I hope that after your birthday you might have the time to write more about you, your family and your life.

First of all: please accept my sincerest congratulations on this day, for health, continuous happiness and strength to continue on your way as you have been doing

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<sup>12</sup> One or more words is illegible because the page is folded.

<sup>13</sup> A few words are illegible because the page is folded.

<sup>14</sup> This word is illegible because the page is folded.

<sup>15</sup> "contactman" in the original.

<sup>16</sup> Page 13

<sup>17</sup> "is" in the original.

until now and which much more often than I ever could express, has been an uplifting example in every respect to me.

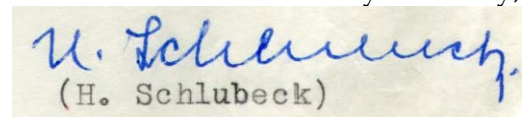
I hope to see you one day. In fact, for years already I have been mentioning to my family occasionally that one day I would be back in America where I only was for a while in 1927/28, without having the slightest idea how this would be realized. I only "knew".

Give my kindest regards to Paul, please. I was astonished to see his picture with a pointed beard in the paperback edition by<sup>18</sup> Arrow Books of "The Secret Path". But he looks quite young still. About two years ago, I could get hold of about 30 cloth-bound copies of the German edition of "A Search in Secret India" which has the German title "Yogis" which I gave as presents to friends and acquaintances.

My good wishes for you include your wife and family.

I remain with the warmest feelings for an old loyal friend and kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,



(H. Schlubeck)

**L09.015**

15 - 16

Letter from Ethel G. Sturgis<sup>19</sup>

Chatham New Jersey, USA<sup>20</sup>

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1964

Dear Mr Brunton,

This is the second letter which I have written to you, so you see I am persistent. It was wonderful to know that you gave consideration to my letter. Since you say in your writings that it is very important to meet your teacher I still hope that I may sometime meet you. Are you ever in New York? I would make a great effort to get there.

So far in reading your books I have not seen Baha'u'llah<sup>21</sup> mentioned. I have quite a few Baha'i friends and find them splendid people. I wonder why you would

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<sup>18</sup> "paperback-edition" in the original.

<sup>19</sup> "S" and a checkmark are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

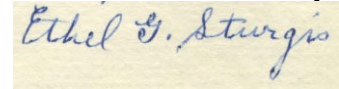
<sup>20</sup> KTH inserted "93 Kings Road" by hand.

<sup>21</sup> "Baha' 'U Lah" in the original.

mention Sri Rama Krishna (for whom they claim a miraculous birth) and not Baha'u'llah. I also have Vedanta friends and like them.

With hearty good wishes for the best for you in the new year,

Devotedly,



## L09.017

17 - 20

Letter from Amar S. Latava

A letter expressing gratitude for PB's books and his ability to write in an accessible style, dated 8th July, 1975.

*Extract: "I feel that I owe you an immense debt for all that I have learnt from you through your books."*

## L09.021

21 - 22

Letter from Cosmo Sheridan<sup>22</sup> to Kenneth Thurston Hurst  
St. Jean de la Blaquiere, 34-Lodeve Herault, France<sup>23</sup>

31 I 68

Dear Kenneth,

After all these years – how are you? And what is happening with you? Job-wise (in the American jargon), I shouldn't be a bit surprised –considering the rapidity of your onward-and-upward progress – to learn that you are now president of, say, Harper and Row, and in line for chairman of the board.

I still remember fondly our last meeting in Greenwich Village, our dinner at the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Chinese restaurant, and our parting in Washington Square. At this very moment, I can still hear your voice saying, "All the best!"

And all the best it's been for me, dear Kenneth, and especially here in France. I landed in Morocco and spent about two months there, mostly in Marrakesh, which I loved; then a year and a half in Spain, on the Costa del Sol; and now, for almost two years, in my beloved France, most of the time in Paris, but for the last six months, down

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<sup>22</sup> "C" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>23</sup> KTH inserted "Give Nate & Grindlay Address. PB withdrawn more & more. Do not get involved with C" by hand.

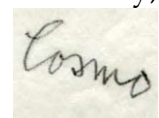
here in the beautiful, tranquil countryside west of Montpellier – where I have hopes of buying a house for an absolute song!

Details in my next, if you wish, but for the present, this letter must concern PB. I wrote him on the last Fourth of July (a date no American is likely to forget!) in care of Rider & Co., and have not had one word since. Now, in the course of the thirty years (Is it possible?!) that I have been his student and, in his own words, his friend, I have written many letters for him to others, saying something to the effect that pressures on his time prevented his dealing with correspondence, and that students should expect no answer to their letters; in later years, it has been worded more strongly to more and more students. But I am happy to say that this has never seemed to apply to me. Whether this was because I wrote him so seldom that he could be sure I would never impose on his time; or because of our long and close relationship; or because, again in his own words, I was his “most faithful student” (I could write this to no one but you) – I do not know, but such was the case.

At any rate, I should greatly appreciate it if you would ask his permission to give me his personal address, for the following reason: in the three and a half years that I have been in Europe, there has been an astonishing development mystically in my relations with other people. I have told no one of this, and you can appreciate that I should not want to chance its being read by a third party, as might be the case if sent through a general post office<sup>24</sup> address. It might be wondered why I have waited three and a half years, but I could only reply that such has been its growth in both strength and frequency that I now feel compelled to inform him of it in detail.

In the French fashion – one has all of January in which to do it, so I’m under the wire – I send you my warmest wishes for your happiness in the New Year!

Affectionately,



**L09.023**

23 - 44

Letter from Charles Isaacs

A letter sharing his spiritual journey and asking PB for guidance in finding a spiritual teacher or a society to join to aid in spiritual advancement

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<sup>24</sup> “postoffice” in the original.



*Extract: "I practiced the meditations regularly and once<sup>25</sup> I felt as if I had no body at all. It lasted only a few seconds and when I asked Dr Aubert about this experience he told me not to be afraid. It was either astral travelling or else the beginnings of self-realisation."*

## **L09.045**

45 – 46

French Letter from Madame Lucienne Faivre  
Foreign language letter dated 22 Fevrier 1973<sup>26</sup>

*Extract: None*

## **L09.047**

47 – 48

Typed excerpt from "Martinus" Erik Gerner Larsson  
Undated

Far too many people are under the illusion that terrestrial man is so far remote from his {primaeval} stage, the animal world, that this does not influence his present life. No misconception could be greater, and this is adequately proved by the terrible havoc and the gruesome experiences the world has recently gone through.

Terrestrial man has his root in the animal kingdom. His body is still mammiferous belonging to the category of beings science has named "Eastern Apes. His method of procreation is like that of the mammals, and without any wish to offend, in respect of nutriment, the man can be characterised as omnivorous. Even though unpleasant to some of us such observations are necessary to render possible the right picture of our present state. Still being so strongly attached to the animal world as the {case} is it would be quite natural to ask where the line is to be drawn between what we regard as "animal and as "man. The reply must necessarily be that an animal is a creature which, unlike terrestrial man, has not the ability to distinguish between the conception "thyself" and "that". This in no way detracts from the fact that some animals...

We do, in many ways, live in an extremely tragic era. Two disastrous wars, almost succeeding one another, have led to disillusionment within the realms of religious life, the which, prior to these periods of war, would have been thought impossible. From having been the guiding force behind practically all the functions of spiritual life, the religious element in our existence has crumbled to such an extent that

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<sup>25</sup> "once I felt as if I had no body at all" was underlined in a different hand

<sup>26</sup> "yes must contact" is handwritten at the top of the page.

today it seems to have played out its part. Most people do not seek the church, even in their hour of need, and we find again and again in daily life that to classify a human being as regarding him as estimable.

### L09.049

49 - 52

Letter from Hettie Templeton  
61 Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft  
19-3-63

Mr Paul Brunton.

Dear Mr Brunton.

I am writing this trusting that it reaches you safely.

I have thought so much about you, and deeply appreciate having met you while here in our country. After reading & receiving much help from your books, it was wonderful to meet you, and I have an ever lasting memory of you.

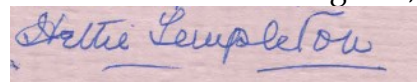
If you find time to write, would you send me a few lines.

I had intended to ask you if you would become a Patron for my society dear Mr Brunton. I have been appointed to Deputy Grand Masher, so that I may train the novices to become initiates. To have your name would strengthen our cause.

There are many wonderful members in the society, & I have chosen 12 novices, which will enable them to branch out in this beautiful work.

I read in one of your books where you speak of the Pythagorean Silence. Have you studied his philosophy! I trust this finds you in good health.

Will be awaiting your reply,  
Happy to have met you,  
Kindest Regards,



### L09.053

53 - 54

Letter from Hettie Templeton<sup>27</sup>  
18<sup>th</sup> January, 1960

Dear Dr Brunton,

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<sup>27</sup> "oracle" and "T" are handwritten in the top right corner in different hands.

It gives me great pleasure to write this delineation for you, in fact it is a privilege. Your pathway is represented by the number Three and, when used constructively, this releases, through spirituality, a highly evolved soul. It is the number of spiritual guidance. You are inspired in your work and interests and, above all things, seek peace and beauty. You are also very just in your decisions and always try to see the other person's point of view.

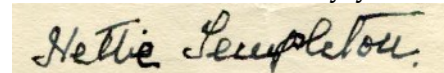
The great spirit moves you at any hour, therefore you should have a quiet abode where you are able to contact Divine Power. You have suffered many disappointments in your personal contacts. Some of these, especially one, you have felt very deeply. This is a time when it is possible for you to make many changes and you may be sure that they will work out for the best.

Your soul is highly developed; you can safely follow your first impressions and, if you do not depart from them, you will be constantly guided. You will always work with the interests of the people constantly in mind and will eventually reap a rich reward.

The names "Paul" and Brunton" are very strong and add much to your inner vision. The name Paul influences your philosophical powers and Brunton gives the strength to carry out what you set your mind to do; it is a strong mind-vibration.

May I add that meeting you was a joy I never expected and it will be a memory I will hold forever.

With very best wishes,  
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hettie Templeton", written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

H. Templeton

P. S. Trust I see you again.

**L09.055**

55

Letter from {Paul Brunton} to Mr Shapoorjee  
June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1965<sup>28</sup>

My dear Mr Shapoorjee,

This will acknowledge receipt of your letters dated 28 March and 28 October 1964 and will also apologize for the long silence while you waited for a reply. I am

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<sup>28</sup> "(o)" in top right corner of the page.

really very sorry; it was partly my own fault and partly because I was waiting to meet my American publisher-friend, whose first visit to Europe was postponed to a later date. I have been in Europe all this time.

Finally what has resulted is contained in the enclosed documents. From what I know of America I agree with his statements.

However he has secured a definite order for 25 copies of your book from the Weiser bookshop which is one of the most prominent dealing with these subjects in New York, and equivalent to Taraporevala of Bombay.

It is very kind of you to write so appreciatively of our meeting in Bombay, which was just as enjoyable to me too.

It was also kind of you to send me the article entitled "Religion and modern times" which you published in "Eternal Life Magazine". It was very good to share these ideas with you. I note that you resigned from the Eternal Life Society and wonder what difference of opinion you could have had with it?

I enclose a short note which please be so kind as to hand over to your revered Master Pujya Baba Sai Mirchandani.

With kindest remembrances to your wife, Thrity and Jasmine; and affectionate greetings to yourself

**L09.056**

56

Letter to Pujya Baba Sai Michandani

Undated

Respected Pujya Baba Sai Mirchandani,

The memory of our meeting in Bombay is one of those which I treasure. It brings with it warmth and light.

If I am given the Grace to write and finish a publication, after the silence of many years I would like to honour you by including your name among others, your personality and your teaching, in it. But I would not do so unless you granted the permission. Please let me know whether you would allow this or not.

However my principal object in writing this note is simply to assure you that you remain in my thoughts with warm affection and humble respect.

**L09.057**

57 – 58<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> PB inserted "Archive" in the top right corner by hand.

Letter from Mangharam H. Mirchandani  
Thoburn House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mereweather Road, Bombay 1  
15<sup>th</sup> July 1965

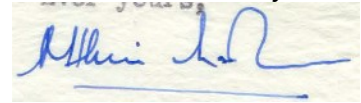
Beloved of Beloved's Dr Paul:

Your sweetened love memory and grace expressed in your letter of 26<sup>th</sup> June, to hand through Jehangir is received.

The love hearts know its valuation fully. The immortal soul and the mortal both go together to unite in a tie of love. I am but an expression.

Your depth of love and sincerity is fully reciprocated by the physical mortal man and immortal being. You have our permission to write to honour your brother in the same picture of God, as thou art, our dear Dr Paul (a disciple of the Lord) -a co-wayfarer.

With love and kindest regards,  
Ever yours,



Mangharam H. Mirchandani

**L09.059**

59 - 60

Letter from Jehangie Shapoorjee  
Raj Bhavan, Poona 7  
2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1965

My dear Dr Brunton,

How delighted I am to get your charming letter and the valuable help it brings. Many thanks indeed. I apologise for replying so late. There has been an extra spate of work in the office, keeping me tied up till late almost every day.

I am asking my publishers, Messrs. Ganesh & Co., to send 25 copies of my book to Weiser Bookshop and one each to the other firms mentioned by your friend. I am most grateful to you and to him for finding me this opening and am writing to him also.

I am in Poona for the monsoon season, as usual. Jeroo and the little ones were with me in May, when the schools were closed. Now I am alone here. We will probably move back to Bombay at the end of this month. I happened to go there soon after getting your letter and gave Master the one you sent for him. He said he will reply personally.

I am very anxious to discuss with you the misunderstanding with the Eternal Life Society, because I feel there may be something common in this and your own

experience and also in our reactions to it. Is there any chance of your coming this way before long?

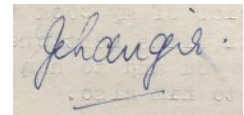
Briefly, what happened is that I opposed starting the journal on the grounds that we have neither the funds nor the workers. I was told that Miss Tavadia could manage the whole thing herself. I felt the Society should not sponsor a one-man show, especially by one who had resigned her membership, and advised that she could conduct the journal on her own and we would be prepared to help.

When it was decided to go ahead with the publication, I asked for an article and contributed one on Master. The Committee wanted to omit some important sentences and, after speaking to Master, I wrote a brief polite letter to the Editor, saying I would like my articles to be published verbatim or not at all. She sent a very nasty reply, calling me all sorts of things.

This confirmed my opinion that it is no good trying to work with others and that I should confine my activities to individual work, and have nothing to do with associations or societies. I sent a copy of the letter to Master, explaining my attitude and resigning from the Society. He resented<sup>30</sup> this and is cross with me. He insists that no matter how co-disciples behave, I should work with them as members of a family. I cannot lose my reverence for him nor can I forget what I owe him; but the relations are somewhat strained. It is all very sad.

May I request you to write a little more often please, Dr Brunton? Your letters and friendship mean much to me.

Love from,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jhanga', on a piece of aged, slightly textured paper.

**L09.061**

61 - 62

Letter from Miss Coomie Tavadia<sup>31</sup>

The Life Eternal Magazine of The Eternal Life Society, Thoburn House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Mereweather Road, Bombay 1<sup>32</sup>  
July 15, 1965

Most Beloved Brother in Light,

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<sup>30</sup> Page 60

<sup>31</sup> PB inserted "Ack Receipt "Life Eternal for September 1965" by hand in the bottom right corner of the page.

<sup>32</sup> Address appears in the letterhead.

We bow in reverence and humility at your enlightened message sent to our Beloved Master, Pujya Baba Sai Mirchandani and marvel at your profound knowledge and ability of picking up so much wisdom in so short a time spent with our Master. We who sit at His Feet every day have much to learn from you.

We hope you have received our four quarterly issues of "The Life Eternal". On September 18, 1965, we celebrate the birth anniversary of our Past Master, Pujya Baba Sai Giani as also the first anniversary of our magazine. On this auspicious day we wish to bring out a double issue of 64 pages. This can only be possible if enlightened souls like you adorn our pages. May we therefore humbly request you to write a special article for the issue?

At present, with Master's blessings we run a small school for about 20 to 25 children and provide them with free education, food and medicine. This is done by a group of members of the Eternal Life Society with the help of generous hearted and charity minded souls from all walks of life. We hope to purchase very soon a piece of land and build thereon a self-sufficient town having its own school, hospital, orphans and widows home, rest home for the aged, etc. Noble souls all over the world are coming forward to make our dream a reality.

May we look forward to your generous literary contribution for the anniversary number? Thank you. We remain always in Love Truth and Beauty,



Miss Coomie Tavadia  
Editor

Mr Paul Brunton  
C/o The National & Grindlays Bank Ltd  
13 Street, James Square  
London, S.W.1 England

**L09.063**

63 - 64

Letter from J.M. Shapoorjee<sup>33</sup>  
Raj Bhavan, Poona 7  
28<sup>th</sup> October, 1964

Dear Dr Brunton,

I wonder whether you received the letter I wrote a long time back saying Ganesh & Co. had no objection to my book being republished by anyone else.

---

<sup>33</sup> Noted with a circled "S" in the top right corner of the page.

I would very much like to hear from you at your leisure and keep in touch with you. In fact, I am eagerly looking forward to another visit from you so that we can talk things over in greater detail.

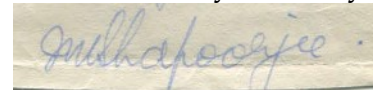
Unfortunately, I have had some difference of opinion with the Eternal Life Society and have resigned from it. This makes little difference to my relations with my revered Master, though he does not approve of my resignation and is pressing me to withdraw it.

At the moment I am on short leave in Poona with the family. Return to Bombay on Friday.

May I have a line before long to know that you are in good health and cheer?

My wife and daughters join me in sending you best wishes and kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,



Dr Paul Brunton<sup>34</sup>  
c/o<sup>35</sup> Grindlays Ltd  
54 Parliament Street  
London, S.W.1

**L09.065**

65 - 66

Holiday Card from Harish Chandra Taneja<sup>36</sup>

Undated

*Extract: None*

**L09.067**

67 - 68

Handwritten Note by PB

Undated

ask Libuse Gilba

Send new year greetings to {his} man

---

<sup>34</sup> "please forward" was written above the address by hand.

<sup>35</sup> "K" is handwritten to the left of the address in a different hand.

<sup>36</sup> "T" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.



## L09.069

69 - 70

Letter from Frank Novara

Sender is very thankful for meeting PB in 1976 and expresses how he and his family greatly appreciate his teachings. He also had bound some of PB's books for him in the past, which PB was said to like.

*Extract: "As for me, I should never trouble you with my visit because of your precious work and for the fact that you have given us so much in your books. Even the messages delivered to us by the friends from Prague) especially the Short Path) are dear to us."*

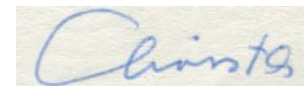
## L09.071

71 - 72

Letter from a Christa  
via Plinio 25 22036 Erba (Como)  
24<sup>th</sup> xi 1972

Dear Dr Brunton,

Thank you for writing. I was hoping to get your letter - it gave me new courage. I shall have to be in St. Paul for a month soon. I shall be alone and would prefer to phone from there because I can dial direct and it will be easier. I<sup>37</sup> am now settled in my apartment in Erba, the little town near to Dorothea's {place}. It is a nice fear and for the first time in my life I am alone. I have discovered that I must come to terms with lone {liven}, - that I have always been afraid of it and that {most} attachment I have probably made from fear of lone {liven}. When I have overcome this I know I shall have gained a lot. Yours thankfully and with and with deepest respects



## L09.073

73 - 74

Letter from John Videan  
Letter interested in more information in writings of Abduhl Latif

*Extract: "We are interested in the writings of Abduhl Latif and would be grateful if you would kindly tell us from which of his works your extracts were taken, and whose translation, and also if in your travels you have discovered many of his M.S.S. and where they may be seen, as there are probably some that have not been translated."*

### **L09.075**

75 - 80

Letter from Eliahu Khazoum

Letter expressing gratitude for PB's books and wishing him a merry Christmas and happy New Year

*Extract: "Despite the pain and tribulation, I consider myself to have been especially fortunate these last two years, in that last year I have "discovered" the Tibetan mystic Dr Tuesday Lobsang Rampa, nine of whose ten books I have been able so far to buy and read, some of them more than once; whereas only few months ago and by the merest coincidence, I have "Discovered" you. Discovered I said? The decision – if a decision it can be called after such long hesitation, though the idea of it all came as a result of a sudden impulse – came after I took yesterday the fourth book of yours to read, that is, the fourth I could get, and when I remembered that we are nearing Christmas time, I thought it would be appropriate to wish you well and to thank you for the pleasure and happiness your books have given me, and for the much further pleasure and happiness lying in store of me when I would be able to get your other books – God's plenty in deed."*

### **L09.081**

81 - 82

Envelope addressed to Mr and Mrs Videan<sup>38</sup>

75 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

Undated

### **L09.083**

83 - 84

Letter from Mrs Louis Vanourny<sup>39</sup>

A letter stating that she has written two letters and not received a reply to either

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<sup>38</sup> Noted with a circled "V" in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>39</sup> "V." and a checkmark are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

*Extract: "Upon re-reading in your book, "A Search in Secret India," I cannot help but wonder again why I have never received any reply or acknowledgement to my two previous letters, the first in October, 1957 and the second in January, 1959."*

## L09.085

85 - 86  
Letter from Gottfried  
Karlsruhe, Germany  
7. {II.} 71

Dear Mr Brunton,

At the same time {illegible} these lines I send to you a roll with 2 etchings from the new copper plate and I {hope} that you can use it for your books.

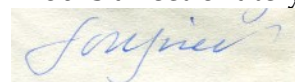
If you like to have more prints for friends please let me know. I also send one to Arthur Broekhuysen.

I hope you are well.<sup>40</sup>

The month of march and April I will be in the South of France.

When after my return from there to Karlsruhe at the end of April I will bear something from {illegible} I will write you.

For today with my good thoughts and best wishes for you  
Yours affectionately



## L09.087

87 - 88  
Letter from Gottfried Meyer  
Roquebrune, France  
2.I.1971<sup>41</sup>

Dear Mr Brunton,

For the New Year I send you my best and good wishes for you and especially for good health.

---

<sup>40</sup> PB himself inserted "ack receipt {now} as {leaves} {illegible} Feb" by hand.

<sup>41</sup> PB himself wrote "Carmelites are considered a most bigoted order". The note is attached to the top of letter with a pin.

I hope you have had not so cold weather in Zurich.

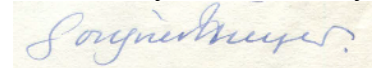
I am for this time of Christmas and the New Year here in the South of France in the monastery of the Carmelite<sup>42</sup> monks, with the wonderful surrounding nature {amidst} mountains. Complete silence and simplicity.

With great joy I read here in the Mandukya Upanishad with Gaudapadas Ravika.

When I have finished the new etching from you in Karlsruhe after my returning there, I send you the first prints.

For today<sup>43</sup> my best thoughts and good wishes

Yours very affectionately



**L09.089**

89 - 90

Letter from Gottfried

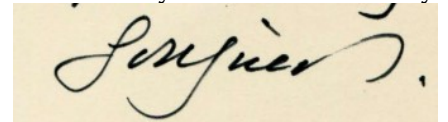
18.I.71

Dear Mr Brunton,

Returning from the South of France I found a letter from {Krishna} and I will send you Today a photo-copy of his lives, also concerning our visit {be} him in {illegible}.

I hope you are well. The etching is in march and when the first copy<sup>44</sup> become satisfied, I will send it to you.

With my good best Wishes for you  
yours affectionately



**L09.091**

91 - 92

Letter to Gottfried

December 28, 1970

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<sup>42</sup> "Carmelit" in the original.

<sup>43</sup> "to day" in the original.

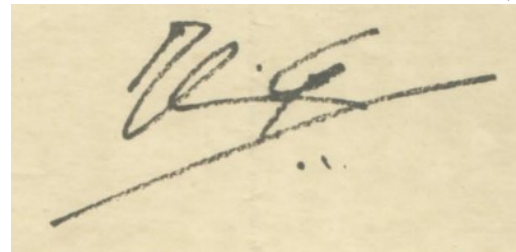
<sup>44</sup> Page 90

My dear Gottfried,

Thank you for your letter of December 18. You must have by now received Valentine's letter acknowledging the receipt of the engraving. I have been here at the Coffee Estate for the past three weeks and will go to Mysore early next month, where I will talk at the University. From there I will go to Bangalore and then on to Mahabaleswar towards the end of January. And thence to Bombay. I shall expect to be back in Europe in April. We will meet in Saanen. If Mr Paul Brunton wants to come to Saanen with you, I will be glad to see him.

May I take this opportunity and wish you a very happy New Year. Mr Desikachari will probably come to Europe next summer. He will see you then. I am glad to hear that your health is better now.

With much affection,



**L09.093**

93 - 96

Letter and envelope from Gottfried

6.12.70

Dear Mr Brunton,

I am sending you at the same time with these lines a roll with 2 etchings from the former copper plates. I will now make the new etching from the drawing I made, but I am still waiting for the photo that Arthur made.<sup>45</sup> I also send you the etching from the Swami Siddhesvarananda and hope you may like it.

It was a great joy for me to meet you at Lugano and also to see your wonderful pictures.

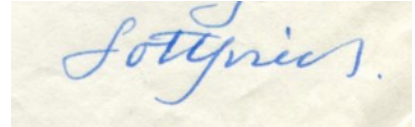
{Krishna} has written me from Paris before leaving for India one week ago, and I told him thereupon about my stay with you and your wish to see him next year.

Hoping that all is well for your health and your mission.

I am with my best thoughts and wishes yours affectionately

---

<sup>45</sup> Underlined with the note "tell A" handwritten in the left margin.



**L09.097**

97 - 98

Letter from Mrs Charlotte Franco de Mello  
Alameda Santos 1940, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
July 27, 1970

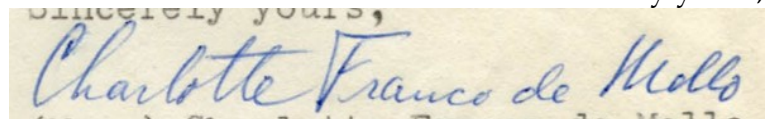
Doctor Paul Brunton,  
c/o National & Grindlays Bank,  
13 St. James's Square,  
London S.W.1  
England

Dear Doctor Brunton:

Although I have never received an answer to my various letters to you, the solutions to the problems stated therein have come to me voluntarily one by one. My studies of the valuable contents of your books for many years are bearing fruit. Although I am often discouraged about my progress, I feel more and more that the philosophy expounded in your writings is becoming the motivating force in my life. May I consider myself your disciple? I would be greatly honored.

Please accept my humble thanks for having written your books to help the world to gain a saner philosophical perspective. As far as I can observe, your influence upon contemporary Western thought is increasing from day to day. Without my making any propaganda whatsoever, even among my acquaintances a number of people have borrowed your books from me to study them and to assimilate their contents.

With best wishes,  
Sincerely yours,



(Mrs) Charlotte Franco de Mello

**L09.099**

99 - 102

Letter from Charlotte Franco de Mello  
Alameda Santos no 1940, Sao Paulo, Brazil

August 31, 1969

Doctor Paul Brunton,  
c/o Hutchinson Publishing Group Ltd.,  
178 - 202 Great Portland Street,  
London W1,  
England.

Dear Doctor Brunton:

The study of your books has long been a source of inspiration for me and I have found in the philosophy expounded in them, the answers to many questions and doubts which previously troubled me. However, there are several points, especially relating to man's evolution, to which I can find no satisfactory solution. I have probably overlooked or misunderstood them in your books, but I would be deeply grateful if you could help me to see the answers to the following questions more clearly:

1) In "The Wisdom of the Overself" (P. 94) you say "...that mind has fashioned a brain as it has fashioned the senses to suit its evolutionary needs...." Would this mean that Mind first fashioned the primitive forms of life such as the protozoans of the Cambrian period to evolve into more complex bodies to finally become man, in order to suit its evolutionary needs? Does this mean that simpler forms of life in existence at present will eventually develop into higher forms as has already been happening in the past? Why, for instance, did not all anthropoids develop into human beings? If our bellicose fellow human beings manage to blow out planet into nothingness by injudicial use of atomic power, what will happen to the underdeveloped forms of life yet to become higher forms? Would the Overself thus apply solely to human beings or be shared by other forms of life?

2) Since the world's population is increasing in geometrical ratio, how can the mind of each new human being be a revival<sup>46</sup> or continuation from former lives? The world's population was so much smaller centuries ago, where would all these new humans have had their previous incarnations?

3) Another question that puzzles me greatly is that of heart transplants. Can they be accepted by believers in Mentalism?

4) on page 99 of "The Wisdom of the Overself" you speak of a "psychological criminal belt surrounding the earth." How and when did it come into existence? Why?

I have read translations of several of your books into Portuguese and am sorry to say that although the Portuguese is good as far as grammar goes, much of the "flavor" has been lost by too literal translation. If, therefore, a translation into Portuguese of that vital work "The Wisdom of the Overself" is contemplated, I hope that someone can be found who will be capable of transmitting to the reader your wonderful literary style

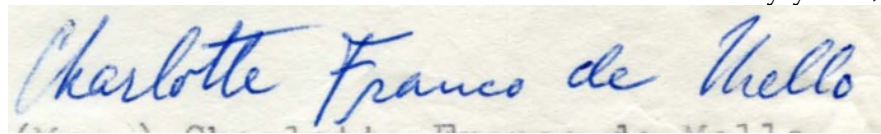
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<sup>46</sup> Page 101

and to better catch the essence of the teachings expounded. This book, above all others, deserves the best that any translator can give it. To me it is the most significant piece of writing in our Western literature of today.

May I hope to receive an answer to my questions?

Sincerely yours,



(Mrs) Charlotte Franco de Mello

### L09.103

103 - 104

Letter from Charlotte Franco de Mello  
Alameda Santos 1940, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
June 27, 1967<sup>47</sup>

Dr Paul Brunton  
c/o Hutchinson Publishing Group Ltd.  
178-202 Great Portland Street,  
London W 1  
England

Dear Dr Brunton:

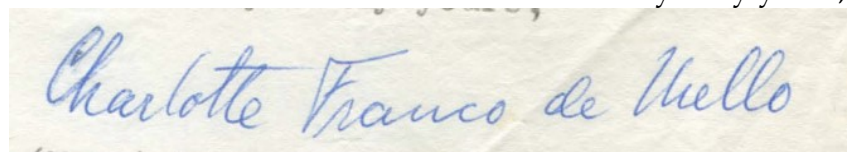
I feel that I owe you a debt of deep gratitude for having written your wonderful books, especially the "Quest of the Overself" and the "Wisdom of the Overself."

Although I have no satisfying personal contact with teachers who could help me in my quest for the Truth, I have read and re-read these books for the past four years and have obtained from them profound spiritual help. My inner life has been completely transformed in many ways, and I am beginning to find the answers to many questions which formerly seemed unanswerable.

To me, personally, your works are the most significant of our generation.

With sincere thanks,

Very truly yours,



(Mrs) Charlotte Franco de Mello

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<sup>47</sup> PB inserted "Refer to Bern and Ida" by hand at the top of the page.



## L09.105

105 - 106

Letter from Charlotte Franco de Mello  
Alameda Santos 1940, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
May 2, 1971

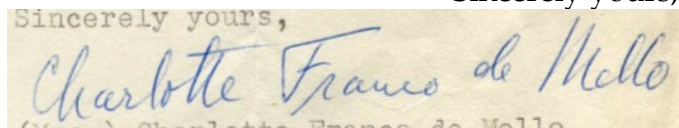
Dear Doctor Brunton,

I sometimes feel a bit like Judy in Jean Webster's "Daddy Longlegs", of childhood days, writing letters to an unknown benefactor and receiving no answer. I've written to you several times in the past, but have never received an answer. To be frank, I never expected to receive one either. Nevertheless, the mere act of writing down my perplexities and sending them off into the wild blue yonder seems to have clarified many obscure points in my studies of Mentalism. I haven't the faintest notion as to where my letters finally land, but since none of them have been returned to me, I presume that they have reached you in the end.

There is one point which now puzzles me - the role of animals in the scheme of things. I deeply love nature and especially animals, and I cannot believe that they are soulless as Catholics maintain. Are their souls different from ours? It also seems presumptuous on the part of man to say that "God created animal to serve man" as the Christian Bible says, nor can I quite believe that if I squash a cockroach, I may have aniquilated my grandmother, as some Indian sects teach. I often have a feeling of fellowship with animals which seem inexplicable but results in strange friendships with them. This makes me feel that they are fellow travellers on the road which I tread. Would that be the answer?

Please forgive me if I ask seemingly silly questions and thus waste your time. It is very difficult at times to struggle alone without a teacher along the path which I am travelling. I admire your writing profoundly and read them over and over again. With each reading, some new aspect strikes me and further enriches my life. Please accept my grateful thanks and sincere respect.

Sincerely yours,

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a piece of aged, yellowed paper. The signature reads "Charlotte Franco de Mello". Above the signature, the words "Sincerely yours," are printed in a small, faded font. Below the signature, the name "(Mrs) Charlotte Franco de Mello" is printed in a small, faded font.

(Mrs) Charlotte Franco de Mello

## L09.107

107 - 108

Letter from S. Vijayaratnam  
Ceylon  
24.8.68

{So},

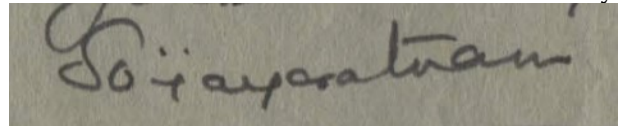
I read with delight your book - "A Search in Secret India." Specially the {illegible} dealing with {Meher} Baba who was inspired by Upasani Maharaj. But you have not mentioned anything about Sai Baba whose disciple Upasani Maharaj was.

At present Sathya Sai Baba - reincarnation of Sai Baba is living in Prasanthi - {Arlayam} and you will be much interested in him. Do you not like to revisit India and see for yourselves the present Saint and Sage.

I hope you would have read about 'The Incredible Sai-Baba' by Arthur Osborne ({illegible} {illegible} {illegible}) who is now living at Tiruvannamalai where yourself met Sri Ramana Maharshi and is following the Sage's Wisdom.

I would like to ask you a personal question - whether you would revisit India and whether you believe in the Sage and Saints of India: -

Thanks  
Yours sincerely



Dr<sup>48</sup> Paul Brunton.  
Hotel St. Peter,  
In Gasse, Zurich, 8001,  
Switzerland.

**L09.109**

109 -110  
Address of Dr Paul Brunton  
Undated

Dr Paul Brunton.  
Via Carona, 38,  
CH 6902 Paradiso,  
Lugano (Ticino),  
Switzerland.

L09.111

111 - 112

Letter from D.S. Mistry  
Manoo Mansions, Cumballa Hill, Bombay 26, India  
20/4/1971

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

Dear Mr Brunton,

I have traced your address through I.B. Publication, Bombay, and Rider & Co., London. I trust I'll be excused for taking this liberty.

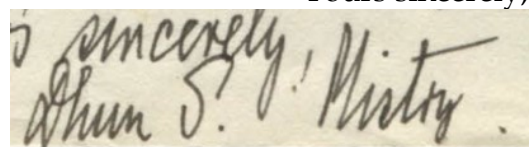
Since some years now, I have read most of your philosophical books available here and many of your expressions have impressed upon me greatly and this has also helped me from time to time to face the better, the trials and tribulations of the material life, which none can escape.

For most part of my life, I too had to bow to down with closed eyes to so-called Sages and Gods, and it is a pity that one's own parents or guardian exert a force on their children's minds to follow their own fixed faith and beliefs uncritically and unquestioningly. False veils cover our minds for the major part of our lives, until practical facts and experiences begin to cast their true light with madding slowness, and perhaps only on those who wait to question.

I will not say I have had a life of misfortunes, only some ups and downs. However, great expectations have dematerialised into non-expectations.

I no longer can bow down to men and things in great reverence for their supposed efficacy. I mainly write this letter to express a thought, that If the opportunity to prevail, I 'think' I will perhaps bow down to you as a great one, and give another try to know what is the real truth. I am sorry if I have inconvenienced you in any way by this letter, but it would be a much satisfying feeling if I were to receive a reply from you at some time or the other.

Thanking you  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D.S. Mistry", written on a piece of aged, slightly textured paper. The ink is dark, and the signature is slanted slightly to the right.

**L09.113**

113 - 114

Letter from Mrs Gouri Mukherji  
"Anchoragi," B14/2S1 {Kalyani}, Dist. Nadia  
28th April '70

Dr P. Brunton,  
c/o National Grindlays Bank  
London

Dear sir,

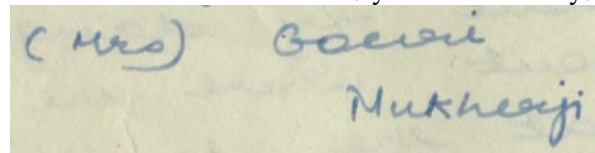
I have read your books, "A search into secret India" and I am writing to you because I feel you will be able to help me.

My 24 year old daughter was killed in a horse-riding accident last April. Since then I have been reading many books on Hindu philosophy because I want to know what has happened to her. Of all the books I have read, your book has impressed me the most and your experiences at Arunachala makes me feel that you can tell me something about my daughter - about where she is and what she is doing.

If it is beyond your power to do this then could you just pray for her? I would be very grateful if you could. I feel that your prayers<sup>49</sup> would help her.

I know that you travel a great deal and that you are always very busy. However, if you have the time, it would make me very happy to receive a reply from you.

I remain, yours sincerely,

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a piece of paper. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read "(Mrs) Gouri Mukherji".

**L09.115**

115 - 118

Letter from Elfriede Pleier and Ute Schweiggart  
Augsburg  
3 December, 1970

Dear Dr Brunton,

We keep thinking of you in affection and gratitude that you agreed once more to receive our visit. The profound sensation of peace spread by you lasts for long, and the fact that you are a contemporary of ours is reassuring.

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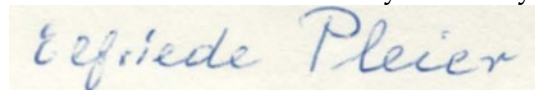
<sup>49</sup> Page 114

Some time ago we attended a convention with Graf Durckheim in the NERESHEIM Abbey. We were in pleasant company with congenial people. Owing to frequent meditations, lectures and religious ceremonies, the Kundalini fire in my head and chest had become so intense on the third day that I felt rather unable to continue, and I consulted Graf Durckheim personally. He asked me some questions that showed me his great cognizance in such things. I had to lay down, he seized my hands with his and requested me to shift the forces from the neck to the spine mentally. I succeeded, and only pronounced vibrations in the lower part of my belly were left. Graf Durckheim put his hands on my belly, and everything was smooth and calm, I could continue the meditations. I was happy and grateful. He explained to me an exercise I should follow to help myself when I feel that the complication returns - which will certainly happen. It does help, but not so effectively as Graf Durckheim's curing hands. At present I am fully absorbed by nursing my step mother, an egoistic, ill, complicated person who fully occupies me so that I cannot engage in taking recourse to mental activity. I am afraid I have to learn a lot as I feel this is a part of the tasks God is placing in our way to shape us and educate us. I am trying to think of this when I am doing my duty. I am also trying in the course of the days to direct my mind towards<sup>50</sup> God as Brother Lorenzo used to do.

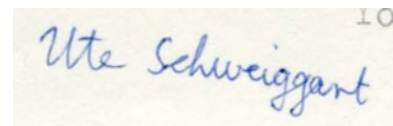
Sometimes I would long strongly for a quiet life in mental activity, and probably God will keep that for me until the proper time has come for it. We should strive for patience.

God bless you. In my great affection and respect for you I pray to him that he gives you all the best. Many kind regards to you,

Yours very sincerely



also from me



**L09.119**

119 - 120  
Letter from Mrs Betsy Scott<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> Page 117

<sup>51</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

5. The Grove, Whitecraigs, Glasgow, Scotland  
Sept. 24th.

Dear Mr Brunton,

I was so delighted to hear from your publishers that you were still with us! I have found such comfort and great delight in reading your books, that more than anything I wanted to write and tell you so.

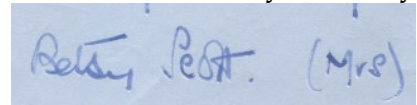
I have read "A Search in Secret India," "A Search in Secret Egypt," "The Secret Path," "A Hermit in the Himalayas," and am now reading "The Quest of the Overself," The latter reading just like<sup>52</sup> the most exciting adventure story into the inner caverns of one's soul.

To my horror, I find that there are only four more books of yours to read, that if I'm lucky enough to find them.

I suggest that your publishers get cracking and reprint your books again. Its dawning a Soul Searching world, and we need books like yours!

Thank you so much.

Yours very sincerely



## L09.121

121 - 126

French Letter from Monsieur Huynh-Van-Tuat<sup>53</sup>

Foreign language letter from Saigon, Sud Vietnam dated le 12 Mars<sup>54</sup> 1968

*Extract: None*

## L09.127

127 - 130

Letter from Monsieur Huynh-Van-Tuat<sup>55</sup>

Saigon

14th August 1969

Sir Paul Brunton,

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<sup>52</sup> Page 120

<sup>53</sup> "T", " and "sent to TS. U.K" are handwritten by PB at the top of the page.

<sup>54</sup> "delivered 2 months later by air!" was inserted by PB and "12 Mars" is underlined by hand.

<sup>55</sup> "T", " and "sent to TS. U.K" are handwritten by PB at the top of the page.

Venerably Sir,

Please excuse-me because I do not write well in English.

I am a Vietnamese and also a theosophical member.

I have seen almost all of your works translated in French as: Secret India, Secret Egyptia, Secret Path, Research of the Overself, Wisdom of the Overself.

I appreciate very much your Education for researching the Overself and your method for following the Secret Path.

I<sup>56</sup> esteem and admire you greatly, because you have attained the Overself, and very rare adepts have reached in our poor humanity.

I am very obliged to ask earnestly you to give me a photo of you for serving memory (souvenir) when I will see your photo, I will remember I have myself a Overself.

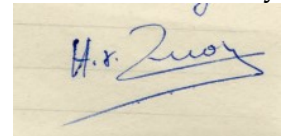
I thank you very much and in advance of your kindness to give me a photo

I hope I can always remain your humble disciple.

I wish you a very good health and a great spirituality.

You are kind to excuse my<sup>57</sup> bad English writing.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. S. Frey-Boechat', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

My address:

Monsieur Huynh-van-Tuat

Chef du Service {d'Electricite}

Province de {Vinh-long}

Sud Viet-Nam.

**L09.131**

131 - 132

French letter from Simone Frey-Boechat<sup>58</sup>

Foreign language letter from Kusunok dated 12 Nov. 77.

*Extract: None*

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<sup>56</sup> Page 128

<sup>57</sup> Page 129

<sup>58</sup> "no answer needed" is handwritten in a different hand at the top of the page.

## L09.133

133 - 134  
Book Review Clip  
1961<sup>59</sup>

Hans Jacobs: "Western Psycho-Therapy and Hindu Sadhana." ---"See<sup>60</sup> The reports by Paul Brunton in his book 'A Search in Secret India'. Incidentally this book containing as it does many facts inaccessible to most visitors to India, seems the only one of Brunton's many works which can be commended."<sup>61</sup>

## L09.135

135 - 140  
Letter from Hiltgund Dromemer<sup>62</sup>  
March 24th, 1969

Dear Mr Brunton,

32 years ago, when I was hardly able to think, my father gave me your book "Yohis," which had just appeared then, and said to me: "Try to discover your Self." At that time, I did not know at all what he meant. In the meantime I found out a little bit more about it -- (I hope.)

I have gone through an experience that proved everything you wrote. I own all your books ("Yogis" in<sup>63</sup> the 1937 and in the 1967 edition) and I just received the "Wisdom of the Overself" in the American edition. So far, I only had it in German. For the past weeks I have been reading The Wisdom of the Overself constantly, - in every open moment. I can take it with me when I go to town for shopping, and I read it in between. I received the "Wisdom of the Overself"<sup>64</sup> in English only {five} days ago, and because I am so happy about it I am now going to town with both the English and<sup>65</sup> the German book. Most of the time I decide they are so heavy that I cannot possibly carry anything else. So - I just leave shopping and sit down reading again....

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<sup>59</sup> Date was inserted by hand at the bottom of the clip.

<sup>60</sup> "See" is circled by hand at the top of the page and inserted here with an arrow.

<sup>61</sup> PB inserted "(CRITIQUE OF PB)" by hand at the bottom of the clip.

<sup>62</sup> Name appears in the letterhead. "M Brunton" is handwritten at the top of the letter in a different hand.

<sup>63</sup> Page 136

<sup>64</sup> "Wisd.o.the O." in the original.

<sup>65</sup> Page 137



I don't know whether I read every line of it because I am always coming back to the last chapters. Some of these passages I read so often that I know them by heart. I have experienced their truth by myself and they were of infinite help to me in<sup>66</sup> a very difficult situation. Or rather, they still are.

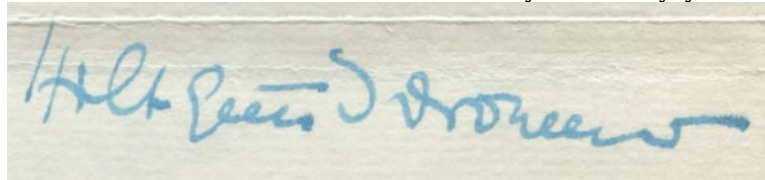
Since publication of the "Wisdom of the Overself" more than 20 years have gone by. In the meantime, is your opinion still the same or did you change your needs in some aspects?

Are you intending to write another book?

Are you ever making a speech or giving a talk anywhere?

I called Rascher Verlag today to ask for your address, and<sup>67</sup> they told me you were on a long trip and would probably be back in late summer only. Also, you would get your mail only then. So I am sending this letter express - maybe some sympathetic soul will then forward it to you a little earlier than late summer.

Very sincerely yours



PS: The 1967 edition of "Yogis, Magier und Fakire" is extremely well translated. Happens very rarely. Congratulations.<sup>68</sup>

PS<sup>69</sup> I hope I am not a bore with such a long letter. I started it two years ago, I wrote it five times in draft and three times in final version.

Please don't laugh.

Or rather -- do laugh.

But now I shall send it off before I am going to start the 6th draft....

Mrs Hiltgund Droemer  
8022 Grunwald Bei Munchen  
Ludwig Thomastr. {9a}

**L09.141**

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<sup>66</sup> Page 138

<sup>67</sup> Page 139

<sup>68</sup> Underlining in this paragraph is in a different hand.

<sup>69</sup> Page 140

141 - 142  
Letter from Mercedes  
Lynnwood, WA  
11/20/70

Paul Brunton,  
Chemin de la Mariache 1  
1802 Corseaux Sur Vevey  
Switzerland<sup>70</sup>

Dearest {illegible}<sup>71</sup>

I am writing to wish you Happy Birthday and I hope with all my heart you will have many, many more of the same!

You will never know how much your friendship means to me - even though I see you so seldom not a day goes by that I don't think of you. I see you in my mind's eye meditating in your colorful chair with your orange mushroom lamp casting a warm glow over the room. Just knowing you are there is so comforting and helpful to me and I am most grateful and honored that you have been a part of all our lives for so many years!

One day soon I hope to see you in person. Everyone here is fine and I am working on myself - reading, studying and meditating and praying for guidance. I am still in touch with {Mr Naughton} and hope to start a new job in 1979.

God bless you dear and keep you - you are greatly loved.



## L09.143

143 - 144  
Letter from Willy Bohme  
Dresden  
Nov. 15th, 1968

Dear Dr Brunton,

Recently the Ashram of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi has informed me that our dear Yogi Ramia and your friend, Yogi Ramdas, also had died, and from others I was sent a tape with a Mantram desired for the studying the correct pronunciation. In

---

<sup>70</sup> Address on airmail form is crossed out and this address was inserted by hand; "Please Forward" is handwritten by the address.

<sup>71</sup> This word is illegible because the page is torn.

Nepal, the favourite abode of Yogi Jerumbo Swami<sup>72</sup> and of his disciple Brahma Sukananda,<sup>73</sup> there are now large floods. May Lord save these men!

And I have wished for a long time to come into contact like you with the dear Brahma Sukananda per exchange of letters or in the astral sphere. Please, be so kind as to convey best greetings from me, a disciple of Maharishi, to Brahma Sukanada, as, I suppose, he often establishes astral contact with you through the coloured picture made especially for you. Or can you entrust me with a similar picture made by him, with his consent? This would help me well forward. I possess a dictionary of the Old-Tamil language for translating his letters.

With kind regards,  
your fellow-disciple

I will help a sick mother with Brahmasukanandas blessing, please! please!  
{illegible} birth 12.5.1888

Willy Bohme  
8029 Dresden A  
Sachsdorferstr. 8  
Germany - G.D.R

## L09.145

145 - 146  
Photograph  
Negative of meditating man with many symbols around it.

*Extract: none*

## L09.147

147 - 150  
Letter from {Sole Sandri}<sup>74</sup>  
Foreign language letter from Roma dated 7 gennaio 1972.

*Extract: None*

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<sup>72</sup> PB inserted "the name of B.S! guru now revealed" by hand in the left margin and underlined "Yogi Jerumbo Swami" by hand.

<sup>73</sup> "{illegible} photo meditation not {illegible} {illegible} Brahma!" is handwritten in the right margin by the author.

<sup>74</sup> PB inserted "probably sent by {Pereth}" by hand at the top of the page.

## L09.151

151 - 152  
Envelope to Mr Paul Brunton  
Envelope annotated by PB.

*Extract: "I offered {illegible} Zurich Xmas or Vevey earlier Arlesheim is suburb of Basel"*

## L09.153

153 - 154  
Letter from Nina Brauchli  
Arlesheim  
18.10.71

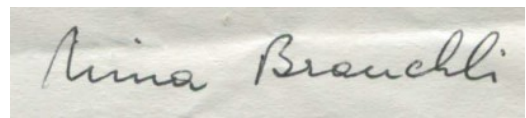
Dear Mr Brunton,

It is now more than 4 weeks ago since I wrote to you asking you to grant me a little time to discuss a few questions which are very important to me. I have not heard from you till now and assume that you are not in a position to see strange people and I do fully understand the questions are too precious to me to put them on paper but I see no other way as to trouble you once more with these lines and restrict myself to only 2 questions:

1) What is the name of your book, written as a continuation of the book "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga." Is it translated in German and what is the German Titel.

2)<sup>75</sup> Is there somewhere, someone, an experienced Master, who could help me on this difficult way.

With sincerely best wishes

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nina Brauchli". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged or off-white.

My address is:  
Frau Dr Brauchli  
Mattweg 63  
4414 Arlesheim  
Schweiz.

**L09.155**

155 - 156  
Letter from {Nicky} Brauchli  
Mattweg 63, 4414 Arlesheim  
Nov. 25th.<sup>76</sup>

Dear Mr Brunton,

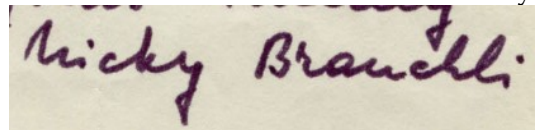
Thank you very much indeed for your lines and giving me a chance to talk with you during Christmas-week in the City of Zurich.

Any of the days you give are alright for us. I would suggest Tuesday 28th of Dec. in the afternoon.

We live about 4 km outside Basel and if weather condition permit, we will come in the car, if not, with the train to Zurich, which is for us about 1 1/2 hrs. journey. Perhaps we can arrange the exact time and place by telephone: 067/72 47 44. We are spending Christmas quietly at home, so you should telephone at that time.

Once again - thank you - and looking forward to hear from you.

Yours sincerely



Peace and Blessings for Christmas and New-year.

**L09.157**

157 - 158  
Letter from Nicky Brauchli  
Mattweg 64, 4414 Arlesheim  
14/9/71

Dear Mr Brunton,

Thank you so much for your kindness to communicate your address to me.

With much sadness I read that you have withdrawn into retirement and am sorry to disturb your well-deserved peace. After considering this I still decided to write to you with the slight hope that you may be able to help me.

---

<sup>76</sup> PB inserted "send letter on Grindlay paper re 2 {fainting}" and "will phone wed 8am re {conv} same day" by hand at the top of the page.

To make as little words as possible - here is a short explanation of the situation. Just over 7 yrs ago I started consciously and very intensely to find out or to know more about God. A book from B. Spalding: "Life and Teachings of the Masters of the Far-East" (German translation) made such a great impression on me that day and night I had no peace and had to find out more about it. Fate was so kind to me, that a little later well over a hundred similar books came into my possession, including your book "The Secret Path." I tried every kind of meditation, concentration etc, with the results that all kinds of things started to happen to me: dreams, visions, my character and my health changed for the better, the whole outlook on life changed completely, at times I had enormous physical strength. I got very perceptive and sensitive to other people's thoughts and feelings, to atmosphere and nature etc, etc. But there came also something which was not always nice - my thoughts were running like a non-stop factory! My phantasy (Perhaps it was phantasy - I really did not understand it all) was running into dangerous regions and I get very confused. I wish so much I could meet somebody who could put things right but it was obviously not yet time for it.

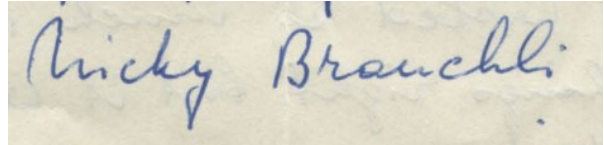
Then<sup>77</sup> it so happened that the rest of your books came into my hands: "Discover Yourself," "The Quest of the Overself," "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" and the others. The result was that a lot of the chaos was sorted out. I achieved a lot of peace and freedom. And here I would like to thank you with all my heart for so much help and right orientation your books have given me. I have to confess that there is one thing I have not quite done as explained in your books - I meditate much longer than 1/2 hr daily and think with little exception the whole and everyday about God and how or what I can do more to come nearer to Him. Here I have to say that I am only a housewife and have to make time without neglecting my responsibilities. The only person who knows what I am doing and what my interests are, is my husband. We lead a peaceful and simple life.

This is my very short story. The burning point now is that I don't quite understand certain things which are happening during meditation and should very much like to discuss a few questions with somebody who really knows about it.

Dare I respectfully ask for your kindness to grant me an interview for this purpose?

I feel quite sure, I know, that such a step would be of greatest help for a great purpose and beg you to consider my wish.

With God's Blessings  
respectfully Yours



**L09.159**

159 - 162

Letter and Envelope from Barbara M. Winter<sup>78</sup>  
32, Court Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England.  
20th January '62

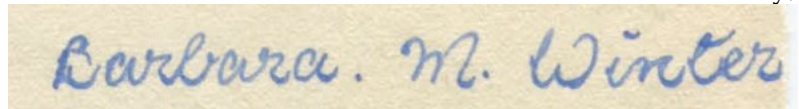
Dear Dr Brunton,

I have read a number of your books, and after years of searching I have found my answer in your book, The Secret Path.

It is now that I need the help of a Master. You have done so much for me and your writings have uplifted and strengthened me more than anything else I have ever read - then how can I ask more of you? It is because if anyone can help me now it is you, but I daresay you receive many letters like mine --

I am a married woman of fifty and have two children. I would like to say that even if I do not hear from you - bless you and thank you from my heart! New Zealand is a country I have always wanted to live in. It must be beautiful there.

Yours sincerely,



**L09.163**

163 - 164

Letter from R. Dean Winter<sup>79</sup>  
5708 Lexington Rd., El Paso, Texas 799-24  
31 Jan 64

Mr Paul Brunton  
c/o E.P. Dutton & Co.  
201 Park Ave. So.  
New York 3, N.Y.

Dear Mr Brunton:

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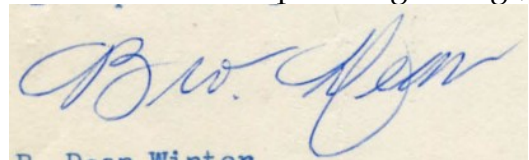
<sup>78</sup> "W." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>79</sup> "W" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

I have heard through a friend here something of your wonderful writings. For 11 years we have worked among Spanish-speaking people - 7 years in Bolivia, S.A. - as non-affiliated missionaries of quite orthodox background. But two years ago I started through a real spiritual "revolution" in my life, having been quite dissatisfied with the mixture of humanism, materialism and some spiritual light in my theology and in my experience. "The Spirit gives life," and I was convinced that it was the divine purpose that everyone of us experience the abundant life. Then was opened up to me the metaphysical interpretation and path, so I have come to know a greater degree of spiritual consciousness and fruit.

But I am far from satisfied with this degree of experienced reality, and so am writing you to ask if you could send me any printed information as to the best method (technique) for "breaking through" into the God-consciousness which is so needful if we are to serve out fellowman the way we should. I am so hungry to know this mystical union with God, to sense and respond to His immanent Presence, and do hope you will be able to send some pamphlet, book or even outdated magazine which might contain more light on this quest. I can assure you that any light you might share with me will be generously shared with others, not only in this area and in the States, but also all over Latin America, as our contacts are broad in the religious world. Thank you so very much for your kind consideration.

With spiritual greetings,



R. Dean Winter

**L09.165**

165 - 166

Letter from Franz E. Winkler<sup>80</sup>

123 East 83rd Street, New York 28, N.Y.<sup>81</sup>

November 17, 1964

Paul W. Brunton Esq.  
c/o National & Grindlay's Ltd.  
13 St. James' Square  
London S.W.1

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<sup>80</sup> "W." is handwritten at the top of the page.

<sup>81</sup> Address appears in the letterhead.



Dear Mr Brunton:

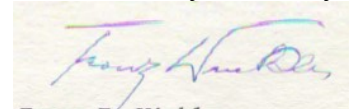
Through some coincidence I learned of your present address.

Since, as you know, I have always been deeply interested in you and your fate, I would be very glad if you would drop me a note, and let me know how you are doing.

As you may recall, we were introduced at Mrs Beal's, and we had several meetings thereafter which I will always remember.

Hoping to hear from you,

Very sincerely,



Franz E. Winkler

## L09.167

167 - 168

Letter from Ursula Ware<sup>82</sup>

London

April 14th 1958

Dear Mr Brunton

Among the thousands of letters of appreciation you much receive from all over the world, may I quite simply {illegible} sincerely offer you my deepest gratitude for the finest most beautiful moving and enlightening Books of this Century.

After much Suffering and tragedy, no cult, doctrines, or denomination, has shown true Reality to me as {your} {illegible} {golden} Books. Indeed, no vocabulary of mine can possibly do them full justice.

I<sup>83</sup> feel fortunate that I can own all the copies.

If ever this letter reaches you and you can find a spare moment - could I know: - if you have written anything since "The Spiritual Crisis of Man" and do you ever lecture - speak or hold discussions anywhere in London.

In passing - has the "Catechism of Enquiry" yet been published in England.

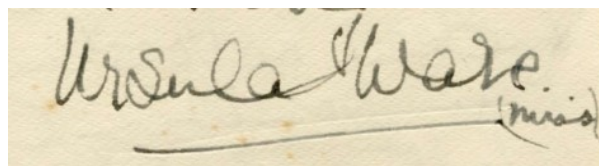
With profound THANKS.

Yours Truly

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<sup>82</sup> "W" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>83</sup> Page 168



**L09.169**

169 - 176

Letter and Envelope from Piet v.d. Vyver.  
Youngsfield, Capetown, South Africa  
9.2.60.<sup>84</sup>

Dr Paul Brunton,  
c/o Messrs H Rider & Co.,  
Book Publishers.  
London  
England

Dear<sup>85</sup> Dr Brunton,

As I've read quite a few of your books and have been impressed and comforted by your philosophical ideas and furthermore since you have an extensive knowledge of Yoga, I am writing this letter to you, hoping that you may be able to help me.

Quite soon I hope to complete my basic training, as a professional soldier and after this I hope to have the privacy to do a course in Yoga or rather a series of Yoga exercises. These exercises I would like to do, would have<sup>86</sup> to primarily strengthen the nerves and nervous system and second in importance all the bodily functions. I am 37 years of age and single, living a very active life, but I feel that I still could improve on my health.

Would giving up smoking, give an increase of nervous energy as I seem to suffer a loss of energy via my throat due to the irritation caused by the smoke on these mucous membranes? Or is this notion or idea false? I am a fairly heavy smoker smoking 40-50 cigarettes a day.

Now bearing the above in mind could you kindly advise me of a good book of suitable exercises which I may buy and were, what to study and do as well as any pertinent information and help. Could you perhaps help me please as I do believe that Yoga can do more of the impossible than any other system including Western Medicine

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<sup>84</sup> PB inserted "Answer soon as he enclosed several "Reply Coupons"" by hand at the top of the page

<sup>85</sup> Page 171

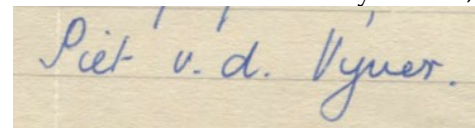
<sup>86</sup> Page 173

in some of the aspects of human life, since what Yogi's have been practising for a long time, our Medico's are only beginning to realize.

Also I would appreciate it very greatly if you could advise me what the position and<sup>87</sup> attempt on my part to become a Yogi would be doomed to failure. It is of course safest to be in the majority and be a pessimist, but I still have to hear of a pessimist breaking new ground. But I feel that ONE (not necessarily me) CAN WITH GODS WILL AND WITHIN HIS POWER DO what is completely IMPOSSIBLE by human standards. I feel that it is just a matter of finding the correct means. Even Christ could do no miracles where there was a complete lack of faith!

Thus could you kindly advise me of a book of Yoga exercises pertinent to my needs as a stopgap as well as the information regarding a visit to India. Perhaps you may mention the names of sincere students of Yoga in Johannesburg or Pretoria as I hope to be transferred to Pretoria a fortnight from now.

Thank you ever so much,  
Sincerely Yours,



**L09.177**

177 - 178

Letter from Lieut Col Harish Chandra Taneja  
c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd New Delhi (INDIA)  
28 September 1957

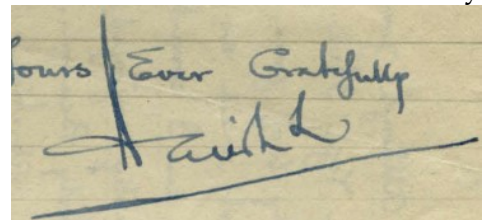
Great Yogi,

Allow me to address you as such. Although you do not claim to be {called} thus. I know it deep in my heart that you are a true Yogi. I take up my pen to write to you because of an inner urge. I have already read quite recently 6 of your books and am at present towards the final chapters of The Q or the OS. The 4 books I have not read so far are: S in SE, IR, SC of Man and The W of the OS. There are a total of 10 on the subject - am I correct? You state in one of your books that your M from A'chala has not been popular. I personally enjoyed it immensely. Maybe because of my great reverence of the Mystic of the Sacred Hill of the Holy Beacon. Do you think the Red Hill of S. India at Tiruvannamalai would still be charged with divine vibrations and will keep its promised promise for everyone? About six months back, to my great fortune, Grace descended upon me - a fragmentation of it and has much changed my outlook since.

Literally it was as if under a sorcerer's spell and came down like a "shower." Since then I have been "led" to read your books and one or two others on the subject, including Yogi Ramacharak's "Rajayoga." In your S in SI you haven't mentioned having come across Sri Aurobindo of Pondicherry and Swami Shivananda of Rishikesh or their Ashrams. Am I to understand you did not meet these personalities. I cannot yet start a deliberate "search" on the {lives} done by you. In the meantime can you suggest me to contact a few Yogis still left here I could receive guidance and help from? Strange I should ask you this question when I am here on the spot myself, but I am certain you must be in touch with a few. You have also mentioned in your books of one or two of your critics. Can you let me know the titles of any books written by them so that I know what they are getting at. I must close now and await a hasty reply from you. Great Yogi, I crave for thy blessings. I look into thy eyes so that I may ever remain on the path of Bhakti and godliness; so that I may retain my faith, courage, confidence and hope and escape doubt, fear, suspicion, worry, {enmity}, indecision and useless vagrant thinking; so that I<sup>88</sup> may become mentally strong and tough and robust. Great Yogi, bestow upon me the powers of the mind - the power in reserve. Bestow upon me thy stillness and thy spiritual life-force and enlighten me as did the mystic of Arunachala enlighten you. I understand you are to visit our land thrice and you have been twice so far. In that case, stars permitting, I may look forward to your crossing my path sometime when I shall gaze into thy crystal clear eyes "deeply, intently and deliberately." In the meantime I let my Overself guide me; I obey its bidding and pray to be prepared to the proper ripeness and await for the "message" from you.

Peace be with All - One and All, One and All, One and All.

Yours Ever Gratefully



**L09.179**

179 - 184

Letter from Jean Williams<sup>89</sup>

"Brooklando" Perrancoombe Perranporth Cornwall<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> Page 178

<sup>89</sup> "W" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>90</sup> "Eng." is handwritten next to the address in a different hand.

20/4/64

Dr Paul Brunton  
c/o Rider-Company  
Publishers  
London

Dear Dr Brunton,

I do not know if this letter will ever reach you, but I feel I must express on paper my heartfelt thanks for your books. After an {experience} in {Nigeria} which left me gloriously happy in 'soul,' but very {bewildered}, I came back to U.K. to settle in Cornwall. I tried so hard to find an answer for my 12 days of illumined {illegible}, when I seemed to be controlled by another, "far {wiser} {and} {diviner} me" - every minute of the day and my {waking} {hours} at night were of deep spiritual joy and inspiration. It was an answer to years of<sup>91</sup> tears, {illegible}-praying and there was no-one who could {share} it with me or even begin to understand. I had often sung that old Hymn "Lord plant my feet on higher Ground" and now I seemed to have had that experience. I had no-one to turn to for advice and guidance, for {though} I have the "best husband in the world," he just doesn't understand the "other" me, and I had long since ceased fellowship with the narrow religious sect who had "trained" me from 15 to 31. Now at 40, after 9 years of struggling on my own to understand God's purpose for my life this beautiful experience was granted to me. It came after a week of personal sorrow and disappointment over money matters, and then there was an appeal for spiritual help and advice over a Sunday School problem, by some other European members of our {"Shell"}, Community in Nigeria. My own grief and disappointment were so keen, that I almost turned my back on the Sunday {I} {have} problems, then my "better self" prevailed and I realized that<sup>92</sup> it wasn't going to help matters much by making children suffer for my "personal" problems. I "shelved" my {own} problems {and} threw myself heart and soul into putting the S. School back on its feet before I left, a while I was thus engaged that "other-self" came to help me. I won't weary you with all the details, as you are sure to have read thousands of similar letters. Sufficient it is to say, that I came back to England pandering in my heart "what? and why? and wherefore?" I searched the shelves of Cornwall County Library - I read countless books on Philosophy and Religious Mysticism, but none seemed to give me the answer until I found a copy of your "Spiritual Crisis of Man," Although it did not give me a direct answer to my own experience, your book so held my heart and mind that I bought a copy of my own and from then on, over the past 2 years have been acquiring your books one by one. You have given me the answer in your wonderful explanation of the

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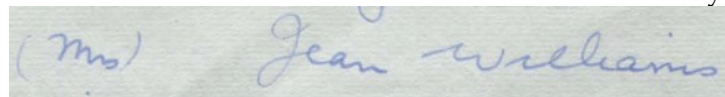
<sup>91</sup> Page 180

<sup>92</sup> Page 181

"Overself" and to me<sup>93</sup> the 5 books which I have already acquired are a "treasure beyond {illegible}." I never tire of reading them and often they make me cry, but through it all, I have that wonderful warm feeling, deep within my heart that I am not alone, and that I'll never be alone again. The old hymns about God's presence and Christ's spirit which I used to sing with such religious fervour have now acquired a much much deeper meaning for me. I had another experience of this kind about a year after the first one, and the memories of these illumined times are a real source of joy to me. Your works have come like a "Lighthouse of the Spirit." - your books are like charts on Life's Seas. I have seen from your works, what my past experiences in the last 25 years have meant - right from the time when at the age of 15 I was {illegible} into a religious sect and<sup>94</sup> {illegible} to try to live for higher things. "How high" these things were going to be, I had no means of learning, but the Supreme Spirit has guided me thus far, and I know it will never forsake me in the future Pathways on the "Quest." God bless you and your works Dr Brunton! You have given me a new "understanding" a "compass {beaming}" on "Life's fitful seas." May the Divine Spirit continue to use you and your wonderful books to help weary, {eager} travellers like me to reach the {end} of the "Quest" and realize the "Kingdom of Heaven" within me. Please forgive me for taking the liberty of writing to you, but something has forced me to abandon my housework this morning and take up my pen instead. You can rest assured that your books will be<sup>95</sup> read and re-read and I hope and pray to be able to pass them on to my two children in due time, and I pray that God will help me to prepare their young hearts to receive the "message" of Hope and Light which has been so graciously "opened up" to me. May you have many more years of {Divine} usefulness on this earth Plane, and if I never have the privilege of meeting you in "the flesh," perhaps one day on the "other {illegible}" we'll be able to talk over our experiences.

If you are ever in Cornwall you will receive a very warm welcome at my home, for to me, you have through your books become my "Guide, Philosopher and Friend."

Yours sincerely



**L09.185**

185 - 188

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<sup>93</sup> Page 182

<sup>94</sup> Page 183

<sup>95</sup> Page 184

Letter from Carole {Taylor}<sup>96</sup>  
Holliscroft, Sheffield Gdns, Hutton {in} Brentwood Essex  
9.9.68

Dear Dr Brunton,

I want to write to thank you, through your books, for helping me to get myself 'unmixed' about the meaning of living. This letter will be rather {rambly} I expect, as I have never written my thoughts before.

I was recommended to read your Search in Secret India about 3yrs ago by a friend in the office with whom I work. Have read about 6 and bought 4. The India and Egypt searches, Inner Reality and Secret Path. They now seem like friends to me. Am now 28 years and for a long time, until about 3 yrs ago, have not understood what or who caused everything to live, myself included, especially myself, getting filled with self pity, feeling inferior.

I made an effort to turn over a new leaf - there was a turning point for some reason, partly because<sup>97</sup> I came to hate the feeling of being fed up.

I am gradually unfolding and glad I am alive. Looking back those thoughts seem narrow minded. Reading your books the main thoughts seem so logical and natural. No frills. That's why the Bible has always puzzled me. You seem to have gone straight to the core.

I try my 20 mins. 'No thoughts' I call it when I have settled in bed at night. That is the only time for me, laying down. I do not think the time has ever been as long as you suggest - am so relaxed I go to sleep! I manage only a few seconds, I suppose. I don't think it can be longer. I feel though I have progressed a little. During the day I think as well when I have a few moments to spare.

I love the countryside and am out in the fresh air when ever there is the opportunity. I live with my parents and we have a fairly large garden where I spend a lot of time. I also belong to two Bird watching and Nat. History Societies. I have always {loved} the natural ways or as {near} as possible. It can make one an individual and not to follow the crowd! This is better.<sup>98</sup> Have always felt this but used to feel that I was different and 'why,' especially at school and that can be rather a {cruel} place. It helps to toughen one up, it helped me.

Have gradually accepted me and have branched out in my interests and have found many other individuals.

At the office there are 4 of us who have read your books. The {illegible} library must have the set! They are the only 4 people I can discuss spiritual thoughts with. It is

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<sup>96</sup> "T" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>97</sup> Page 186

<sup>98</sup> Page 187

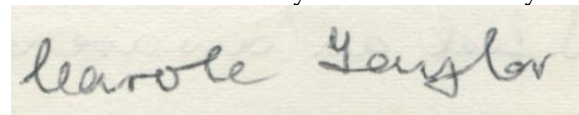
not a subject one can talk about easily to the people you know whether they be relations or friends, you get to know their outlooks on general subjects.

I have a long way to go on this Secret Path. I know it is worth following. I only have to look at nature, but problems I come across that are hard, make me wish that I could get some encouragement however small, that would tell me that I am on the right track to this goal: that Some Power is helping me, that it is not imagination. You will not like that last word! One is very much alone. That is how I feel at times. Other times I feel an awareness and strength. If I try<sup>99</sup> too hard it does not come. I must believe and hope very much. Thousands of people feel the same but I only know how I feel. Am I sounding rather egoistic?

Something I have thought for a long time. It is hard to put into words. Perhaps you can understand: - 'Why am I, me?' If I touch another person I don't feel anything. I can look at people all around me but cannot get the same view of myself. It makes me wonder why I am here and if we are all meant to do some certain job or to be here for a certain purpose, am I doing the right job or everyday things and if not when will I or will I ever!

Have wanted to write to you for many months and as I am alone for the day have taken this opportunity. Have thought several times what to write to you and have planned it in my mind. A quiet sunny morning by the fishpond has brought out this epistle!

My best wishes to you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leanne Gayler", on a light-colored rectangular piece of paper.

**L09.189**

189 - 190

Letter from {Miss} Pramode Upmanyu  
New Delhi, India  
11 OCT 1966<sup>100</sup>

Dear Dr Brunton,

Few years ago my father Mr V.S. Sharma of {himachal Pradesh}, {illegible} was going to undertake the job of {translating} your book Message of Arunachala into Hindi {because} none of your books have been translated into Hindi {according} to his last wish I want to undertake this job as he expired on 23rd Sept.

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<sup>99</sup> Page 188

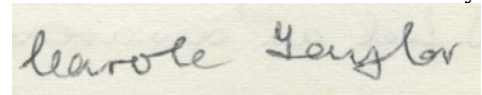
<sup>100</sup> Postmarked date



I would try my best at this. I hope you would give me the permission to do so. Please give me written permission to do so and inform me about the rituals which are to be performed before doing so. Recently I read two of your books more, "The Quest of the Overself" and "The inner reality." According to you the message of Arunachala did not satisfy you but this is a very sincere and {illegible} book to the land of India and I think it is difficult even for an Indian to write with so much of love, regards and affection.

Please inform me about this as soon as possible with regards

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L.H.M.C." or similar, on a light-colored paper background.

L.H.M.C.<sup>101</sup>  
New Delhi  
India

**L09.191**

191 - 192

Letter from Armond Toussaint<sup>102</sup> to Kenneth Hurst  
Belgium  
20 Nov. 1964

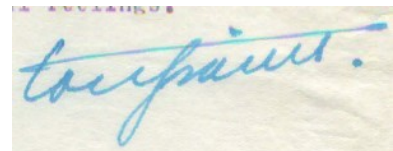
Mr Kenneth Hurst  
New York

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was informed by a friend that it was possible to see Dr P. Brunton when he would come back in Europe.

I am a retired inspector of the Belgian railways and 70 years old. During 30 years, I diffused the teachings of the Rosicrucian philosophy and of Martinism and in my last years it would be a great help for me to encounter such a master as Dr Brunton, in the "quest" of my Inner Self.

Thank you very much if you may help me too, in this difficult way and please accept my best fraternal feelings.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Armond Toussaint", on a light-colored paper background.

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<sup>101</sup> PB inserted "L.H.M.C. = (probably Lady Hardinge Medical College.)" by hand.

<sup>102</sup> Name appears in the letterhead.

**L09.193**

193 - 194  
Letter from Kenneth Hurst to Armand Toussaint  
Undated

Dear Armand Toussaint,

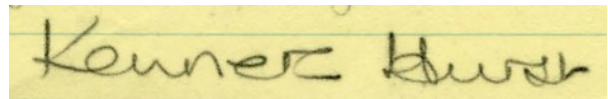
It is a great pity I did not know of you when I visited Brussels in October.

It would have been a pleasure to have met you!

Yes, Dr Brunton is now in Europe. But he is travelling constantly. I shall forward your letter to him. However, as he has no secretarial help it may not be possible for him to write you directly. Yet, be assured he will "answer" it inwardly in his own mystical way.

My only personal suggestion is for you to read (or reread) Dr Brunton's last three book: The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga, The Wisdom of the Overself, and The Spiritual Crisis of Man. I believe they are available in French as well as English. (W.H. Smith bookshop could order the English editions for you.) For me, and many others, they represent the quintessence of all that needs to be said to help seekers such as ourselves.

Please accept my fraternal good wishes.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The signature reads "Kenneth Hurst" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

**L09.195**

195 - 195  
Letter from F.J. Thompson - Glaser  
39 Gwendwr Road, London W.14  
31. Oct. 67

Dr Paul Brunton  
c/o National Grindlays Bank  
St. James Square  
S.W.1.

Dear Sir

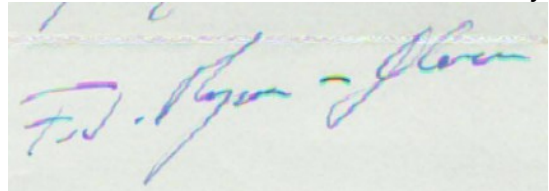
I wrote to your {illegible} {illegible} ago hoping to receive at least {an} answer to my letter. My wife and I are {no} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {nor} {are} {illegible} {illegible} {busy-bodies.}

My wife has met you in Singapore as a young girl and considers you as serious and only {illegible} {who} can help<sup>103</sup> a {illegible} in {illegible} {illegible} of spiritual {illegible} of any {illegible} {which} nature.

{There} are {strange} {time}, we are living in, surely you {illegible} come into a {illegible} open {and} help those who are seriously in need of your {illegible} {help}.

I hope you may {grant} me {a} {few} minutes of your time.

Yours sincerely



**L09.197**

197 - 202

Letter from (Mrs) Sarjit Kaur Siddou-Atwal<sup>104</sup>

2416 York St. Vancouver 9, B.C.

Sept. 13, 1969.<sup>105</sup>

Dr Paul Brunton,  
c/o National Grindlay's Bank<sup>106</sup>  
13 St. James Square, London SW1

Revered Sir:

Words fail me, I know not what to write or where to begin. But I do know that there is an inner passion to have the darshan of a Truly holy mortal and, from your books, I am CONVINCED that you are the LIVING PROOF.

A brief sketch of my background is as follows: my sister and I are the only two offspring of {Sikh} parents who emigrated to Canada many decades ago. We were born, raised and educated in Canada. We are both medical doctors and we are giving our honorary services in a small {charitable} clinic, built by our late father. The location is in a small Punjab village, our maternal ancestral home. Both of us married late in life. I have one daughter ages 3 years. My sister is 44 years old and I am 43.

Our<sup>107</sup> spiritual background is almost entirely eastern due to our deeply religious mother. Father was equally religious but in an unorthodox way. My sister is much

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<sup>103</sup> Page 196

<sup>104</sup> "(Dr S. K Sidoo Atwal)" is inserted above the signature in a different hand.

<sup>105</sup> PB inserted "offer int on way home to Canada" by hand at the top of the page.

<sup>106</sup> Underlining and "address {furnished} by {Reder}!" are inserted in a different hand.

more spiritually advanced - in every way. For instance, we both gave up meat over 10 years ago. She has stuck fast to this resolution whereas, I have weakened - even though I feel it is wrong to eat meat.

Sister and I have seen and visited many holy men in India, unfortunately, most of them appeared to be frauds. However, I may be wrong and perhaps they did not wish to reveal their true identity to us.

The result was that for sometime, I turned my back to religion and became rather critical. Strangely though, I was utterly miserable. Perhaps, it was my marriage to an highly educated Sikh Indian who was too orthodox in the Indian social customs.

Then, due to the Grace of God. I returned to religion and found peace and happiness; but only as long as I remained on the Path. Now, I KNOW there is God but, perhaps, through the Grace of a sage of your calibre, I may never stray again.

At<sup>108</sup> the moment, we are back in Vancouver, our permanent home, but shall return to India at the end of October<sup>109</sup> or early November. We shall go via London. I shall consider it the highest privilege if you would grant me an interview.

Please help me.

In all humility,



**L09.203**

203 - 204

Letter from J.K. Sidoo

P.O. Aur, Dist. Jullundur, Punjab, India

May 19 1967

Dr Paul Brunton  
c/o The Anchor Press Ltd.,  
Tiptree, {Essex},  
England<sup>110</sup>

Dear Dr Brunton,

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<sup>107</sup> Page 199

<sup>108</sup> Page 201, "PB inserted {see} Sankaras" and "send aerogram NOW" by hand at the top of the page.

<sup>109</sup> Underlined in a different hand.

<sup>110</sup> Address from back of airmail form; "Top Urgency" and "MR SALTER" are written by the address in different hands.

Many years ago I read your books. They made an impression but not a deep one. Now chance or fate has again brought my attention to your books and I am very deeply impressed.

I have been interested in spiritual matters since my teens. I have been in close contact with a disciple of the late Sivananda.

After six months I discovered the falseness of this relationship. Then I came to India, from Canada and I walked with Vinoba for several months in 1960. This was a deep experience but again I wasn't satisfied. Then I turned to Krishnamurti and for a time he seemed to have the answer. I heard his talks in India and Europe from 1961 to 1965. Again I felt disillusioned, after a time.

I had a very deep spiritual experience in 1956. It proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that God exists. While with Vinoba I had another rich experience. Since I have been reading and listening to Krishnamurti I have had no spiritual experience.

Just a little background about myself may not be out of place. I was born in Duncan Canada and had a flourishing lumber business. There were only two daughters in our family, my sister and I. I was educated in Vancouver and then went to Medical School in Toronto graduating in 1949. I did post graduate work in Montreal that is where I met the disciple of Sivananda in 1956. In 1959 our family came to India. My father<sup>111</sup> built a hospital in my mother's village, {Aur.}. My sister, who is also a doctor, and I run this hospital. We serve the poor villagers of these regions where medical help is far away.

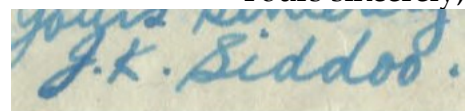
I am now 42 years old. One and a half years ago I married an Indian. This has made no difference to my spiritual quest.

I feel very deeply that during my lifetime I would like to talk to you. Please let me know if this is possible.

I shall be travelling through Europe in July and then going to Canada. I leave India about July 5th and then go to Switzerland<sup>112</sup> and England. Then I fly to Vancouver via New York from London around August 5th. I return to India at the end of September.

Please forgive a stranger for butting into a recluse's solitude but I am seeking that Infinite.

Yours sincerely,



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<sup>111</sup> Page 204

<sup>112</sup> Underlined in a different hand.

**L09.205**

205 - 206

Letter from Elisabeth Scott<sup>113</sup>  
16 Grosvenor Square, Sale/Cheshire  
18th of October 68

Dear Mr Brunton,

after reading some of your books, I feel so very much I want to meet you.

I started with your book, "The Quest of the Overself." That is almost one year ago and since that time, my inner life has already changed, but I do need some kind of guidance so badly... You see, after I read that first book of yours, I knew that this was that logical truth, I had been looking for so desperately. And I knew that it was truth, because I lived it. It was, as if one veil was lifted, but there are many veils and it seems such a very difficult task. You see, I am 33 and a housewife, with three small children at home and a husband to look after. When I read your book "A Search in Secret Egypt" and saw that photo of you holding a snake, your face seemed so very familiar to me. I know, you dislike to be called a spiritual teacher, but you did give me, the very first and important instruction. The picture still lives in my mind, which you described in "A Search in Secret India," when you said good bye to the Maharishi of Arunachala, when you turned around and lifted your hand, knowing you had found your Master for always.

Dear Mr Brunton, I would you so very much like to meet you and talk to you, will you please be so kind and reply to my letter and grant me that favour of meeting you.

Yours sincerely



P.S. Please excuse my English, as I am German. I enclose a photo of me and my youngest son.

**L09.207**

207 - 208

Photograph of E. Scott and youngest son  
Attachment to L09.205 dated June 68

*Extract: None*

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<sup>113</sup> "S" is handwritten at the top of the page.

Dear Dr Brunton,

I have a compulsion to write you which is so strong it will not be denied. Your writings have made a baffling world comprehensible, have given me hope where I had despair and given me purpose where hitherto existence had seemed meaningless. For the first time, also, I have the desire to repent.

If I am to let you know what your writings have achieved for me and how large is the debt I owe you I must let you know from what sorry plight I have been rescued by them.

I am forty five years old, come of farming stock and was born in a quiet Suffolk village. From an early age I was an introvert, delighting in the solitary wastes of the East Anglian marshes, and, later, in the remote glens of the Scottish Highlands where I also was connected. I grew up a lonely solitary lad, not understanding my own kinfolk and they, in turn and very justifiably, not understanding me.

From early age the riddle of the Universe puzzled me. I was fascinated about the mystery of it and about the riddle of life - subjects which did not interest my kinfolk because life was a grim round of farm duties and there was no time for such speculations. I was considered odd, and, from their viewpoint I must have been.

I was brought up in the Church of England but it made no impact upon me. I could never see anything of value to me in the creeds and dogmas. It was not that I was deliberately iconoclastic; it was merely that I found no answer to my problems nor hope for the future in the Services. I could never see, for instance, how it mattered one way or another about the Immaculate Conception. I wanted guidance and help very deeply and all I seemed to be fed on was irrelevancies.

So I grew up ever wondering about the riddle of life, ever seeking for some meaning and purpose. You see, if I could not accept orthodox religion I had nothing with which to replace it except the faint hope that somewhere I might find an answer.

My life has been perpetually unhappy. I cannot recall any period of it which brought me even a temporary happiness or could be recalled with pleasure. Also throughout my life I have carried a deep burden of sensuality which has been followed always by shame and guilt. Most of my life I have felt unutterably weary of it as if I

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<sup>114</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

was a very old man. The last ten years have been filled with the genuine hope that my instinct was wrong and that death was the true end of man. All I ask for at the end of my life was total oblivion. I do not think man can become more unhappy than this.

I have told you this unhappy story only because it is the only way in which you can understand the plight from which I have been rescued.

About July last year an extraordinary thing happened to me. Emotions I had never hitherto experienced took hold of me. I was torn this way and that and I would weep inconsolably at all times for what I knew not. Through all this upheaval there was a yearning to know peace and to get comfort. With the onset of this state the sensual part of my nature left me completely. I remarked this<sup>115</sup> at once. For the first time in my life my thoughts were quite pure. It was suddenly no problem any more but it was not to my credit: It just happened.

At the height of this emotional turmoil I walked into the Norwich Library in despair. I knew nothing about you or your writings at that time and your books are in a part of the library that I never visited. Ironically they are not included in those books dealing with religion.

I can only tell you that on this day 'The Quest of the Overself' was in front of the girl who took my books. It was as if it suddenly came into my hands - it had been returned by the borrower before me - and I took it home at once. I read it avidly and came to the part which described the coming of Grace. There before me, described as exactly as I was experiencing it, was the answer to my condition. And I had feared I was in the grip of a mental breakdown.

That was eight months ago. I now own all your nooks written since The Inner Reality. I have read all you have written. 'The Wisdom of the Overself,' 'The Quest of the Overself' and 'The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga' are my treasured possessions. I am familiar with every paragraph of them.

When I picked up 'The Quest of the Overself' I came to the turning place in my life. For the first time I felt that there was what I had been waiting for. For the first time life was meaningful and had purpose.

I have an ordinary intelligence - I really have - and have never been particularly good at dealing with abstractions. One thing that puzzles me is this. You make frequent reference to the difficulty of understanding much of the doctrine. I had no such difficulty: indeed I had the strange feeling that I knew most of it already in some strange way and that your books were merely releasing knowledge which was stored latently. It was a most strange feeling and it is difficult to express. You see it is not that I am gullible. Most of my thinking life has been spent in searching for values men have put into their religion, politics and other serious subjects and my reaction has always



been an instinctive reaction that there was nothing of importance for me in what they had found. And yet the doctrine of which you write is, on the face of it, the most revolutionary teaching upsetting all man's most cherished values and ideas. Yet those ideas made instant sense to me, I could see what you meant and I felt them to be valid.

You mention often the difficulty of meditation for the beginner. I have never practiced meditation in my life until last January. I found it quite easy to meditate from the start and the signal to me that my half-hour was finished would bring me to my surroundings with a start and with the feeling that the stated time had not elapsed. I suppose it is much easier for an introvert.

I cannot give a happy ending to the story. I meditated for a month and found the ability to concentrate my thought becoming easier and easier. Progress was really encouraging. But I was not happy about it. You have often stressed that the ecstasies and heightened emotions of meditation were not to be considered the end for which to strive. I had a strong conviction that this would be very applicable for me and might even have dangers for me. This conviction was so strong that I ceased meditation completely against all my inclinations.<sup>116</sup> Also I had the further conviction that I should reform my thoughts and actions before I came to meditation.

I tried hard - how I tried. But suddenly I was up again a tremendous task. How little I knew about the strength of that hard shell a lifetime of wrong thinking and action had bound around me. I dented that shell but did not break it; my life has improved for the better but the shell still remains to be broken. The Aspiration of Grace left me as I somehow knew it would.

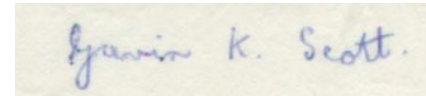
I feel calm and detached now and a bit limp. That strong aspiration has gone. But there is a difference now. I am now no longer the victim of depression: I am sustained by hope. I know now the true essence which is mine. I recognise the link by which all men are bound and realise why I must rise to compassion and understanding even if I have not yet achieved this. My love of Nature, always strong, is not increased. If I have impute thoughts the thought of my Overself bids me rid myself of the urgently.

It is not up to me. I go forward with real hope and understanding. I know what has to be done, and, perhaps, Grace may come again to me if I bring forth good fruits and do what I can to amend my ways. But try I must and will. The purpose of my life is now clear.

Perhaps you see now, Dr Brunton, why I had to write you. Because you lived at this time, because you are what you are, because you felt impelled to write what was given to you, because of all these things I, a stranger in distant Norfolk, have been able to obtain knowledge, peace and hope.

You must ever be regarded by me as Master and myself as pupil although I know you do not wish this distinction. Nevertheless, you are the one man to make any impact upon my life: your writing have changed its direction. I regret that I am not destined to thank you personally.

I end now but without knowing how to do so adequately. How can I hope to express the deep gratitude I feel for the liberation your books have brought into my life? It cannot be done and I may only hope your sensitivity of understanding will bridge the gulf that words cannot fill.



## L09.213

213 - 214

Letter from Dr S. Shreekumar<sup>117</sup>

9. Warrington Crescent, London, W.9.

June 22 '61

Dear Sir,

It is difficult to know how to begin writing this letter. May I say how much I have enjoyed reading your books. About eighteen years ago I came across "A Search in Secret India" and read it in little more than a weekend. Last year I acquired "The Secret Path" and more recently I have read "The Wisdom of the Overself" and "The Inner Reality." I can only say in gratitude that I have been richer for the experience and perhaps a shade wiser too.

At<sup>118</sup> the moment I am preparing for an examination and perhaps worrying a great deal not only about this but also about the future. When I get really disheartened I take up one of your books and acquire confidence; "...letting results take care of themselves, not because you do not care but because you know that a cosmic Power is taking care of them."<sup>119</sup>

I have tried during the past year and am still trying to meditate everyday. I have no doubt that it will be a long time before I attain anything worthwhile in this field, but I am happy to tell you that I look forward to these...<sup>120</sup>

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<sup>117</sup> "S" is handwritten in the top right hand corner of the page.

<sup>118</sup> Page 214

<sup>119</sup> Underlined in a different hand.

<sup>120</sup> This letter is continued as L09.217.

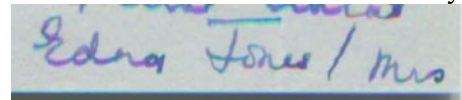
## L09.215

215 - 216  
Letter from Mrs Edna Jones  
82 Bramley Way, Ashted Surrey  
March 21st

Dear Dr Brunton

It is with great humility I write being without a doubt, one of the least of those who must have written to pay tribute to you over the years. My regret is not to have been guided to your books before. Anyway, thank you, so much for the illumination. It has been a wonderful experience and am helping to achieve that stillness which I always felt must {illegible}

Yours Sincerely



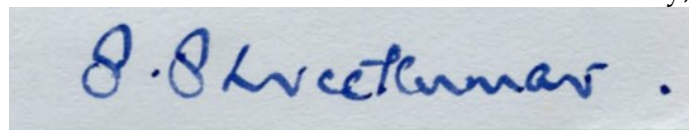
## L09.217

217 - 218  
Letter from Dr S. Shreekumar<sup>121</sup>  
Undated

...<sup>122</sup> periods each day, and this I think is itself an achievement.

I have had a fairly successful career as a student through school and college. When I look back and think of the numerous hurdles where I might have dropped down, I can attribute my success to luck; but am now convinced that all can be attributed to the Grace of that Divine Power who interferes into the eternal sequence of cause and effect more often than I have been prone to {subscribe} in the past.

With respectful regards,  
Yours Sincerely,



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<sup>121</sup> "S" is handwritten in the top right hand corner of the page.

<sup>122</sup> This letter is a continuation of L09.213.

## L09.219

219 - 220  
Christmas card from Alan and Jean Moon  
Good wishes dated Xmas 1962.

*Extract: None*

## L09.221

221 - 222  
Letter from Alan Moon<sup>123</sup>  
"Shangri-La" Ngongotaha Rotorua  
Dec. 14th 62

Dear Dr Brunton,

Mr {Goodey} has been kind enough to give me your address as I have been making many enquiries about you.

I hope one day soon you will write your auto-biography because I for one am intensely interested in your life.

May I say at the outset, that no writer or person has had such a profound influence on my life - I feel I know you from your truly beautiful books. Full<sup>124</sup> of inspiration, love and Peace.

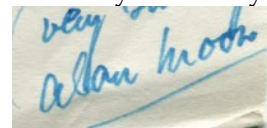
Thank you from the bottom of my heart! I can hardly wait until your next book is published!

I would deem it a great honour if I could have the privilege of meeting you sometime - if only for ten minutes of your precious time.

If ever you are in Rotorua we would love you to come to our house on the lakeside - very quiet and peaceful and secluded with a magnificent {deodar} to remind us of you and everything noble. May God bless you!

Please write if time permits.

Very sincerely



## L09.223

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<sup>123</sup> "M." is handwritten at the top of the page.

<sup>124</sup> Page 222

223 - 226  
Letter from Paul C. Scott<sup>125</sup>  
Midwest Enterprises, 5117 Nicholas Street, Omaha, Nebraska<sup>126</sup>  
Marc 16, 1966

Mr Paul Brunton  
E.P. Dutton & Co.  
201 Park Ave. South  
New York, N.Y. 10003

Dear Mr Brunton,

I want you to know that I consider your book, "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga," to be one of the most valuable revelations of truth I have encountered.

All of your accounts about your own personal search for truth are invaluable to anyone who is himself engaging in this search. I can't thank you enough for your books about your discoveries in this area. They have explained phenomenon about which I have been seeking answers for years.

I discovered your works during a search for a method of controlling my thinking, namely concentration. I had heard of the process of meditation and the things accomplished thereby in India. Little did I suspect, that in addition to finding a clear explanation of meditation, I would also find the best account of mentalism I had occasion to read.

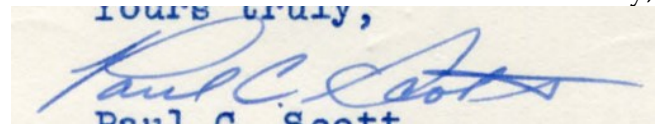
There<sup>127</sup> are several places in "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" where you promise to continue explanation of the "higher teaching" in a later volume. So far I have found only one book published since, and this is not the promised volume.

It would not surprise me if public opinion had caused you to change your plans. Perhaps you experienced a good deal of animosity because of your revelation of truth. This seems to be the reward that many such people have received through history.

If you have written no such volume, then I consider this a great pity, however, if this be true, I should be most grateful for recommendations you might care to make concerning publications wherein I could continue my search. At age 30 I have high expectations for accomplishing much in this lifetime.

With humble appreciation for your great work, I remain:

Yours truly,



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<sup>125</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>126</sup> Address appears in the letterhead.

<sup>127</sup> Page 225

Paul C. Scott

L09.227

227 - 230

Letter from Edward Scillitoe<sup>128</sup>  
68 Front St. S., Orillia, Ont., Canada  
March 27 - 62

Paul Brunton Ph.D.  
c/o Rider & Co.  
London.

Dear Mr Brunton,

For the labor, patience, untiring perseverance and above all the unselfishness in sharing the fruits of your knowledge, may I thank you profoundly. No doubt many others like this person walked life's confusing highways searching for something not knowing what, too intellectually lazy to probe deeper, until your message on the leaves of a book split the {darkness} to show us the gate of the path we must tread.

I am thirty one years old with no apparent super-natural powers cut from a sensual sheet with a coat of false values. I now stand in a new world as an individual, and although I have not yet found that which I am, I know that I must stumble and grope along this rock-strewn path until the end.

Your request for no students, followers or parrot learners is respected, nevertheless to meet you in person would be a great day in my life, not to {ply} you with a thousand questions. These I understand must be solved alone, but perhaps to sit with you in the quiet of a summer sunset and to know. Whether or not our paths will cross remains to be seen, my only request is that during some future meditation you might cast a thought to a far-away friend.

Although your works contain enough to occupy a person for many years, please do not hesitate from writing another, as Rider & Co. inform me you have promised another from time to time, not only do they serve as great encouragement but they sweep through this over-powering drug of materialism like a cold sweet draught of clean air. So once again Mr Br I thank you very much and hope that the peace which you have found may one day envelope us all,

Yours sincerely

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<sup>128</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.



**L09.231**

231 - 232

Airmail from Heinrich Schlubeck<sup>129</sup>

P.O. Box 303, Louis Trichardt, Northern Transvaal, South Africa

April 15th, 1962

Dear Paul: -

The urge to write to you has always been strong, also before I got your address from your publishers in Muenchen-Planegg when I visited them some time ago. The last time we both were in contact was in 1939 and the early forties. After 1945, I tried to contact Ted in London and received a kind reply from one of his partners, saying that Ted lived in California and that he would forward my letter to him. But I did not hear further.

In certain German publications, your name was mentioned sometimes, and always very positive, also referring to the path you had opened by your many books of which it was said that the "Secret Path" or "Der Weg nach Innen," the title we had chosen for it for the German translation, was one of the greatest. Some years ago I reminded the Barth-Publishers to mention my name as only authorized translator, and after some reminders they agreed to do so in a new impression, the fourth had just been published. You will remember that in 1937 there were considerable difficulties to get the permission for publishing it, as the then authorities demanded my becoming a member of an organization affiliated to the Nazi Party which I refused. The solution was found by simply stating "only translation authorized by the author."

Today there is more interest for such books than before the war. But I do not know how the sales are, neither of your other books translated into German. The Western Europeans are determinately busy in earning money, pretending not to have the time to occupy themselves with subjects beyond their daily program, being concentrated on the material side of life.

Just before every German was interned here in 1940, I managed to get away and landed in South America. From there I reached Europe before new troubles came up for me, and not before long I was a soldier in the German army and severely wounded in Russia. Discharged by the American forces in 1945, I first re-joined my old firm, but returned to South Africa in 1949. Ilse, who up to then had faithfully and loyally been at

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<sup>129</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

my side, then came under the influence of her family here, and in 1953 left me, just when the success of the new building-up was in sight. For years I struggled to keep our family and our home together and save the home for our little son whom we had adopted in 1950 when he was five years of age. In 1956 she took legal actions under false pretences, and in 1958 our marriage was dissolved, the custody of the boy being given to me. She immediately married a young man in 1959, I sent the little boy too Germany for education and to keep him away from his mother's influence. In 1960 I married the childless widow of an old friend of mine while she was on a visit to South Africa. She had taken my son into her home near Hamburg. Since then I have been in Europa several times, but I am keeping up my business relations with South Africa, although greatly reduced already. The family is living near Hamburg, and I am planning to go to Europe in a couple of months' time, in order to stay there for some time. - This is in general an account for the last twenty years.

I would have many questions: how you have been all these years, how your work is progressing, how Ted Spicer, {illegible}<sup>130</sup> and Bob Hutchinson are and where they live.

In<sup>131</sup> front of me is the 19th impression of "A Search in Secret India," 1960, which I had just ordered to give it as a present to somebody. I had almost all your books at Hamburg, partly with dedications, in English and German, after they had been here for so many years. But the troubles feared here on account of the natives made it advisable to save them. Now the great floods in Hamburg in February destroyed part of our house and seem to have washed away the greater part of my library out into the sea.

Should this letter reach you, then please send me a line which I hope and trust will give good news about you personally.

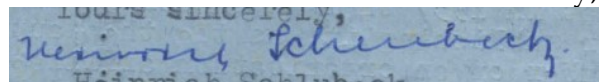
The above address will be good until the beginning of June. From July onwards it will be

Wedel/Bez. Hanburg

Schulauer Str. 52, Germany.

With Kindest regards and my very best wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Heinrich Schlubeck.

P.S. Please convey my kindest greetings to our old friends.

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<sup>130</sup> One word is illegible because the page is torn.

<sup>131</sup> Page 232



233 - 234  
 Airmail from R. Swetharanyan<sup>132</sup>  
 Tuticorin  
 24--3--'63<sup>133</sup>

Most Respected Sir,

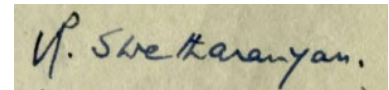
To introduce myself, I have been a great admirer of your books especially the book titled "The conquest of Overself." Since reading your various books I have come to the conclusion that you are the only person in the world to guide me to the knowledge of Self. True, I have practiced in a way meditation as outlined in your books and also breathing exercises as detailed therein. But I do not think that by merely following the instructions contained in the books I could make any headway in this. I need a teacher, a Guru and I cannot think any one but you as my Teacher and it will be a great occasion in my life if I could get initiation at your hands. My thoughts are weak and I still believe that with your divine help I can control my wandering thoughts to realise the Self within. Will your Holiness will kindly take pity on this soul and guide me to the path of fulfilment. I am not here to ask questions; You have already answered all my questions. If you will kindly pardon me I do remember the questions you asked Bhagwan Ramana Maharishi and his answers. He told you that only the body and the thoughts are weak and not the self and even then in the first instance you couldn't make any sense out of it, being a Westerner, as you called yourself, then.

But I know that there is not a single soul in the world who has understood India in all its aspects. You know her people, her temperament. Perhaps of the various people of Western origin who have written books on India, you are the only one who has really understood India.

But, Sir, I write this letter to inform you that I shall be highly grateful if you would kindly accept me as your disciple, however incompetent I am and bestow your blessings. Your acceptance will be enough for I cannot go alone; I need your guidance.

With faith in my heart that you will accept me as your disciple I conclude this letter; perhaps I write this letter at the bidding of some unseen power.

Your most obedient servant



(R. Swetharanyan)

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<sup>132</sup> "S." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

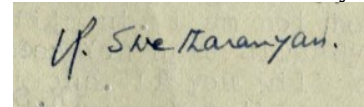
<sup>133</sup> Postmarked "28 FEB 1963"

My Address:

R. Swetharanyan, B.A.,  
Upper Division Clerk,  
Income tax Office,  
Tuticorin.  
South India

As far as I am concerned, the mysterious self is something of a void. When I sit in meditation in Lotus pose at times I am able to forget the body thinking that the body is dead; it is not there. But I am not able to get any headway. At times I even felt that the body is something separate and I felt even the fear of death. But, alas, such occasions were few and far between. Most of the times I simply have an empty feeling, a feeling of nothingness. This is the position now. With your blessings and thoughts I have faith that I can improve myself. You have always been telling that thoughts can travel any distance whether it be in New-York in the Americas or Tuticorin in the southern region of India. Kindly pardon this postscript, I have to write this.

Yours obediently,



**L09.235**

235 - 236

Letter from Winifred Millington<sup>134</sup>  
97 Aigburth Road, Liverpool, 17  
Jan 31, 1960

Dear Mr Brunton:

I have often wished to write to authors who have taken me a little further along the Path. But because I felt I had no claim on their precious moments of leisure have always hesitated, and so have not done so. This time I feel impelled to do so.

Some time ago I saw your book "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" on a library shelf. I got it, but was immediately aware that I had started something important in the middle, and it was imperative I should know the beginning.

I borrowed some, but bought most of them, and set myself the discipline of reading slowly and carefully from the beginning. I am now studying "The Quest of the

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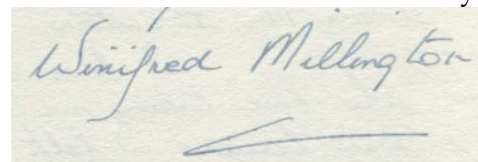
<sup>134</sup> "M." is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

Overself." I am hoping that with your {involvement} I might perchance find my {error}. But I began with a much greater way to go before catching up, to where you started off!

{Nonetheless} I must tell you what spiritual help you are giving to me. I seek now with greater certainty - and at the same time my outlook on life here and now is enriched. I have patience and a great humility so that if I do not after all reach illumination in this cycle, I may be deemed worthy in another - in the meantime I walk with Hope.

I<sup>135</sup> do not expect an answer. I just wanted you to know how very much your books have and are helping one Pilgrim on the Path.

With deep gratitude  
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Winifred Millington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

## L09.237

237 - 240

Letter from Sigurjon Magnus Ingibergsson<sup>136</sup>  
Drapuhlio 8, Reykjavik, Iceland  
Sund, 13/9 64

Dr Paul Brunton.

I greet you dear teacher. This little gift<sup>137</sup> means, that I am just trying to express my deep gratitude for your help to me, through your beautiful books. Last summer I was pulled in to transcendental state, unprepared. I was in That I could not bear. I had never been conscious mystic, not read anything about yoga or mysticism. I was called on, my time had come. I was on the Path. But this was not easy. This experience was then much to big, I did not understand. I lost balance. Now I give thanks for it all. Fighting back and trying to recover and understand, I found your beautiful books, "The Secret Path," "The Quest of the Overself," both in Icelandic, and "The Book of Wisdom" I bought from Denmark. Since I got them, I have been studying my dear teacher, with you at my side, explaining all in masterly and beautiful way, so clear and understandable, that my heart swells with happiness, and thankfulness, I wanted so much somehow to let you know of my thankfulness for your enormous help to me. I fold you and your work in my prayers. Forgive my English.

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<sup>135</sup> Page 236

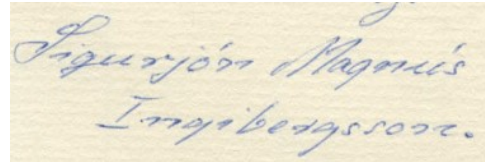
<sup>136</sup> A Sideways "M" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

<sup>137</sup> PB inserted "Picture Book on "Iceland"" by hand at the top of the page.

With deepest thanks and honor,  
yours sincerely,



To<sup>138</sup> Dr Paul Brunton, with my deepest thanks for your teaching.



Iceland

### L09.241

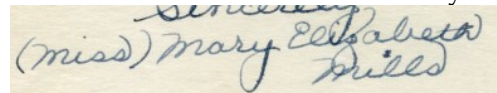
241 - 242

Letter from Mary Elisabeth Mills  
1434 N.W.2 Street, Miami, Florida  
September 25, 1963

Dear Mr Brunton,

I understand that your book, "A Message From Arunachala" is out of print, so I am writing to ask you if you know where I might obtain a copy of it. Since reading your book "A Search In Secret India," I feel that I would like very much to read anything else you have written about Arunachala.

Sincerely<sup>139</sup>



### L09.243

243 - 244

Letter from (Miss) Mary Elisabeth Mills<sup>140</sup>  
1434 N.W. 2nd Street, Miami Florida  
July 20, 1963

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<sup>138</sup> Page 239

<sup>139</sup> "Try W+G Foyle" and "Watkins" are handwritten at the bottom of the page in a different hand.

<sup>140</sup> "M" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

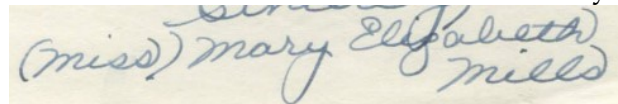
Dear Mr Brunton,

Your books have been such a source of knowledge and inspiration to me I felt compelled to write to you to express my appreciation of them.

I am very much interested in discovering Truth, and have read and meditated extensively along these lines. Your books have offered many new insights for me.

Is the Maharishee, which you met in your travels through India still manifesting on this plane of existence? I feel a great affinity for this approach to Reality, and feel the need to meet such a master.

Sincerely.

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "(Miss) Mary Elizabeth Mills". The word "Miss" is in parentheses. The name "Mary Elizabeth" is written in a cursive script, and "Mills" is written in a simpler, more legible script.

## L09.245

245 - 246

Letter from (Mrs) {Alice} {MacCalman}<sup>141</sup>

{1} Malfrey Rd, Rotorua

Undated

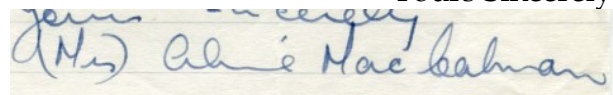
Dear Dr Brunton,

I have been a student of your writings, which have helped me tremendously in my search for Spiritual Truth, for a number of years and having heard you were in Auckland, I felt I would like to personally express my thanks to you. I have read many Authors and have found you to be the one from which I gain the most help and insight.

Thanking you again

I remain

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "(Mrs) Alice MacCalman". The word "Mrs" is in parentheses. The name "Alice MacCalman" is written in a cursive script.

## L09.247

247 - 248

Letter from Dr A.J. Mauricio<sup>142</sup>

Mauricio College of Physical and Metaphysical Education, Hong Kong<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>141</sup> "M." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>142</sup> "M." is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

<sup>143</sup> Address appears in the letterhead.

January 19, 1960

Dr Paul Brunton,  
Manor House,  
Worcester Park,  
Surrey, England.

Dear Dr Brunton,

I have read your book "THE HIDDEN TEACHING BEYOND YOGA" and I like it very much, and, in fact, it is about the best book I have read for it contains a lot, in fact, very useful information regarding Yoga. I am very much interested in the "YOGA OF PHILOSOPHICAL DISCERNMENT" and the "YOGA OF THE UNCONTRADICTIONABLE" and I have ordered nearly the complete set.

I want to study Philosophy that demands truth in its entirety, not half or quarter truths, so will you please guide me to the studies that I should follow. I want to be a Doctor of Philosophy, so could you please recommend me a course of study, preferably by correspondence, as I do not have the time to attend the College that awards a Diploma and a degree. I want to be a philosopher like you, so please guide me Dr Brunton.

I hope I am not troubling you, Dr Brunton, but I have no one to go to get the best possible advice, so please forgive me if I am taking away your precious time.

Kindly write me by air mail and give me all the advice you deem necessary, and thanking you for the great courtesy and with best wishes for Peace Profound,

I remain,  
Gratefully and Fraternally,



Mauricio College of Physical and Metaphysical Education  
Dr A.J. Mauricio, President  
(Ph.D., M.S., D.D.)

**L09.249**

249 - 250  
Letter from Jim Langford  
Vincent Hall, Lower Trinity, Jersey, C.I.  
16th January, 1968.

Dear Dr Brunton,

Having read several of your books and found that they move me in a way that very few books do, I would be very grateful for the opportunity to meet you if it is at all possible. I wrote to your Publishers sometime ago, but quite justifiably they would not let me have your address but assured me that any letter I wrote would be forwarded to you.

I am 27 years old and for a number of years now I have sought to find the true and real purpose of life within the limiting factors of my environment, I am a Grower's son and I work on my parent's glasshouse nursery. The more I read the more I feel the need for personal help and guidance and I desperately seek to find the way that this can be best achieved.

If it is not possible to meet you I would be extremely grateful for any advice that you would care to give me.

Yours sincerely<sup>144</sup>

incerely,  
*Jim Langford* (JL)

**L09.251**

251 - 252

Airmail from D. McNally  
38. Caletton Rd., Tuffnell Park., London N.Y.  
3/10/67

Dear Dr Brunton,

I have read five of your books. I intend reading them all, at the moment, I am struggling with your mighty "The Wisdom of the Overself. I will continue to struggle and {proceed} until I master it. I would now like to thank you most profusely for being instrumental in setting before me an open door. I hope no man will shut it. And I shall endeavour to enter therein.

No doubt, Dr Brunton you will have heard recently about Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, and his method of meditation. I have been doing your method for about five weeks, now, and I am now faced with the problem of whether to continue with it, or take up the Maharishi's method, which he claims is easier and brings quicker results.

I have recently bought copy of Professor Ernest Woods book "Yoga." In chapter (4) titled "Yoga and the Intellect" he gives a very good practice of how to improve one's concentration. Should I try and master this and then continue with your method? Or should I go over to the Maharishi's way of meditation? I have heard of people who

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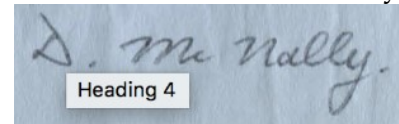
<sup>144</sup> "(JIM LANGFORD)" is written by the signature in a different hand.



have changed from the one you teach in your books to the Maharishi's way, and they said they have had better results.

As I value your integrity very highly. I would appreciate your advice on these questions. I know you must lead a busy life but if you could find time to answer my letter before the 28th OCTOBER<sup>145</sup> (my supposed date to your new meditation school) I would be eternally grateful.

Peace be with you  
Yours sincerely



**L09.253**

253 - 260

Letter from Mr R. {Largent}<sup>146</sup>

The {Haven}, 9, nightingale Rd, Harlesden, London N.W.10

Mon 13th March.

Dear Mr Brunton,

This letter is written by one who greatly appreciated the truth learnt, by reading your books on philosophy.

The first I bought was "The Quest of the Overself," and I have since read some of the others. I now wish to thank you whole-heartedly for bringing to me. what I can ably describe as a widening of understanding.<sup>147</sup> I am 27 now, and over the past years since I was about 20, I've tried to understand all that "mentalism" implies and have I hope, come to some understanding of it.

You have given me through your books something important to do in life, a definite purpose, for which I am most thankful.

Your books I am constantly reading, and trying to learn more, but the meditation practices I<sup>148</sup> have not as yet taken up, for I wonder if I am worthy of such a noble quest.

Yet I know that if I do not attempt the practices one day I shall be old and look back and regret not having done so.

This I think will spur me on soon to begin.

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<sup>145</sup> Underlined in a different hand.

<sup>146</sup> "L." is handwritten at the top of the page.

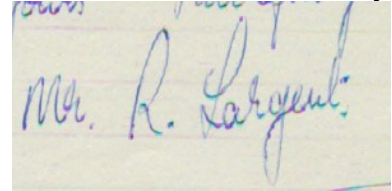
<sup>147</sup> Page 255

<sup>148</sup> Page 257



If you can write to me in reply, I shall be happy indeed, also if it is possible I would like to meet the man who, by the written word, has taught me so much of truth,<sup>149</sup> even though I find it hard sometimes to see it all, and have to read and re-read to grasp the point. I hope I haven't taken too much of your time, and once again may I thank you for the wisdom I have tried too learn from your inspiring books.

Yours faithfully



**L09.261**

261 - 266

Letter from Rachel Kessler<sup>150</sup>

Portland, Oregon

9-22-60

Dear Mr Brunton,

I want to thank you for writing that wonderful book "The quest of the Overself." I have had it for about seven or eight years. As you yourself predicted the book first came to me unexpectedly. I work in a drug store. A customer came in - disreputable looking character he was too. His conversation was about places he had been etc. But he said an odd thing - He said he had been a boatswain on a boat that picked up Moses in the {bulrushes}. I wanted to laugh but controlled myself. I began asking questions about how he knew. All of a sudden he said "I think you're ready<sup>151</sup> for something." That surprised me, too. Of course I wanted to know "What?" Then he asked "Do you believe in Reincarnation?" I did. He said "Then you're ready." He left but returned about an hour later with your book. His attitude seemed a little different. He was almost apologetic and he said "I'm going to loan you this, you probably wont like it but there are some things you may agree with. Pick out what you like."

I could see that the book would need concentration and I didn't get a chance to read it till about 3 months later. I got the {flu} and was in bed for 3 days. It took all 3 days to read it. But it changed my entire life.

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<sup>149</sup> Page 259

<sup>150</sup> "K." is handwritten at the top of the page.

<sup>151</sup> Page 262

When<sup>152</sup> I came back to work raving about how wonderful it was, the others wanted to read it. But somehow I could not let them. To me the book was a source of beauty and sacredness that their minds were not ready for. Everything I said the had {pat} answers making fun of the whole thing. I would not allow them to read it.

The man gave me the book and at intervals brought<sup>153</sup> me others - The Light on the Path for instance. That was another book I loved and read and {re-read}. He gave me others too which I read but your book and Light on the Path were the ones I referred to most often.

After reading your book the first time, I understood many things. I had on several occasions reached the<sup>154</sup> Overself but though I knew it was something wonderful that happened to me I never understood what it was.

Many times I had been so overwhelmed with what I felt was wrong in my surroundings, I would wonder if I were crazy or out of step with the world. I would go over every step of what happened and come back to the same conclusions that in my heart I felt what I done or said was right or that they were not just or kind - whatever the occasion was.

So I would go to the poets or listen too my symphonies. There I found that there had been people at least who thought<sup>155</sup> as I thought,<sup>156</sup> or felt as I did. Through the poetry or the music, I lost myself<sup>157</sup> in the sheer beauty. For some reason I always cried, too. That was hard for me to understand also until I read your book. But I always felt stronger, more understanding after it happened. I could go on and things usually took care of themselves.

There are so many things I would like to tell you about but I don't have the space and you must already know them.

However, the reason for my writing this to you now is that today for the first time, I had the same experience by following your instructions consciously. Since I read the book the first time, I have not had any such {experiences}. The poetry and the music did not help anymore. I have been trying all this<sup>158</sup> time to gain that platform but somehow it eludes me. I knew I was not doing something I should be so I've been rereading again. Today it came, for just an instant but it was enough. Thank you again for the explanations.

I have given your book to one person. She also refers to it constantly.

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<sup>152</sup> Page 263

<sup>153</sup> "bro't" in the original.

<sup>154</sup> Page 264

<sup>155</sup> "tho't" in the original.

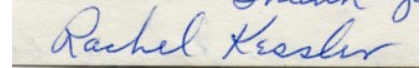
<sup>156</sup> "tho't in the original.

<sup>157</sup> Page 265

<sup>158</sup> Page 266

There is one point that bothers me. Between your book and Light on the Path, I expected a fearful blackness. I have not had anything fearful or any blackness. I suppose it could be described as light - definitely not black. But one sees the light just before you feel that Beauty,

I must go  
Thank you,



**L09.267**

267 - 268

Letter from Russ  
Box 7, Orcas, Wash. 98280  
August 27, 1966

Dear PB:

Corinne and I are both anxious to confirm, as we feel confident, that your operation turned out successfully and that the trouble necessitating it is now a thing of the past.

Also, I hope that your plans are now settled to such an extent that you can tell me in general, what they are. I know, of course, that you will be writing the new book. But will you be staying more or less in one place, at least until the book is finished? And will that place be Hollywood?

I gained the impression, although we never discussed the matter directly, that your latest period of intensive involvement with world spiritual crises has come to an end - or at least to a less critical stage - so that you do not now find it necessary to maintain such strict seclusion. I have been hoping that a time will come again when it will be practical, and acceptable to you, for me to see you at less prolonged intervals - and when perhaps the distance between us will not be so great.

Since our visit in February, I have been trying to apply the Short Path techniques I understand them from your explanation. However, I must report that I can still find no evidence of progress. The old problem still remains - that of making even such a small bit of progress that I can definitely recognize it. I am getting older and the available time shorter. When, I am forced to wonder, will there be a change for the better in this long-drawn-out status quo?

Sincerely,



Russell H. Lindsay

**L09.269**

269 - 270  
Letter from Russ  
Box 7, Orcas, Wash. 98280  
March 6, 1967

Dear PB:

It is hardly seems possible that more than a year has gone by since our visit in Hollywood. Not having heard from you in answer to my letter of last August 27, I am still wondering where you are and what your plans are.

Kitty was married in August and left shortly after for Japan, where her husband will be stationed on air reconnaissance service with the Navy for a period of three years. We are flying to Japan to visit them in April.

On our return, we expect to come through Los Angeles, and this brings to mind the question of whether, if you will be in Southern California at that time, it will be possible for me to see you again. We shall arrive on Thursday, May 4, and leave again for home on Sunday, May 7. We expect to be staying with friends in Huntington Park. I hope to hear that you will be in the Los Angeles area at that time, and that we can have another visit.<sup>159</sup>

When a visit with you is in prospect, I think of many questions I would like to ask, and many subjects I would like to discuss. But when I do in fact see you, many of these matters recede into the background, while I try simply to make the most of seeing you again and being with you for a while. Nevertheless, I still find no conscious evidence of spiritual progress - no change, in other words, from the situation as I described it briefly in the last paragraph of my letter of August 27.

We shall be leaving here on April 14. I hope this will allow plenty of time for this letter to reach you and for you to be able to reply.

Sincerely



Russel H. Lindsay

**L09.271**

271 - 272  
Letter from Russ

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<sup>159</sup> "reply now" is handwritten in the right margin by this paragraph.

P.O. Box 68, Eastsound, Wash 98245  
February 14, 1968

Dear PB:

I can hardly believe that it is now more than two years since I saw you in Hollywood. I have written two letters to you since then, one on August 27, 1966, and the second on March 6, 1967, but have had no response from you. Naturally, I am still wondering where you are, whether you had the operation in England that you were expecting, whether the new book is finished, and whether you may again have more or less secluded yourself to work on the rather terrible world situation.

The principal purpose of this letter is to ask again if you are in California or anywhere else here in the West. Corinne and I are again going to Japan to see Kitty and her husband, as we did last year. The trip will occupy a three-week period beginning about March 20 and ending about April 10. I hope to hear that we could stop to see you en route, preferably on our way home in April. But we could also do it at the beginning of the trip in March, if you would prefer.

Please let me hear from you. Note also the change in our address, which is now as given above. We have sold our old place and built a new one - still here on the same island of Orcas.

Surely the new book must be finished by this time. If I do not hear from you in answer to this letter, I plan to write to Dutton and ask about it.

Again I must express the hope that I may soon see a change for the better in my long-delayed spiritual progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ", is written on a light-colored rectangular piece of paper.

Russell H. Lindsay