

Readers' Letters 31

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 1935 and 1944.

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

L31.001

1 - 2
Letter from S
7 Lancaster Gate Terrace, w.2.
12-7-36

...¹ I went through your book. It is very delightful. I am recommending it to all whom I meet.

I have been requested by the Honorable Mr {Bristowe} and the managing committee of the Institute of Indian Mysticism to ask you whether you would speak at their Fellowship Club, 51 Lancaster Gate, W.2. on November 1st or 8th, on any subject relating to Indian mysticism. Please let me know as early as possible.

I am glad that your book has gone into second edition, and was advertised in {Moving Out} the other day. I wish it every success.



¹ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

Iyengar, N Rajagopala²
1184 Balakrishna Road, Mysore
1939

Sir,

After Mr Brunton's repudiation of the baseless allegations against him, one thought that the controversy was at an end; but it is surprising that The Sunday Times which till the other day was swearing by quotations from Mr. Brunton's books in connection with the Maharishi and after its short sermon on Eastern silliness should have again set the ball rolling by opening its columns to Freidman's letter. Is there a conspiracy against Mr. Brunton?

As a humble devotee of the Maharishi, and as one who has known the Ashram and Mr Brunton for over three years I feel bound to say something as an onlooker from outside the ring.

Many readers of The Sunday Times have read the article of Mr Brunton in the Statesman or the Ceylon Paper. If the real object of Mr Ramachandra and Mr Freidman had been to criticise his views on Yoga the article could have been published in extenso and the public would have been in a position to follow them. Instead a few distorted quotations are given, divorced from their context. Such isolated sentiments abound even in his earlier works. The³ motive of Mr Ramachandra and his sponsors seems to have been to merely fling mud at him under some pretext.

Even now it is not too late to publish Mr Brunton's article in extenso and readers will then realise that there is as much connection between that and the allegations against him as there is, to quote a vernacular proverb, between Gulam Sahib and Gokulashtami. The strangest part of it is, that the controversy instead of being sober and dignified about Mr Brunton's views on Yoga, has been converted into a personal one between him and the Ashram.

I can prove to the hilt that this has been prompted by interested motives. But the columns of a newspaper are about the last place to discuss purely personal questions and the pity of it is that where persons like Mr Bose and Yogi Ramiah have feared to tread, Mr Ramachandra has rushed in like the man in the proverb.

Mr Brunton in his article enumerates the consequences of incorrect practice of Yoga - hallucination and fancy being mistaken for reality, callous indifference, the decay of reasoning power etc., and may I add fanaticism. Both Mr Ramachandra and Freidman seem to be victims of these consequences.

Mr Freidman met Mr Brunton years ago for a few minutes and on the strength⁴ of this, and having played with the yellow robe assumes the "Holier Than Thou" attitude and presumes to assess Mr Brunton's mental make up now. He begins well, drifts into twaddle and winds up ludicrously with lachrymose effusion. His main

² "Written voluntarily but at PB's request not sent" added by author.

³ Page 5

⁴ Page 7

sorrow is that Mr Brunton did not mention the Ramana Ashram in his article. Evidently he has not read Mr Brunton's reply. Bearing in mind that the Maharishi and the Ashram are two distinct entities, he would do well to make out a case for the Ashram being mentioned alongside the Ramakrishna Order of Monks, in Mr Brunton's article.

Mr Ramachandra's article is mischievous, misleading and dishonest. I will deal with only some of his contentions, having regard to Mr Brunton's reply.

He has got a pliable vocabulary. "Of course the Ashram have used Mr Brunton's name in some of their publications", but if Mr Brunton uses the name of the Maharishi it is "exploitation" and in the same breath he accuses him for not mentioning him in his article. Mr Brunton is ridiculed for praising the Ramakrishna Mission, and yet Mr Ramachandra drags in the name of the Maharishi ingeniously as if Mr Brunton denounced him and devotes a column to his virtues, as if He (the Maharishi) solicited it specially from⁵ him.

Mr Ramachandra's logic is noteworthy. The Maharishi allowed himself to be beaten by thieves. Mr Brunton avoided the attention of goondas and thieves at Tiruvannamalai and ergo he has not crossed the mystic border.

Mr Ramachandra cannot think of anything except in terms of 'coin and contribution'. Mr Brunton never coveted publicity or any pedestal, least of all a pedestal which could be bought for coin and contribution. Mr Ramachandra asks what has Mr Brunton contributed to these Ashrams. Herein he has let the cat out of the bag, his real motive. It is extremely distasteful for me to answer this, but it has to be done. I would ask him to refer to the introduction to "Five Hymns" by Mr Grant Duff and to pages of Sri Maharishi, The Sunday Times publication. It is for him to say whether increased visitors have not resulted in increased coin, and contribution to the Ashram, though this is the least part of what Mr Brunton has done.

If Mr Ramachandra has eyes he should know that Mr Brunton's article appeared first in the Statesman of Calcutta. Mr Brunton did not court any reception at Ceylon, he simply avoided it. He has no axe to grind anywhere, least of all in Ceylon.

I⁶ claim no perfection for Dr Brunton or the Ashram. Why not give every man his due?

The editor bemoans that Dr Brunton has snapped the divine chord with the Rishis. He is entirely mistaken. Dr Brunton cannot and will not. The relationship between him and the Maharishi can be realised from The Hermit in the Himalayas. As for me I can never forget the beatific simile which irradiated the Maharishi's forces at sight of Dr Brunton on a certain evening in the Hall, after a short absence. It reminded me of one of Sri Ramakrishna's trances.

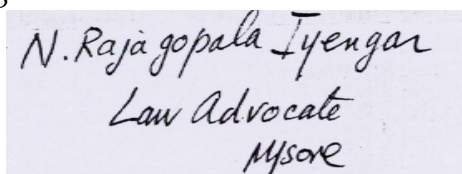
Mr Brunton's name will be remembered along with the Maharishi's, if not for anything else, at least as the man who pointed the way to Tiruvannamalai to thousands of weary souls all over the world. Would that we could have more such "journalists

⁵ Page 9

⁶ Page 11

and nothing more" type of men who could discover more Ramanas and write such books as he has done even though as a result of "exploitation."

May Sri Ramana by His grace purify the "Hindu Culture" typified by Mr Ramachandra's letter and may He restore peace among all.



N. Raja gopala Iyengar
Law Advocate
Mysore

L31.013

13 - 14

Letter from Nora Briggs
Undated

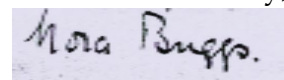
Although you call it the darkness of night of the soul, it is really a necessary part of the balancing process and of the crushing of the ego.

Your question about creation can only be answered from the highest standpoint, according to which there has never been any creation at all because the infinite mind has never changed its nature. Otherwise your question about the way of creation is insoluble. It is a fact that the highest spiritual realisation lifts one entirely out of time and space, form and creation. So it seems to me that the ultimate answer is also the true one.

have a perfectly carved wooden cobra on the window shelf, upreared, and facing the large statue (given by the High Priest of Siam years ago) of Buddha in contemplation. Esoterically, the serpent symbolises the power to perceive the truth behind the appearances of things. It also has other significances. Mystically, it illustrates by its own form and movement the form and movement of dynamis inherent in sex when the latter is controlled, turned inwards and then directed upwards in aspiration toward the higher self, in conjunction with a special meditation.

May your work prosper, and may the love and devotion of those who recognise you reach you to your comfort.

Yours sincerely,



Nora Briggs.

L31.015

15 - 20

Incomplete Letter from A Sharma
Undated

Annotated by A Sharma-Please address me only as Sharma

... will⁷ be disloyalty to Him if I feel miserable. My task in front of me is to do my duty for the sake of doing it and not for any reward.

My wife and kids are in India. It is impossible to say when we may meet as it depends on the world situation. There is no chance of my return till the war is over and no one knows when it is to be over. I am happy where the Lord places me and whatever happens to me will be His pleasure. Death after all is a mere incident in life which I believe is continuous without a break. When I return to India and if I return at all no one will welcome you more amongst us than my wife and myself. Even now you will be most welcome by her at "Kenfield" {Naini Tal} V.P. She has read all about you.

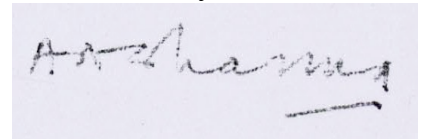
I have not visited the Ashram again since 1937 and do not know what is happening there and have sent no more money either. Somehow I do not feel the inner urge to do so.

I⁸ am sure you have a mission of your own and you will do what God wishes you to do whether people like it or not.

Meeting you, if this body still retains the spark of life will be always a great pleasure as your uplifting company is a great help to common people like me.

I feel absolutely peaceful within in spite of what will be the fact outside. I am simply {bubbling} with joy at everything -

With my fond regards and love
your own slave



L31.021

21 - 24

Incomplete Letter from unknown sender

Undated

...bill⁹ is a master stroke. Under the garb of a harmless measure it virtually means expropriation of our class. There are so many things that go against us that I don't know which to quote here. I will not attempt to disturb my mind and peace by trying to dilate upon the subject.

Now to ascend to the Spiritual. I am deeply grateful to you for your very valuable advice. It has helped me very greatly. You are surely right that I do believe myself very weak. Not that I do not believe that I have a great reserve of strength within me for am I not, like all, made after our Divine Father, but may be I have no self confidence. I feel

⁷ Previous lines/page(s) are missing. The complete letter can be found at L32.049.

⁸ Page 19

⁹ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

if I begin to believe that way I might be giving in to pride. I am utterly like a child and want a support at every step. I know I have been fortunate in having met the greatest of living Saints and Sages but I can't make up my mind of taking just to one. I feel all so great that I wish I could have all of them as my guide and prop. I rush to any God loving personality I come across. Here again I think I am so child-like and need some one to guide me. I feel if some great man would tell me to take to some path and to a certain Mahatma I would faithfully and with great reverence and confidence take to them. Personally I am unable to decide. This again may be my weakness but there it is. What I need, I feel, is¹⁰ company of a God loving person who would dis-interestedly guide me on to a path and care of some Great Man. I am unable to consult my inner self and decide. If it is only the faithful perseverance of Divine seeking that is necessary, then I am with His blessings sticking to it religiously, faithfully and patiently and daily doing my Sadhana according to my own light. I can't say I don't want to see some result but I feel I surely don't hanker after it. I certainly do want salvation, but here too I resign to His Will. It has been my practice since years to concentrate in the fore-head between the eyebrows and now since my eldest boy left us I am doing it all the more keenly. I have been told by several that by this practice I may some day see my boy. I confess I have a hankering of meeting my departed boy and although here again I try just to resign to His Will still I can't surrender completely. I may be exhibiting human weakness but there it is. In spite of my hankering I am not able to maintain steady concentration and meditate. Lately, I can't understand why, a sort of fear (I can't describe it better) comes on me when I meditate. I can't say I have had any success but so far daily in my meditations I used to get a sort of peace for at least a very short time absolutely undisturbed and see a sort of big cream coloured light sometimes like a ball and at another time like a small star and yet another quite enveloping me almost.¹¹

L31.025

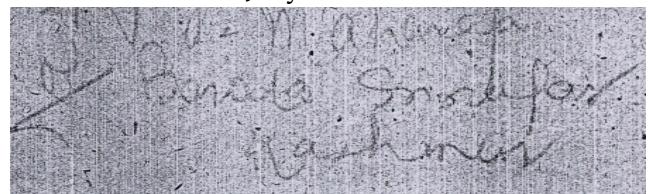
25 - 28

Telegram from Maharaja of Barada {Smoreif Kashmir}

19-6-44

To Mr Paul Brunton care of Maraja of {illegible}, {illegible}

Will be most grateful if you can kindly take me to great Rishis and Sages in Himalayas near Kashmir. Will send you expenses of coming if coming is¹² possible. Please send any directions and addresses around the end of July.



¹⁰ Page 23

¹¹ Following lines/ page(s) are missing.

¹² Page 27

L31.027

27 - 28

Telegram

A very dark copy that is difficult to read dated 19 Jun 44 fro India Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Extract: None

L31.029

29 - 32

Incomplete Letter From PB to Miss McDonald

Undated

Annotated by PB - "over"

Dear Miss McDonald:

[Research work, literary production and world travel maintain such heavy pressure on my time that it prevents me from dealing promptly with correspondence. In addition, I was in spiritual retirement and retreat until lately.]¹³

I'll send you an exercise which you can practice for physical self healing. However hard it is to overcome the feeling of rebellion and cynicism, you simply have to do it, especially since the prospect of a medical cure are so remote according to your own statements. The prospect of a spiritual cure is just as important and negative emotions have to be cleared up if a spiritual cure is attained.

The fight to be won is within yourself, but there is real power in this exercise if you do it. You have to undergo psychic cleansing not only of this rebellious tendency but also of the despair and hopelessness which surrounds you. It's absolutely necessary to go through this inner cleansing and allow the spirit forces to come through and heal your body.

All my instructions are drawn from experience, either my own or people I know, so they are not theories. So if you wish spiritual cleansing, practice this exercise and have faith. Take it on my word as I have seen healing after healing take place. Have the faith as it can be done and I have experienced it myself.

Have the faith that the inner work and healing will start immediately with the reading of this letter. It will come through if you'll open up the door.

This diabetes came through [Karma.]¹⁴ If you'll work this out mentally, the physical [disease]¹⁵ will work out [more quickly] .¹⁶

¹³ This first paragraph was crossed out by PB.

¹⁴ PB deleted "a bit of Karma that you will have to suffer and endure" from after "Karma" by hand.

You¹⁷ should begin this very moment working on yourself. Sit together in silence for a few minutes with your young friend and in this silence quietly hold the mantrum or formula

“INFINITE GRACE IS WITH AND WITHIN ME.”

Repeat this phrase several times very slowly, mentally, as many times as you can in the period of silence. ponder deeply its meaning. It will help you to do this with the other girl¹⁸...

L31.033

33 - 34

Letter from unknown
Tiruvannamalai, South India
28-5-35

Evidently you are very busy in your quest among the pyramids and hence I have not heard from you in reply to my letters to you dated 24th and 26th February 35. I am sending separately by packet post this day to you, a copy of the “Five Hymns to Arunachala” translated into English from the originals of Sri Ramana Maharshi for your kind perusal and use. Mr Grant Duff your friend has written a forward to it.

All are doing well in the Ashram here including Sri Bhagavan. The Mahapuja affair on the 26th {instant} went off very well.

...¹⁹

L31.035

35 - 38

Incomplete Letter from Unknown
Undated
Annotated by PB - “Keep”
Annotated by PB - “Article B”

...then²⁰ that one cannot publically use these, but that these inner reasons [against transplant operation of heart are very real. To interfere with a dying souls struggle for Union with God as well as committing murder on some one who is not dead is a double

¹⁵ Edited by PB - word inserted.

¹⁶ Edited by PB - words replaced.

¹⁷ Page 31

¹⁸ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

¹⁹ Page 33 Following lines/page(s) are missing.

²⁰ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

crime. He said the problem was to find the moment a man was really²¹ dead. I gave him the example of the young Doctor in your hospital. You will remember he told me that his brother and his father would never perform such an operation as the heart alone is certainly not dead; and that he has a friend who was unconscious for two months and during those two months his brainwaves²² ...

L31.039

39 - 40

Incomplete Letter from PB to GEB

Undated

... I²³ also met an old Japanese monk who knows Ananda and does not consider that she has attained what she believes she has.²⁴

She must prepare herself for the occasion by advanced thinking of a truly positive character, picturing in her mind's eye a perfectly calm and relaxed attitude during the event.

Your further ask whether the mystical experiences which you occasionally have of oneness with the Soul are derived from me or from yourself. The answer is that they are derived from [higher self and come in response to own efforts and aspirations. Nevertheless, own inner affinity and mental devotion to P.B. brings within the circle of those who are touched by his outgoing and upholding thought]. So this too contributes to the making of your spiritual experiences, the result is therefore a mixed one.

[It is wrong for to think that approach is merely intellectual. If it had been so would never have had these inner experiences at all. Way combines both the heart and the head which is far better than a none-sided approach]. Try to have a more joyous, positive acceptance of yourself.

the address of the incense maker in India to whom could write for supplies. Here it is: Sri Satyanarayana, Parimala Factory, Jaganmohan Palace Square, Mysore City, Mysore, India

... be²⁵ useful to its purposes and will be preserved. This Force is neither blind nor unintelligent. The events of our time are heavily fraught with a deeper meaning, as [I predicted they would be]²⁶ many years ago in the closing chapter of "The Secret Path.

²¹ Page 37

²² Following pages missing.

²³ Previous lines/ pages are missing.

²⁴ Edited by PB – previous lines marked for deletion and have not been transcribed. See scan for deletions.

²⁵ Previous lines/ page(s) are missing.

²⁶ Edited by PB – this phrase is circled.

L31.041

41 - 42

Incomplete Letter from PB to Unknown
Undated

... Yes,²⁷ I know Ernest Wood's book, "The Great Systems of Yoga," very well. It is a reliable and useful introductory work for beginners, but does not attempt to go deeply into its subject. I also know William MacMillan's book, "The Reluctant Healer," in fact, I knew the author very well in England and was instrumental in getting his writings published. He died suddenly of a heart attack about two or three months ago. He had a wonderful inborn gift of healing but not having undergone any instruction, he did not understand, in my opinion, his powers fully but only partially, consequently we did not agree on all points. He visited India but fled after three weeks, finding the psychic atmosphere of the country very antipathetic to him. He wrote another book called "This is My Heaven." Although I have seen it on sale in Chicago, I doubt whether it has been published in this country, only in England. I wrote an introduction to that book.

I was pleased to learn that your step-mother made a settlement with you after waiting a year and a half with all the negative thoughts that the matter had generated in her now brought to an end.

I am pleased to learn Socrates' thoughts became so much clearer to you as a result of the progress you have made. All these illumined men, who wrote works that should live for thousands of years, are in the end the only ones worth studying. To understand, as you and I can do, that the old gentleman did not ask his questions out of mere querulousness or out of carping mentality, but because he was trying to clear the encrusted thought conditions of the society around him, to clear them enough to let in a little of the spiritual influx which is truth.

L31.043

43 - 44

Incomplete Letter from PB to Unknown
Undated

... I²⁸ particularly liked the clear cut way you clarified your thinking. It is true, and it is extremely consoling, that even if one is a long way from attaining self-realization, the knowledge of what this world is all about can itself be a great comfort. The important thing is not only how far one has advanced, but which way one's face is turned. It is also consoling to remember that just as man seeks God, so, while we cannot say that God seeks man, we can say that He is receptive to man's seeking.

²⁷ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

²⁸ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

If you have achieved an intellectual comprehension of the Quest, the next step is to apply that understanding into practical everyday action. This you can successfully do by constant reminders during the day to yourself that the inner meaning of life is the real and enduring one, and you should analyse events for a deeper meaning. Why is this or that happening to you? In this way you will unearth the lessons you need to know, and by mastering them you will modify the negative Karma they [may]²⁹ bring with them.

Do not overlook the mystical side of the spiritual Quest. Regular exercises in meditation will prove worthwhile and will bear fruit if you practise steadfastly. The Quest is a balanced path; the intellectual understanding, and the mystical inner awareness, and the practical moral application are all equally important.³⁰

L31.045

45 – 46

Incomplete Letter from PB to Unknown
Undated

... Your³¹ ideal of a simplified life is an excellent one. I notice that in this country particularly people become caught up in ambition, which is excellent in a young man, but they do not know when to curb it in later life, and thus they become its victim, to their own spiritual and physical detriment. It is good that you have awakened in time.

Thank you for sending me the material on Radiotherapy. I find it interesting. As you say, it is a pioneer endeavor which has much to overcome in the way of medical orthodoxy and tyranny, but which is along lines in harmony with the teachings of Hatha Yoga and spiritual psychotherapeutics.

I am sympathetic to all such endeavors.

Further to my letter of instructions concerning the control of, and correct attitude to, sex, I would like to add the following: "The ideal of total regeneration is a correct one, but the method of sudden repression is not. Or, at least, it is not suited to most aspirants. They need to work on themselves by a double regime. It is more prudent to make a broad steady assault on it from all directions, and thus lead to solid and lasting results, than to make a spectacular dash only to be followed by a forced retreat. Nevertheless, the whole human race, as it develops spiritually, will have to free itself from this obsessing tie to its animal heritage. When that is achieved racially, the method of procreation will become entirely different and the two sexes will merge again into a bi-polar sex as it was originally."³²

²⁹ Edited by PB – word inserted.

³⁰ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

³¹ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

³² Following lines/page(s) are missing.

L31.047

47 - 50

Letter from PB to Unknown

Undated

... To³³ avoid further psychic manifestations it is advisable for you at this time to cease your meditations temporarily for some months. You may do this now without hindering your spiritual progress. You may substitute prayer during the time you formerly devoted to meditation. Let these prayer periods become appeals to the Higher Power for grace, and let yourself be moved as much as possible by deep aspiration and devotion. In addition to this, try earnestly to cultivate inner calmness and detachment, and to control the emotional turbulence and mental agitation which are hindrances to spiritual understanding.

Although dream experiences can become very interesting, it is not a good thing to be unduly impressed by their unusual nature or to burden one's mind in trying to search for their meanings. However, your second dream was a symbolical message from your higher Self, indicating quite clearly that your feet are set on the path.

The recurring conditions of mental darkness which you mention must be faced with fortitude. Mystics have sometimes described these ordeals as "valleys of despair" and "the dark night of the soul." When the aspirant's karma calls for the experience of such trials, then it cannot escape from it. The usual words of comfort and cheer fail utterly to make the slightest impress at this time. You may feel surrounded by a wall of loneliness which nothing can pierce and seemingly engulfed by inexpressible despair which leaves you bitter. It is one of the great trials and must be endured. If it be any comfort at all, remember³⁴...

... you³⁵ for your offer of hospitality; it is generous of you and is appreciated. However my route does not take me near Kansas City nor Minneapolis this spring, so an interview is impossible. Whilst your sincerity is appreciated, I must tell you what I have to tell others: The interviews given since my return to the U.S.A. were promised before or during the war and when they are completed I shall give no further ones. As I have said in the preceding paragraph my work is not through the personal medium of interviews and correspondence and I cannot permit myself to be sidetracked through these channels. In any case, it is only necessary to have one interview to establish contact. My work is on the mental plane rather than the external one. I regret the necessity to tell you this but I now have to tell it to everyone.³⁶

L31.051

51 - 52

Incomplete Letter from PB to Unknown

³³ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

³⁴ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

³⁵ Page 49. Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

³⁶ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

... The³⁷ earnestness of your approach to the Quest of Spiritual Truth impresses me. Therefore, I must point out to you that the successful following of this Quest requires the combined effort of all parts of your being and not merely of one part.

It is not enough to depend on meditation alone. That leads to great peace during the state of Samadhi; but as you have to come out and resume your life in the world again, it is needful to develop also those faculties with which you must deal with the world. They include strictly logical reasoning, scrupulous regard for the evidence of facts, the correction of weaknesses and faults of character and the general balancing up of the whole personality. Moreover, deep religious feeling expressed in prayer or worship must begin and follow meditation. Finally you have to rise to the summit and understand the Truth of the Vedanta which is that the whole world is nothing but an idea in your consciousness and that you have, therefore, to free your consciousness from its hypnotic holding of this [idea] all the time to the extent of being totally lost in it. When you can separate the world-idea itself from your consciousness and keep aware of that consciousness alone behind and your daily living, then you will have realised Truth. This is what you make your goal and not merely sit down in medication.

This can be done even whilst remaining in the world, working at a job and bringing up the family. It is not necessary to join a monastery or become a monk – in fact it is not wise to run away from the {able} lessons which worldly experience can teach you³⁸...

L31.053

53 – 54
Incomplete Letter from Unknown
Undated

... but³⁹ Commander Pares, whom you met I think, has made untold mischief with Mr Tevis, who was financing it, and other patrons, he really will bring a ghastly karma on himself with such malice. They are putting some excellent products on the market now, and heaps of the Nature cure healers, including Champneys, are all agog to use them, but business difficulties are still intense and there is a danger of the Govt taking it over bodily for the preservation of food stuffs especially. He had been down to Rye to stay with Mr McMillan, on the strength of his book with your preface to it, apparently. Is the latter a clever healer, Mr Price was inclined to resent him somehow?

³⁷ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

³⁸ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

³⁹ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

He said that he was just "out for himself." I had never heard of him then so the subject dropped.

I wonder if you will get over this Summer. It would be a big expense for you for so short a time perhaps, but lovely to see you again. I have missed you terribly and still have yearnings to travel out to California but stifle them promptly. I am not looking forward to Betty Carey's visit! She has already tried to "bounce me" for {60} in exchange for 200 dollars only which she gave to Eloise at my request, as E was hard up again and been obliged to buy another car. She is unscrupulous where money is concerned..⁴⁰

L31.055

55 - 56

Incomplete Letter or Article from Unknown
Undated⁴¹

... From⁴² San Jose, The Supreme Grand Lodge, the Grand secretary - I think to {illegible} {illegible} wrote to me (Dr {Techeer}, St Frances college, {illegible})

"We are glad you have read the books by P. Brunton. The author has widely helped to spread the light ..."

Also Dr P. Brunton books are found, at least always some of them in each Rosicrucian (A.M.O.R.C.) Library.⁴³ ...

L31.057

57 - 60

Letter from {Isabl} Mowry
Undated

You perhaps recall that there was a cinema artist - Rudolph Valentino? Well, his ex-wife is here with her new husband - a cousin of the former King of Spain - and she is one of your most ardent admirers. She is a very beautiful young woman with extraordinary intelligence. In fact is a personality. Her mother is my old friend, who is also capable of appreciating your books.

⁴⁰ Following lines/ page(s) are missing.

⁴¹ Noted "AMORC have changed attitude to PB since Lewis's death and are now favorable - underlined

ARCHIVE" by PB himself at top of page.

⁴² Previous lines/ page(s) are missing.

⁴³ Following lines/ page(s) are missing.

The former wife of Valentino is Natacha Rambova, a name chosen of herself, although she is entitled to several of Spain's oldest titles. She buys your books by the dozens.

I told Hamzer Carr that when I introduced him to her that I would kiss him goodbye, which prophesy has come true. She has revolutionized his painting and has asked him to visit them at Mallorca this summer. It is needless to say that, having been useful, I am very happy.

Prince Ismail is still in Abyssinia. I had a telegram from him reading -:

"You are a dear" "Ismail."

I copied and sent him your dedication which will please him enormously, I am sure. He is certainly a dear, and I miss him.

My friend Mr van H. Engert has been made American Minister to Ethiopia, and his wife and two children have just left to join him in Addis Ababa. Rather a hazardous trip, but one which I would like to make myself.

I have had since Dec 3rd, three operations on my drooping right eye and the surrounding territory, which, while very disagreeable at the time, has taken off about 15 years from my face. I always remember what you said at the Tudor Court Hotel in London - that you didn't see any reason why I should not take advantage of modern science. So I have done so and am very glad of it.

William Furtwangler the German orchestra leader is visiting the Hichens-Knittels. I knew him some 12 years ago in Switzerland, and have enjoyed renewing the acquaintance. He will take Toscanini's place at the Metropolitan Opera this winter.

Our Ain Shems friends are all well and often speak of you with affection, as does Hamzer Carr.

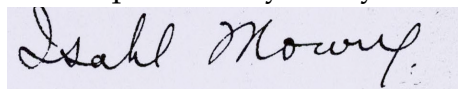
I only wish you might have had time to bring Jeanne here on your way to India. I hope you received my letter sent to your boat at Port Said. I wanted very much to go myself, instead of sending the letter.

I trust that you and Jeanne are well, and that you are receiving great spiritual blessings, which I know you will pass on to others.

The weather has been more perfect than ever {this summer} and those who have not feared to come have been lucky.

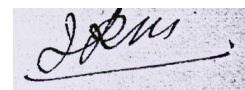
This carries my love and best wishes to you both. May all good be yours. May all your wishes come true,; and may many other beautiful things you have never even dreamed of, finally seek you.

You can depend on me at any time.



P.S.

Is there any way in which I could get a photograph of the Maharshi? The one in the Madras Sunday Times? His eyes have such a great power for good.



L31.061

61 - 62

Incomplete Letter from Romaine
Undated⁴⁴

... along⁴⁵ with the book "The Reluctant Healer" which, it being hot and sticky and not conducive to work (typing) I took time out to read.

It left me cold - very cold - despite his so called "Reluctance" - it seemed to be about as materialistic in feeling as anything I'd ever read. Not once was I touched by any sincere depth of spiritual motive on his part - and this, despite his whining continually to the contrary -

I do admire (intellectually) the technique he has used in writing it to gain even more self-adulation.



he's on mental level⁴⁶

L31.063

63 - 64

Incomplete Letter from Unknown
Undated

...My⁴⁷ father will be {illegible} on the 9th October. I may be going home, but alas, you will have flown by then; otherwise I should have loved to have seen you provided you had had some time to spare.

{illegible}

While I was on my holidays at Klint (30th July - 15th August) Martinus celebrated his 60th anniversary (birthday). There were about 250 - 300 who had come from all over Denmark - Those who wished came to congratulate from 10-12; he gave a lecture at 2 O'clock; and at 8 o'clock, an actor and actress adherents of Martinus teachings, did some entertaining. Although he almost resented the idea of being the center of so much attraction, he was happy for the day and the wishes of so much affection. One gentleman had constructed a beautiful clock with a very plain but artistically made dial on a background of blue with motifs of the constellations; it was put up in the lecturing hall. Then Kr. 10,000 was collected and as they (Martinus organization if I can call it such) have very heavy obligations having bought property and built these little

⁴⁴ Note reading "Warning on W.J. MacMillan by Romaine M" by PB himself.

⁴⁵ Preceding lines/page(s) are missing.

⁴⁶ Noted at bottom in another hand.

⁴⁷ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

apartments for holiday guests there were many gaps to fill. G. Larsson is an able administrator and an eminent supporter in many ways. I sincerely hope that you will have the opportunity of seeing it all on your next visit here.⁴⁸ ...

L31.065

65 – 66

Incomplete Letter from Isabel Roun

Undated

Excuse please typewritten letter but my handwriting is so illegible.⁴⁹
I did not think the moment was appropriate and I was afraid of hurting you.⁵⁰

... However,⁵¹ I have not been quite inactive. I have translated about fourteen pages of Gerner Larsson's course and have also re-written the pages you were kind enough to return to me. I wanted you to have the analysis of the three Xes which gives a pretty good explanation of our being and I hope, with God's help, to be able to complete this translation before long. I shall send the remaining part to your New York address. May I, however, dear Mr Brunton, ask one thing of you. That you impartially give your verdict openly to what I have translated. A gentleman you know, a Mr Reinsholm who has lived in America for 15 years, saw my translation and spoke very favourably, even highly of it. I know you have been in correspondence with him. He is extremely interested in Martinus' work and realises the difficulty in translation.

Moreover, I met a Mr Phillips who lived for a week in Martinus Holiday Colony at Klint; this gentleman has founded a school in Birmingham for self-knowledge but I believe his teachings are principally based on Rosicrucian explanations. I interpreted his conversation with Martinus (which I must admit was rather enervating) as he used a series of technologies, the words resembling those of Martinus but I had to fathom out what he meant first. This gentleman was very well meaning, A Mr Roy Phillips who writes for the "Aquarian Man" and naturally has his own firm convictions which, when controverted, might give a little shock (in the first instance). This gentleman was exceedingly interested in Martinus, (he has not cosmic consciousness) read through what I had translated, and stated that they were exceedingly comprehensible and could be printed as they were. So, in spite of my extreme discontent or rather dissatisfaction with my work, I have become a little more inspired and am venturing on in the hope that "angels" around me will help in criticizing and correcting what they deem necessary.

The International Law Congress has just been held in Copenhagen and there I had the great pleasure of meeting a Mr Purohit who was elected Vice-President for the

⁴⁸ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

⁴⁹ Noted in left margin by author.

⁵⁰ Noted in right margin by author.

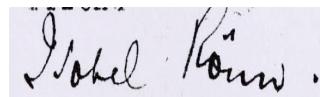
⁵¹ Previous lines page(s) are missing.

Association. He was a wonderful personality; he lived in Crissa, he explained in the blackest part of India. He is a lawyer but has worked hand in hand with Mahatma Gandhi for many years. We became great friends and he too wished to talk to Martinus; this I arranged and they were both happy to meet each other. Although he was very much engaged, we spent many hours together and the day he left to travel through the rest of Europe, he visited my home. He had never been in a Danish home and became very attached particularly to my little daughter. Incidentally he resembled my Daddy very much so I felt a natural affection for this man, especially as he bore the good of his people at heart and sacrificed the comforts of his means on their behalf. This was very obvious although he said nothing of it. His talk at the closing session touched the hearts of all present; I am enclosing a copy.

You said Mr Brunton that you would put a few questions to Martinus. Please do not hesitate to do so and they will be answered to the best of my ability (translated). Gerner Larsson is still at Klint, lectures begin at the close of the month so he has stayed up there to have quiet to write.

Should I not hear from you before your departure I pray that the object of your journey may answer its purpose, may you have peace of heart and God bless you.

With every good wish and believe me Your Friend



"May I confide to you that G Larsson⁵² ..."

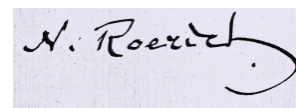
L31.067

67 - 68

Postcard from N. Roerich
Magga, Hulu Punjab, India
Undated

With the Author's Compliments.

Best wishes!



L31.069

69 - 70

Incomplete Letter from Unknown⁵³
Undated

⁵² Incomplete note added at bottom of page by author.

⁵³ "Students Reply" added by PB himself in upper left.

... now⁵⁴ that it is receding into the past, you can begin to see there is a positive and compensating side to it. It must have forced you to think about the more serious issues of life and also about its higher purposes.

3) I am inwardly guided to impress on you the need and justification for a hopeful attitude towards your future. The worst however, the best is yet to come. A cheerful mind will make it come more quickly.⁵⁵ ...

L31.071

71 - 72
Address Card
Undated

Prof. Edward {Oudes} 8 Rue El {Bustam L Caire}

L31.073

73 - 74
Incomplete Letter from Mac
Undated

... a⁵⁶ revised version. I have written a protest and enquired what type of revision he wanted. I have not heard so far. Dinah dislikes me rather intensely and has never approved of the book. I regret to say that for the past two years my relationship with G. has deteriorated steadily. I have owed him {L}I50 for this period which doesn't help. I should like to close my dealings with G. If I were to do a revised version I would do it for your friend Mac Crae along the lines they suggested. But I would much rather do a new book. I fear messing about with that one will not improve it. It was the best I could do at the time. What do you think? I know nothing of Nancy's firm and here too I would prefer to close such business dealings as I have had with her.

I understand that the Eng. Editor of Reader's Digest thinks the American Editors would be interested in buying the new book. It is to be submitted to them when proof copies are available. If they did take it, I think I shall use the capital (heaven permitting) to return home. I feel certain treating as I have known it in England is finished for me. I think Heaven wants me to write and teach and do only the odd case. I think this is the explanation of my most recent grooming which I am having now.

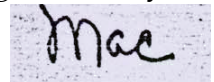
I apologize I hadn't meant to swamp you with so long an epistle. If you can, please, do let me know how to contact you before I leave here. My English addresses are so uncertain.

⁵⁴ Preceding lines/page(s) are missing.

⁵⁵ Following lines/page(s) are missing.

⁵⁶ Previous lines/page(s) are missing.

May all blessings be with you,

A small, rectangular, light blue textured box containing the handwritten word "Mac" in a dark, cursive script.

India was definitely not for me. There can be no doubt there is something at large there which is dangerous and inimicable to our work. But my protection was incredible.