

DORLELETTERS1962 L0004 (English)

Banff, December 17, 62

Dear Mother!

We both wish you a merry Christmas and peaceful holidays. Are there three of you now for Christmas, or is he not at home for Christmas, and has Bärbel already started her [job/position]? Yes, whether I will be here for Christmas, or if I came in addition to that, is the big question. Since so much has already happened this week, a lot could change about Christmas in Vancouver. The day before yesterday I drove my VW, and it was full of luggage. It went quite well, for the 500 km. For the last stretch, we had snow and ice on the road. Now I am still very busy with moving in and unpacking and organizing. On Saturday we are driving to Calgary to buy furniture. For now, we only need two mattresses to sleep on ourselves, since we always push the mattresses in the living room anyway. The baby will sleep in the bathroom and sleep in a homemade box and a low bench, and a lot of things. The doctor thought Berti could go. And we had a visit from his parents. Well, now we know we have to cook for ourselves, since I have landed in Banff. I rode in the truck, our own, and we took two days for the 400 km through the mountains. We are busy with moving in and unpacking. We are driving to buy a mattress. We only need two mattresses ourselves, as we always push the mattresses in the living room anyway. The baby will sleep in the bathroom and on a homemade box and a low bench, and many things. For the children's room, we have so far the cradle, a changing table, and a dresser, the things you will need over time. For the children, we bought a so-called group table, which is a cabinet when it's not in use. Without that: for stocking up, we will get a chest freezer to freeze fruit, and of course vegetables too. It's too expensive to always buy fresh fruit. I still have some in Vancouver that I made, it probably doesn't smell in there, just like in a refrigerator. Eric comes home for lunch, which is much easier than cooking beans or lentils. bottle. We got a check from the bank made out for Barbis, which I can do now, put it somewhere, or carry the baby in my arm or on my back. or a little bed, when the little child can sit up alone without hip support. I can go shopping, and I wanted to see if I should buy anything else. I know what I need, and I although I packed everything up again, Christmas tree eyes and that went well. Have you received my package? I've never sent one so late. Hopefully, I had so much time, but I have ready-made baked goods, Nikola Grit: den and honey cake. The cake, as Wanda has enough of: them, because Gatti is not supposed to bowl. He won a crate as a consolation prize because he was the worst. (This whole bowling thing is a story in itself. When I was bowling, he had to wait until Antijaden was alone, then he went with him. Now he doesn't bake many kinds anymore, and for himself not much either. With the bowling, Eric often had the goal of being the worst.) And for themselves, "Japanese oranges," as Gatti calls them, and Plätzchen cookies that they made. Then once a year in Canada, there's a nice hot drink, it's only available once every four weeks at Christmas. The same goes for "Eggnog," a mixture of eggs, cake, and a sweet drink that is mild and innocent. That's what Christmas is like, when there are gifts. He has always said how he wants to celebrate Christmas again and again. Until now, he was always frozen, which is what happens when you come from skiing at Christmas. Eric now has Christmas at home. Until now, he was always with us with the baby, so there are no complaints, but skiing on a

lake and then Christmas. The birth won't be such a small thing, but when you're there, it doesn't matter so much. That it's great, though. That won't be so much either. Thank you very much for all the good wishes and for the gifts. The gifts have also arrived and I was all the more pleased because I already have it from the washing machine, since you work. Baking to calendar. Thank you very much for everything. Greetings from Eric, who is now also here, and from me, and I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Your Wanda.