

University College Hospital  
London S-16/51

My dear Raza,

For your letter thanks. It's a beautiful piece of  
humour I received for a long time, i.e. since I stopped  
corresponding with my husband.

I don't think it is that bad if my husband  
tries to make love to your wife or if you try to flirt with  
me as Almerker tried to make love to her in his sleep at  
Kalaivan.

It would be an idea if you had son to  
flirt with my Shelley (We named baby Shelley Mira Frances  
Newton Souza) but if one day your son comes + falls in  
love with my Shelley I am afraid she would bully the  
poor kid + try + make love to his charming father instead!  
I wouldn't be in the least surprised if she flirts with  
her own dad. You can expect anything from Newton's  
creation! Besides she is already winking at her  
dad. However fast asleep she may be, she always opens  
her eyes as soon as her dad comes and looks at him  
with the corner of one eye, even though the fact is that  
a child cannot see before 6 weeks, ~~neither~~ neither can  
it recognize anyone before it is 3 months old. She must  
be smelling her dad. Everyone loves her for her black  
mop of hair. She already has many pet uncles + quite  
a few admirers in the Hospital. She is dark like  
her parents.

I am very pleased to hear that you  
are intending to bring your wife. It is nothing like having  
your own home + family. Besides your wife is quite  
a clever + beautiful girl + she will <sup>soon</sup> be able to adapt  
herself to Paris life.

As for me I ~~won't~~ come before Christmas.



I'll start working from 1st of Aug. if everything goes well + learn french at the same time. So far I am O.K. Sonair will leave for Paris as soon as I start working after doing all the arrangements to keep baby in the day nursery. Sonair has painted quite a few very good canvases. I am sure you will like them.

Bakre gave us all the news of art-circle in Bibay including Mrs Saughamer opening Husains exhibition, so Sonair has decided to ask Mrs V. V. Oak to open his next exhibition in India because he says that one ~~woman~~ <sup>hus</sup> is as good as another. I think you should ask Karanji's wife to open yours future exhibition in Bombay, she at least will exhibit her beautiful Sari + gorgeous jewelery.

I find Bakre rather old fashioned now. He is very scrupulous about his food, he would like to marry a wife who would never snub him or even give him a thought. I think it is silly for an artist to have a wife as a slave. He shaved his beard after we cajoling him to do so. When he arrived I failed to recognize him, he looked exactly like those Boris in Bombay go about to sell lace + combs.

Tell Akber that I was surprised to see the photograph of his recent paintings, he is growing to be giant. By God he is improved in leaps + bounds.

With best regards to self + Akber + kisses from Shelley

Yours sincerely  
Maria.

P.S. My hearty Congratulation old boy so your son is coming earlier than I expected, I must make my Shelley look beautiful now? It is great news!