

to not doing well & you think
that is really further away from
+ deserves it - let me know
if I should try & help -

ff of a later date than
Dearest Reza & Jane,

C/o Egidio Vangelini.

Via S. Ivesse 24

Roma

15th Oct. '62

My stay with you has been a most memorable experience for me - I shall never forget it - just as I cannot forget our meeting in 1954. Last year was a bit patchy and we did not see enough of each other & we never had a proper opportunity to talk and discuss things. The reason is pretty obvious now & hardly needs to be mentioned.

Both of you showered such affectionate hospitality on me that I feel quite overwhelmed. I felt a strange feeling saying good bye to you & the words of Day Lewis came without being sought, to my mind.

"There is a sense of release
and a sense of regret,
At every good bye, and every farewell, for every man,
And always will be
Even to the last of his dark departures."

Sorry I have to quote but eloquent words come easier to poets - though the feeling is common. I did have feelings which I cannot describe - & this old man has nothing to do with painting!

The flight from Paris was very comfortable indeed though I couldn't sleep at all - that was my most urgent requirement but the charming air hostess thought otherwise and I had to sit up to a breakfast of ham, bread rolls and for some reason, cakes! I got here on my own steam and was greeted by my friend Egidio and his beautiful wife Edwige - Almost immediately we sat down to what they called a "simple meal" - very nice but terribly starchy

and if I were to eat this food forever I would really become a fat boy! It is utterly different now of course!

I have bought myself a wonderful pair of shoes here - quite expensive but very comfortable & smart - a sort of deep bronze which goes very well with my black trousers. Don't worry Laza I shall not become a Chhaila ~~now~~ do I aspire to conform to the bourgeois image of the artist - à la Newton.

I am sorry that I overspent & therefore had not enough to leave for Manuel. Even if you give him 200, I shall have made you spend on me - I hope you will both give ~~me~~ Laza & me an opportunity of reciprocating, in concrete terms, your warmth & hospitality. Please don't misunderstand - this is not a "Thank you" letter. I hate writing such letters. Nor do I think that ~~to~~ between friends ~~on~~ any accounts of reciprocity can be kept & it would be utterly stupid if I tried to be quits so to speak - All I ask is that you should give us the very real pleasure of showing you our warmth & friendship. Quite apart from all this, I am filled with a tremendous feeling of pleasure at seeing you doing so well. It is really wonderful to have such good friends and one is saved from utter cynicism in this rather mad world.

My friend here is an interesting fellow in his own way & not a bad craftsman but he has a crazy notion that all modern painters are phonies - he knows absolutely nothing of any of the modern painters - well it takes all kinds to make this world. Give my love to Akbar and Lolange and my fond love to you both. As always,
Krishna