Dear Jorge,

I’m sorry for the delay, I’ve been very busy, as you can imagine. I’ve had to learn so much about English Literature to be able to teach at the university. I hope you didn’t worry when you didn’t find my letter right away in the secret place.

I have a lot to tell you. This week has been completely surreal. I have a new student, called María, that is very mysterious. She is always sitting in the back of the class, but she caught my attention because she has a strange behavior, she takes so many notes and looks very suspicious. I asked all the students to write an essay for homework and she wrote 20 pages, telling a horror story about being kidnapped and tortured and finally being forced to change her identity and become a Russian spy. I am so scared!

I don’t know if we are slowly becoming part of a big mafia plan with spies that are named María or Mary or something similar… What do you think? Am I paranoid? Should I talk to her?

Anyway, I tried to leave this letter yesterday in our secret place, but I noticed that I was being followed, so I couldn’t do it. I don’t want these people to know about our place.

I think I will follow your advice and start learning martial arts. This situation is extremely confusing for me! I just want a normal life, is that too much to ask for?

I hope you are doing better than me! I’m sorry I don’t have better news. I will keep you posted about the María situation. I think that, from now on, we should use a code in our letters. Instead of writing “María” we should write “M”, just in case.

See you soon, take care.

Paula.