

Big Chilly
Warsaw Sept. 5. 18.

4355

My dear Pippa Such ups since I've heard anything
of you, much less from you. I would like to know
that you still exist not too painfully. Pam & I have
done lots of things since we parted. It was sad you ~~would~~
couldn't (? wouldn't) come that week but for finally we
were alone & longed for you to add to our domesticity.
Then we came to Wlitz & slept in our tin drum
and bathed out of its window & sailed twice on the
stream & picniced in the little skated oak wood which
comes down at one point to the edge. We've had such
luck in weather - really one's inclined this year to
believe in a beneficent creator the weather bee, always
kinder than one could think possible. May Hutchinson
was ~~very~~ a very amiable hostess and kindly put up
Margery as well - as she had a tiny respite from
Fairland & has come on here with us to help in
the hysta fishy. We've been paddling for hours &
sailing in the muddy mud till we've brought home

over £100 - at first one thinks one will never
find one but in the end you get the hay of it &
take them up quite often. By the way - talking of
Mary - you know a little of the horror of the Fairland
situation & I can really hardly think she will be
thrown definitely into the altar flames of the home
She says that already after 5 weeks her whole
nervous system is a wreck & I believe it. No one
can stand the horrors & vexations & ~~most of all~~ the
jealousies & most of all the whopping hypocrisies
which together make up such a death Christian
home as that is. Now Mary, you know is a
person who is fearfully wanted in the world & who
simply mustn't be starved like this. But at present
there's no help for it as there must be some one
there while Mab is so terribly ill - I think there's no
real hope for her - only what I have to do is to
try to find the one & only paragon of a woman who
could be got by much gold to take on the job.

So of course at once I turn to you - if this makes
 it you think I only write because of it it will mislead
 you for I8 already been sporty for a letter to you before
 Maryj talked to me - but can you help.

This ^{is} the portrait of the person I want to find.

Age 30-50 sufficiently well educated to read the
 Dullish books by father without egregious mistakes.
 Must have had a rather hard time so as to be able
 to enjoy the luxury of regular meals servants etc
 and to regard that as some compensation for
 hidden lovelorn. Infinite tact so that she can really
 help to manage anything without being managed &
 can persuade by mother to take care of herself without
 suffering it so obviously that she becomes cursed.
 Her ostensible function wld. be reader to by father but
 she ought to gradually absorb many other functions
 so as to become a kind of general prop to the
 household & keep people reasonable and calm.
 What do you think is such a person anywhere in
 yr. vast horizon. Mrs Brewster if she were free

would be exactly it - but she's not. But I suspect

some elderly woman who has been a little battered by
marriage or life or poverty wh. be the kind of thing.

Do tell me what you think of this.

Now when will you come - ^{to Dunelm} the week end after this
next is free and it wd. be ever so jolly if you wd come

then. Please, my dear don't treat this invitation as a
~~rather~~ joke in rather bad taste as you did the last
one or two of mine. I'm expecting Vanessa after that.

for a short time if I can persuade her to come
I'm getting rather anxious about her as she's in
perpetual domestic difficulties & doing ~~me~~ ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~so~~
much too much, in fact I think nearly heading off
a miscarriage & that wd. be horribly serious for her.

If I can only persuade her to come (not at Dunelm
I'm after all the only person that ever takes any care

of her. Adieu my dear, ~~with~~ what an awful long
scrawl. Can you tell me Gird's address I'll write
to him twice without any answer about plans.

Yrs. ever
Roger.

Sep. 5 1918



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