

Am
Feb. 29 - Mar 2¹

51 Gordon Square
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Feb. 26¹ 1956

Dearest P.

I was much relieved to hear that you were really on the mend - I do hope there has been no relapse & that you are now really up & possibly about. I think you probably had another attack of bad weather after writing to me. We have had a week of freezing, but the thaw has now set in, and to my immense relief & surprise no floods in the house. The sink in the kitchen & my bath had water in them for days, but it has now passed away.

I have at last heard from Elizabeth. She is suffering from chilblains and doesn't like the inhabitants of Brighton, but goes about to cinema and Theatre. I have written to her to remind her of her hospital appointment which is next Wednesday, but have not the faintest idea whether she means to come back for it or not.

I met Arthur Waley the other day on his return from Buckingham Palace. He was delighted with the Queen, & said she ~~ask~~ was charming, asked intelligent questions & had a sense of humour. I must say this surprised me & I said so. He said she had told an absurd story about Queen Mary. She collected Chinese jade, & her friends used to give her small, inexpensive bits. She

wanted till she had a good bunch
 & then took them to a dealer &
 exchanged them for one good piece!
 M.M.'s comment was 'Rather too
 astute!'

As I really expected Willie has
 turned St. John down. He has
 written a very nice letter & again
 suggests Hindemith might do it. I
 mentioned this to Beryl, who at once
 said she would write to some one in
 Germany who is intimate with him &
 find out if he would like to see it.
 I think all this is a complete mirage.
 I have written to Willie to ask him
 if he would like to see Co-education
 but I gather from his letter that he is

up to the eyes in work, & doesn't
really want anything more.

I had dinner last week at 41
which seems to be getting along all
right. Alex had a fearful toothache
last week - end - Sunday of course -
but she had the tooth out on Monday,
& seems none the worse.

My arm is practically recovered,
though it gets a little tired after a
lot of writing (I have now had enough!)
and I shall never be able to lift up
that awful tea pot again.

You say nothing about Dorothy -

I have been unable to go to Oliver
but spoke to him on the telephone - he
seems all right. If the weather
remains as it is I will visit him
shortly.

Love to all

MCS

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