

6 Naledi Street,
Galeshewe Village,
Kimberley.
30th May, 1969.

My dearest Benjie,

Your ordinary air mail letter reached me today. It was given to me by our burly postman as I was on my way to town. I read it while waiting for the bus which arrived some half an hour later. As you say, four days is better than a fortnight or three weeks!

I am always relieved when I hear you have met Veronica, and this time is no exception. I found, when I met my mother-in-law and sister-in-law last week or so that "Benjie" was a name frequently mentioned and I was amazed to learn they hadn't met you. They'd heard from Veronica about you. My mother-in-law thinks you're a wonderful chap - and she is Zulu to the core!

A second letter of mine is on the way to you. It is registered; habits die long. It'll take me some time I think to believe that a letter of mine will travel "incognito" to wheresoever and to whomsoever I send it.

Yes, the prosecution had a field day: a real "strydag". But my attitude has always been, Benjie, that what matters is what my friends think of me. It bothers me not a damn what my enemies think of me or say of me. They would not be normal if they showered me with compliments!

But Kentridge is handling the summing-up in a masterly fashion - pinning them down to the LAW - after all you are appearing in a law-court; not in the House of Assembly!

The Mail and the Star are available here and I have been buying them daily. It will not be necessary, therefore, for you to take out a subscription for me.

It is/2.....

It is good to know you'll be having a break and going down to see your parents. June 11th will suit me fine. I'll expect you then. I spoke to Capt. du Plessis of the Security division here, asking that you be permitted to come and see the house - in their company - to assess my furniture needs. He foresaw no difficulties. So I hope everything will turn out well.

Veronica sent me a telegram saying she'll be coming over this week-end. I've been trying to clean up in order to make "a favourable impression". Incidentally, she smiles more often now and to me has never looked lovelier!

I have had no word yet from London University and I am wondering when I'll be able to start on my course. This evening a local attorney - Mr Ndzimande - a friend of long standing, sounded me on the possibility of my serving articles under him and preparing for the Attorneys Admission. We'll discuss this when you come. I am not sure that law appeals to me. I am a teacher, Benjie. I love the classroom and to see the look of comprehension on the faces of children.

Have you read that Eulalie has been proposed for the position of Chairman of the Langs Advisory Board? She appears to be going places City-Council-wise.

Nell and Leo Marquard are still overseas: but they sent me a telegram - WE REJOICE - when they learnt the news.

My people from Graaff Reinet have not yet come here. Transport will be the difficulty for my mother as she'll have to wait until my brother who is a priest and has a car gets his leave. But my sister-in-law in P.E. has said she'll be coming in July; and she is the one who has accompanied my mother on both her visits to the Island. So she'll probably bring her along this time, too.

I am sending this letter by the most ordinary post for purposes of comparison! Love to Jenny.

With best wishes,

Bob.

P.S. I've ~~been~~ out of circulation a long time and I am not familiar with the operation of your telephone service. Wouldn't it be a TRUNK call to Joh'burg? As soon as I am able I'll phone you, be sure.

Bob.

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