

2.6.69

My dear Ravi,

It is such ages since I wrote to you
last! I'm sure you have given me up as a bad job
altogether. Please don't!

You have been on my mind all the time ~~and~~
~~all~~ ^{Do} you know you have dismissed your freedom, but
no-one wote!! - but me, it was one of my premonitions
of intense depression, then I feel that I've done everything
wrong & wasted my life to no purpose! (I wonder if you know
such states of mind!) I felt so worried about Rohini's orphan
-ed children, exposed to the influence of a narrow-minded,
possessive heart of a grandmother, without my being able to
do anything about it. Even if I spent my last penny going
there, it wouldn't help them but produce further complications
- a kind of "bottlefield-atmosphere", if I remove the children get
done to me. Also ^{the Shiv Niketan plan} ~~the secret~~ ^{plan} didn't "fizz".

But now internally if not "externally" I'm out of the
wood, feeling that even all these complications have a purpose
& that is - to bring about consciously a state of greater awareness
& greater concentration on the phenomenon of human relationships
& all one has to do is to work with all one's heart & soul
towards ^{improving} it, the rest is - in the lap of the future, and we can
only serve by living fully in the present. *

Besides I'm doing all the house work, leaving fired my
house-keeper-cook whom I brought beg, begone & child.

* I let a foreign difference, other factors of mind in class but it wasn't
come from within, other side it was used.

From Bombay in 1967. No story makes me more Anti-Roman-Catholic, than I've ever been. Not I feel sorrow about in the lovely little girl Nitya, whom one could really build into a fine human being, if one had the chance & for whom this place was home & heaven. Maybe one day she will return on her own. It might happen! The world is full of miracles. Homework does me good!!!

Yesterday we had again a meeting of the "Shiv-Niketan Society" board. After 9 months (almost the ^{year-long} ~~last~~ of a child!) It was decided that the School is the integral part & must be the root of all the enterprises that can stem from it. A.K. Subramaniam, the Secretary, is going away for a 4 months training-period in France to U.S.A. in a marvellous person & also one of the world's most lovable fathers. His children (3 sons 15-7) receive him like a parcel of honour, every evening when he comes from office. He comes from Mysore. I tell you what, I'll give him your address in London! You must meet him. O.K. *

We'll have a meeting of old students on Thursday. We are going to form the Nucleus of our Youth-House of Youth. (P.S. It went off very well!)

I'm still teaching a very weak group. So in forming out this year, I am inclined to become crafty business men, if you permit them to travel the path of least resistance. So we do meet & Citizen's shop with them! Good for us.

* In name of A.K. Subramaniam. He knows your father, but says "be with"

3.

Madhu has left for Simla - district-training -
last night. She has taken with her Kuber's Reliance's
son Asher (12 yrs) who has been invited by his uncle
& led no escort.

Madhu has invited me, too. So - if I can find
some one to look after the house, I shall go with
Leela* on the 19th for 10 days or so. I haven't been to
Simla since 1952, that is when you were still at school here.

Madhu sends lots & lots of love to you. She feels very
guilty not to have written to you for such a long time!
But then you know how things are. She works hard & plays
hard, too - & she, like all of us, lives more on nervous than
on physical energy. Then she has just again done one of these
periodic exams in the Commerce - Ministry. She is, indeed,
very knowledgeable now. With X-ray eyes she sees all that is
going on & comes to her own way some conclusions. At the
same time, she manages very competently & efficiently all kinds
of situations. She is very direct in her dealings & very outspoken,
but at the same time she has such tact & such an engaging smile
when she hits the nail on the head, that there is never any hard
the political news are taking on a very philosophical socially con-
scious colour. She & some of her friends are seeking for an
interpretation of communism that might suit this strange country.
In the end, she will go into social service, after seeing out for her
in the world. She could never remain in a set-up that is as hollow
as our post-modernism. So she feels. In women's relations she
is also struggling for a style that ~~is~~ combines close.

Madhu is going in Red-Cross - sort. She has just done her B.A. in degree.
in history & is pleased with a sense of history & continuity. She is a darling. She sends her love to you.

4

contact with the utter freedom to be oneself, yet sur-
prisingly aware of the needs of other human beings to need
to some.

This I think will be the relationship of the future of
only human beings a kind of basic affinity of spirit that
leads to a "com-fortification" of minds. If this becomes a
man/woman relationship, it will be on the intimacy-level
of a "mirror-image" of the ^{fund} unity of the Universe, from which
the multiplicity of all created things stems.

This is really what sex at its highest level of
experience can represent.

It's such a strange paradox this dual need to be
an individual & yet "one" with one person or the whole
universe.

One of Nedra's friends I like very much. He is a Bengali
"Amit" the brother of one of Nedra's closest friend & colleague
in I.P. College, a young economist. V. calm & sensitive, yet of a
basic inner-conviction, that is the search for truth & reality
lies the meaning of life. He can listen as well as talk &
is very sensitive & ~~emphatic~~ ~~of~~ ~~people~~ in various ways yet
not bound to anything. They have common friends & interests
& then again their own friends & interests. It is, somehow,
a certain non-attached attachment. Not only casually
come of it no-one knows, but at present it is a particularly
lovely friendship, full of security & peace of all fears.

5.

Get one reads in American magazines "Time" & "Newsweek" makes
one shudder at the strange experiments in human relationships
that go on over there. But - all the same - it is also a way
these struggle to find a social pattern that fits our times.
Indrani's daughter Indira is about 24 now & has
lived ~~there~~ for some years in New York now is coming on
a holiday in the 3rd week of June. It will be interesting
to hear her point of view & experiences!

I met your friend mother a few weeks ago. She looks
so happy & fit as ever! I heard from her that your parents
are now settled in London! Are you staying with them.
What are your plans for the future, both as regards work &
life-structures. Do you ever go to the continent?
If you do, do look up Hilde, in the court with
the delinquent boys. She will just love meeting you.
Her time in India is still the most wonderful period in
her life for her. Perhaps one day she will return. Let see.

Now I must stop. Write soon (Get a check, after letter
you've sent so long!! but just now, I'm in a good letter-writing
period, so you'll get an answer soon!! I can never remember
to you now!!

My ex-daughter-in-law & grand-daughter are staying
in Coon well. She still is my daughter, though no longer my
son's wife! Shanti is loved. My son & his 2 sons are in Pith

26

Get a Shreeya family as well. A picture of our time.
In the book on citizenship I'm doing with the outgoing
Kinds is a little rhyme which I think is very sweet:

There is so much good in the best of us
And so much good in the worst of us
That it ill behoves any of us
To find fault with the rest of us.

We did a play, just at the end of the term, also with a
few to counter-balance the all-too-practical attitudes of
the leaders of the top-group. Strangely enough, it is they who
suggested the play!!

In one of their Hindi readers they had read a story
of Ashoka + the women of Kelinge, according to which the daughter
of the dead king of Kelinge leads out an army of women
to fight the blood-thirsty Ashoka & becomes thus responsible for
the conversion of Ashoka to the peaceful ways of Buddhaism.
We produced it within 10 days costume, stage-setting + play
right in the best of way, without a servant + - some still
without actor in the house!!

It was in 2 scenes - the first

- 1.) the childhood of Ashoka, where he bears for the
first time the story of Siddharta + evidently
resents this unhappy attitude to life. His father
says - one day you will make a man
- 2.) the battle field of Kelinge ~~at~~ in front of the fort.
a) in the camp of Ashoka + after the encounter

with Padma & the group of women

the group comes in answer to the cry of despair
& connects him & then there is collaboration between
Ashok & Padma's people to rebuild what Ashok has
destroyed!

Amulya Sushma's son was the "juni", & the main-
sponsored businessman that was Ashok!

Then came a rhyme again, "Dil in - I love - the
thought, they all will take with them

It is recanted by the young Ashok
& accepted by Ashok, the man.

"Job thyag ko utham shakti se"

"Tum Desh ka Karm sab karoge"
(apna)

"Tab tore ichha en pure honge"

"Aur sukha aur shanti sam neenge!"

The meeting of old students was a success. Interesting that of
the 10 items proposed for the activities of the House of Youth
they chose the following 2 to start with.

a.) A psycho-social centre of consultation that might
help to prevent nervous & mental breakdowns.

b.) A discussion group, with expert guidance to
discuss the problems of Youth & Education.

Well - now I think I've made up for my long
silence. God bless you! Write about yourself & don't be too
concerned about me!!! Love Amulya