

P011104/62

Replied
19/3

March 13, 1964

Dear Mr. Paton:

More from Krishna:

"The last two days we have been having runthroughs of Acts I and II. Timewise, ~~XXX~~ I is 66 minutes and II is 54 minutes, but most of the time problem is a pacing problem. I hope I don't have to cut any lines.....

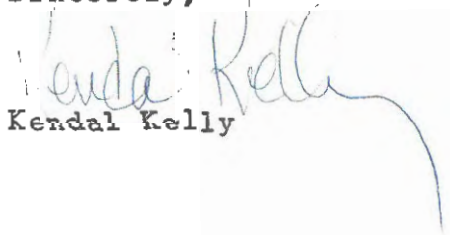
We have changes so much of the music - for example - the Bala Bala chant at the end of I, 5 I have changed to a much softer melody....

This morning I had the first runthrough of Act III. It requires a hell of a lot of work but somehow Michael Goodliffe helps to keep the play on a non-sentimental level. When Sponono lashes out at the Principal about the "bloody sea of love", Sponono is just marvellous. His bitterness comes across so beautifully and it makes the final emotional showdown much more meaningful..... Mabaso's sequence in III is still a headache. I don't know how to play it. Rationally it make sense but emotionally it is very hard to justify. Besides, the staccato rythm of the lines makes it impossible for an actor to deliver with dignity and if I dramatize I am then also in trouble. Alan, if you can rewrite the same scene in X different words it would be so helpful. Because of the time element, can you send the rewrites via collect cable?....the ending of III is marvellous. I considered the way we discussed and it gives a dignity to both Sponono and the Principal and somehow it looks like a new play. I don't think we will face the criticism of being patronizing....

I received your letter this morning and I hope that the miracle happens and you can be here. The cast officially reminded me to send their regards and they miss you very much."

MKF sends her love and received your letter also.

Sincerely,


Kendal Kelly

Mr. Alan Paton
23 Lynton Road
Kloof,
Natal, South Africa