

P.O.Box 2692,  
Durban  
July 5, 1982

MONDAY: 10 p.m.

Dear Phyl,

ALONE at last! The children have gone to bed. Jane is almost asleep. Adam is on holiday from today. Nadia returns to school tomorrow. This crazy South Africa. Nadia goes to a so-called "coloured" pre-school so they have separate holidays. She has just spent three lonely weeks at home without her brother. Now her brother will spend three weeks alone at home. Why? Why?

I just opened Adam's school report. Here extracts: "ADAM is a very warm, well-mannered and confident little boy... He speaks in well-constructed sentences and his comprehension is very good... very charming little fellow who is making good progress".

I am sorry to report that healthwise he is not so well. Last week he had a battery of tests--blood and other samples -- to find out why he is so thin. He just refuses to eat... doctor says we must not force him.

We have a little boy over from Lakehaven so Adam won't be quite so lonely with his sister at school.

We were all delighted to see your happy holiday snaps -- but the children want to see you in the pictures. Picture quality is excellent -- especially the picture of the pork pie poster. Some of the pictures show signs of camera-shake. Solution: Hold the camera firmly during exposure... the cover makes a good grip.

Sorry to hear from Rosa about your brother. Basil's father also went the same way -- I only heard about it two days later via Suks.

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We've had quite a cold spell these past few days. Glad you not in Maseru? I trust you are keeping abreast of all the developments in this part of the world via the excellent press and television there. We in turn were allowed the rare privilege of watching live television on a Sunday ! Sis!

On the record player I have on the theme from the movie "Chariots of Fire". You should try and see it -- if only for the title music. Your type of music, as Suks would say. Hope you have the chance to take in all the culture over there. You must also try and spend a week in Paris -- my favourite city. Stay in the Latin quarter near the university.

Jane and I are forever dreaming about a holiday abroad -- although this time we want to visit the US since we seem to have more friends there than in Europe. Since we don't have a cent to our name we shall continue to dream...

The plans ~~is~~ are coming along nicely, even though I have been ~~x~~ neglecting them these past weeks. I have managed to grow some cacti -- from seeds! I saw some beautiful tulips at the Mitchell Park this morning. Actually, Durban in winter is ~~quite~~ quite beautiful. Also our parks have improved greatly since you were here. This Sunday the city has organised something called "Life in the Park" for the kids. There will be all kinds of games and things to do. Actually, anyone-- up to the age of eighty -- is welcome to participate.

Are you going to be staying put in London until your return or are you going to travel around a bit? Do I continue to write to the same address?

Keep well,

Hoosi