

MASERU/ LESOTHO.
25TH April, 1979.

My very dear Bébiana,

Your letter of the 15th April, 1979 arrived safely. However yours of a previous date forwarded through the UNHCR has not arrived. No matter. The racists cannot destroy our relationship, can they? To quote Fidel .. the fact is when men carry the same ideals in their hearts, nothing can isolate them - neither prison walls nor the sod of cemeteries." So let them take our letters from time to time but we shall always find a way of saying Hi.

Met your sister. It is obvious from her appearance that your mum did not sleep around. You are so similar, and yet not. Thank you for the coffee. I love the packet. I shall brew coffee when the family come over to spend the evening here on Friday. Oh yes I now have a large hut. Not as big as the P.Ms but one as costly R140.00 for someone unemployed its the earth. Dr B was put out by not getting a packet too, but says when he visits he will expect Angolan coffee.

Paulos & Djiociana are missing you horribly. Whatever these feminists say fathers do not make good mothers. Paulos said Mum has written some letters; she is in Ghana etc etc he seemed to be following you around. When Dr B went to Zambia I stayed with them & we had a lovely time. But we cannot replace you. Aminata has improved her English considerably with Amelia. As much as I think Amelia will miss them, I think her chores in the house will & must diminish & this she will be looking forward to. Forbidden pastures was a gift to you. Dr B is redaing same & will return it with the children.

The Winter has come to Lesotho in all its ferocity. The trees have shed their leaves or just about. The green grass has given way to the burnt brown. There shall not be much growth in these parts till September. Oh how I wish I were in Durban. My daughter returned from Swaziland for her holidays, but her heart is in Durban & she packed & left with my family when they were over here this weekend. She returns to school on the 14th May. I wont see her till August. She hated it at first being at boarding school, but she is beginning to come to terms. However I do not think she is going to stay there for long; I cannot afford the costs and the middle class mentality of the school. I just hope that I get a job soon or I'll go bust. I would gladly set up private practice but the cost of such a venture is prohibitive.

Fr M, chael & Fr John are well & your regards have been conveyed. The boys call John Comrade John.

I have asked about the girl who is coming to you. Its OK its been checked, certainly being there will smooth the rough edges. I think her heart is in the right place, her actions are sometimes wanting. The ANC will take care of her. We lost our comrades there a little while back. They killed Solomon Mhlangu on the 6th. But he is not dead - because to die for ones country is to live forever".

Yes we have to fight until freedom is won. Look at the elections in Zimbabwe - free they say held with every man called up. Some freedom, In Namibia too we will soon hear of a U.D.I. To all this there is no answer other than the armed struggle.

Sending you a parcel for ANC to despatch to Zambia. Remember you with much affection: Trust that you enjoy good health to give of your best to your beautiful country.

Love
Phyllis.