

RANE

HILDA BERNSTEIN  
OLD HOUSE FARM  
DORSTONE  
HEREFORD HR3 6BL  
Phone: Peterchurch (098 16) 466

28/4/85

Dear Molly,

This books is for your husband.

Thank you for your card and warm thoughts. Nairobi - that would be wonderful! But shouldn't Lucie & Madeleine be the ones to go? - (you having a beautiful baby by then) or perhaps they will be going in any case.

Quebec was an unforgettable experience for me, and the tenderness of solidarity came through to us very strongly.

Much love

Hilda

August 6, 1986  
Montreal

Dear Hilda,

✓ 5/10/86

I hope you are well and enjoying the summer - in spite of Mrs. Thatcher. The press here has unanimously condemned her position at the Commonwealth Summit. She rivals Reagan for policies of hateful stupidity.

Actually, I'm writing to let you know that Rick, Jasper and I will be moving to London for a year in the fall. Rick has received a grant to do research on environmental issues in the Philippines from the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa. The award is given to a Canadian journalist to work for Gemini News Service in London and carry out a research project on an aspect of communications in a "3<sup>rd</sup> world" country. So we'll be based in London October 86 - October 86 with a three month stay in the Philippines (probably January, February + March.) We are both very excited - neither of us has been to England before. We feel we're setting

off on a much needed adventure.

I am enjoying "mothering" very much. Jasper is a delightful person and we have happily taken our place in the stroller brigade. I am looking forward to some changes though. I plan to carry out my own work around the Philippine. Rich will have more time to spend with the baby - which will be beneficial for all of us.

Rich will be arriving in London at the end of September. The baby & I will leave at the end of October; I have a friend who is expecting a baby in October and I want to be here to help her.

I look forward to seeing you again -

Till then - take care -

Yours,

Molly

P.S. I am now the happy owner of one of your etchings - "Regent's Park"

Molly Kane  
1015 est rue Marie Anne  
Montreal, Quebec  
H2J 2B5 Canada

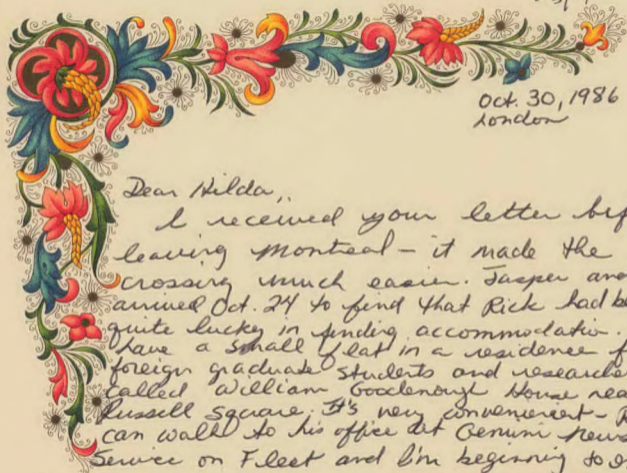


Par Avion

Hilda Bernstein  
OLD House Farm  
DORSTONE, Hereford  
HR3 6BL  
United Kingdom

Air MAIL

✓ 5/11/86



Oct. 30, 1986  
London

Dear Hilda,

I received your letter before leaving Montreal - it made the crossing much easier. Jasper and I arrived Oct. 24 to find that Rick had been quite lucky in finding accommodation. We have a small flat in a residence for foreign graduate students and researchers called William Goalenoy's House near Russell Square. It's very convenient - Rick can walk to his office at Gemini News Service on Fleet and I'm beginning to explore

the neighborhood, more and more as a surface  
from jet lag. I just finished reading Death is  
Part of the Process and loved it. I would be very  
interested to see how the BBC produced it.  
Did you like their production? I have  
many questions but I'll save them 'till  
I see you in person. We plan to be  
in London until Jan. 15 when we'll go to  
the Philippines for about 3 months. We'll  
be back in London in the spring to stay  
until October 87. I hope to see you soon -

P.S.

Love,  
Molly

Most reliable postal address:

c/o Gemini News Service

40-43 Fleet St.

London EC4Y 1BT

tel: (01) 353-9147

(Rick's office)

Our residence:

William Cockenough House

Flat 110 Julian Crossly Ct.

Mecklenburgh Sq.

London WC1

Milly Kane  
% Gemini News Service  
40-43 Fleet St.  
London EC4Y 1BT



Pass your  
Postcard

Hilda Bernstein  
Old House Farm  
Dorstone, Newford  
HR3 6BL





June 7, 1987

Dear Hilda,

We're back in London with many stories to tell. We had been promised a two bedroom flat in William Goodenough House, but we discovered when we arrived that it was still inhabited by the former tenants - so we've been camping in a single room temporarily and trying not to drive each other crazy. We should be able to move into our flat June 23. In the meantime, we can be reached by phone at (01) 837-8888 ext. 3602 or



by mail at: Flat #1  
William Goodenough House  
Mecklenburgh Square  
London WC1N 2AN.

I hope you are well. Were you able to escape from the winter cold for a while? Though I enjoyed our Philippin voyage I was happy to escape the heat and humidity. Springtime in England lives up to its reputation. Petite sends her love. I gave her a copy of Death is Part of the Process - she loved it. In fact it was the only thing I saw her sit down long enough to read! Hope to see you soon - love, Molly

July 5, 1987

Dear Hilda -

I'm sorry we didn't meet last week. Did you come to London? We now have a home phone so communication should be easier. The number is: (01) 278-6843.

We all enjoyed our stay with you and Rusty very much - Thank you for the company, the walks and delicious food. Our friend from the Philippines, Ed de la Torre is in London at least until the end of the month. We'd very much like ~~from~~ you and Rusty to meet him if possible. We are still planning to go to Ireland sometime but so

As we've made no definite arrangement. So  
we'll be in London (enjoying the sunshine  
finally!) for most of the summer.

Again, many thanks for having us -

I hope to hear from you  
Soon -

Love,  
Molly

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H2T2B5 Canada



AJ  
AIR MAIL

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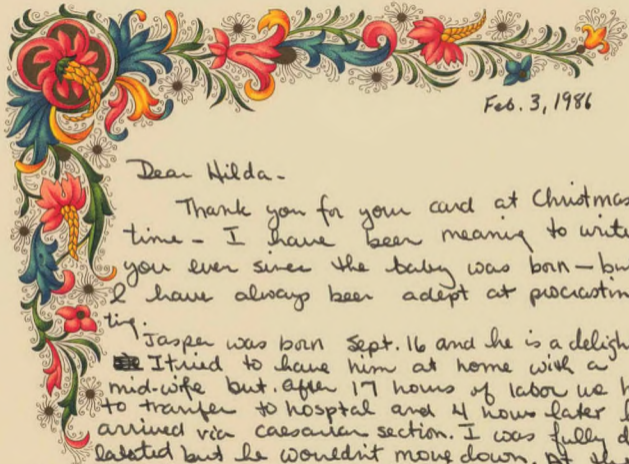




4 mo. old.

Jasper Kane Boychuk





Feb. 3, 1986

Dear Hilda-

Thank you for your card at Christmas-time - I have been meaning to write you ever since the baby was born - but I have always been adept at procrastinating.

Jasper was born Sept. 16 and he is a delight. ~~I~~ I tried to have him at home with a mid-wife but, after 17 hours of labor we had to transfer to hospital and 4 hours later he arrived via caesarian section. I was fully dilated but he wouldn't move down. At the time it was a great disappointment. But it

already seems like one more "story" - not nearly as real as this growing person who now lives with us. Jasper is calm and happy most of the time. He is almost crawling and can sit up for short periods on his own. I am in the States with him for a month - visiting my family in Colorado and New Mexico. I love seeing my family and the land is so beautiful - but life in this country ~~seems~~ stranger every time I return. The evening news is almost surreal.

I resigned from my job at the YMCA. I wasn't ready to leave the baby full-time and I feel this is a good time to push myself in other ways as well. The opening and change of birth and caring for an infant have awakened me to some of my old passions and ambitions as well as introducing some new ones.

I hope you are well. I think of you and our icy journeys often - with love. Mollen



*Pensées*

"la solidarité, c'est la tendresse  
des peuples"

Thank you, Hilda, again for your  
time, good humour and wisdom.  
We are all grateful for the  
chance to have spent a month  
on our tour through Québec  
with our friends. We are  
trying to find funds to send  
the group to Nairobi ~ we'll  
let you know what comes of it.

Best wishes for a joyful spring.

in friendships and

Solidarity,

Molly

on behalf of the  
organizing committee

Fence Row 3/85



Love and Joy to You  
in a Season of New Hope

*Molly, Rick, Jasper & Claire*

ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BYWATERS FERRIS



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XH 2109



December 5, 1989,  
Crestone, Colo.

Dear Hilda and Rusty,

We crossed the U.S. border into Vermont April 29 in a Ryder truck loaded with a sofa, dresser, bed, books, clothes, Jasper and Claire. The latter two weren't securely tied down and after a five-day trip across a half dozen states we sometimes wished they had been. Thus began our American adventure.

From those modest beginnings we have constructed something less than an empire here in southern Colorado. Shortly after our arrival Molly took Claire in to the local health clinic for shots and emerged a with coupons for milk and juice. It appeared that we had plunged well below the poverty line and were eligible for the meagre allowances available here in the wealthiest industrialized nation on the planet. We never gave up hope though. Molly began cooking and waitressing at her sister's cafe. Rick took care of the kids and wrote, desperately, about anything that moved.

In late May Rick flew back to Canada to accept a National Magazine Award for a story on the beluga whales that was published in Harrowsmith. After his acceptance speech ("I'll be brief. I'm speechless"), he was half carried back to my hotel room where he collapsed with a severe case of pneumonia. He ended up on his back at a friend's place for more than three weeks. He had expected to be in Canada for less than a week. Fortunately, the extended family back in Crestone rallied around Molly and she and the kids had plenty of support in my absence.

The extended family includes :Molly's mother, Maggie; Maggie's husband, Kenny; Molly's sister, Sally, and Sally's husband, Tony, and 2-year-old boy, Darby. Molly's brother, Pat, also lived here until August when he moved to Denver to live with his dad, Judge John Kane. Sally, Tony and Darby live about two miles from us. We me, Molly, Claire, Jasper, Maggie and Kenny live in a big two-storey house in the tiny mountain town of Crestone (pop. 75) In August Maggie bought the adjoining property and we converted the little house on it into a guest room with a shop and greenhouse. The house sits in the middle of a grove of Cottonwoods where the children frolic, shaded from the blazing sun. We are 7,800 feet above sea level here and the sun she do shine. The mountains rise up right behind our house. There is yet little snow on the ground, only a slight dusting of snow on the peaks and the sun is shining in a cloudless sky. When will winter begin, we keep asking the kids. Jazz just shrugs.

Throughout the long, hot summer we worked on the house, hiked in the mountains and played with the kids. In August we collaborated with five other parents and set up a preschool for Jazz. We rented a house with a view of the valley and mountains, that has a little creek running behind it and hired a teacher. Jazz and his five pals attend the school four and a half days a week. We were reluctant to send him to school for more than three days a week but he loves it and would revolt if we tried to cut him back. Claire spends her days with dad or mom or grandma or up

at Aunt Sally's playing with cousin Darby. She is now sitting at her table in the kitchen working with playdough. Molly says she just rolled out a cylindrical object, held it up, and said: "Look, mom, a winker (penis)." Claire is just discovering that her brother has a slightly different anatomy.

At summer's end, Molly was in the dumps. She had applied for six jobs but no one phoned with a job offer. When she complained to her dad, he said: "No wonder. You're only living in the poorest county in the state." In late September, however, her perseverance paid off. She was offered a part time job as development and fund-raising coordinator for Christian Community Services. She is now working three days a week in Alamosa, a 100-mile round-trip commute. So for the first time since the kids were born, we are sharing child care 50-50. Being an Albertan Rick had some difficulty with that arrangement. But after a few days of caring for Claire, who has a great sense of humor and an adventurous spirit, he embraced his fate. He love it. Now.

On his days off, Rick writes. He sold two pieces to Saturday Night, which will appear in the March and April issues. He sold a feature to a mountain-region publication called High Country News. He do regular book reviews for the Montreal Gazette. He has also picked up several other small jobs. The most exotic one is an occasional column on environmental issues in a Buddhist magazine published in the Ashram not far from our home. He is to be given the title "Contributing Editor" in the magazine. The pay is modest but they accept, with discreet silence, anything he writes. Buddhists are gentle spirits.

So, although he is not making wheelbarrows full of cash, he has kicked off his freelance career. He is writing. He is not - praise the lord - working full-time for a newspaper. And he is taking care of the kids. If anyone should ask, tell them he died and went to Crestone.

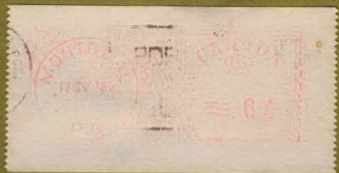
It's an apt comparison. We envision heaven as a place where not much happens. That's Crestone. For entertainment we travel. Sundays we drive 20 miles to a run-down and secluded hot springs operated by friends. We bath in steaming hot water for free. From the pool we can watch the sunset. When the fading sun strikes the tops of the mountains we understand why they were named the Sangre de Cristos.

We will be here for Christmas and expect a full house. Because we live in a valley surrounded by high mountains we don't get TV reception and can pick up only one decent radio station. So write or call if you find yourself in the US. (Box 222, Crestone, Colo 81131 (719) 256-4115) We understand the Berlin Wall has fallen. Write if you know when that happened and why. We see momentous changes occurring in South Africa. Certainly more change than in the past 30 years. Do you see the possibility of visiting the country in the coming year? We are keen to hear from you. Hope things are well with you and your family. Happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours,

Rick

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