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Dear Dore and Alan:

It has been so long since I have written that I am in a quandry where to begin. But begin I must for you are so much in our thoughts and I want to tell you so.

We have been in Montauk all summer and, Alan, you will be interested to know that the three lights have been burning in that strange house day and night even though people have been there some of the time. Maude, of course, thrives out there and is a true beachcomer and nature lover. Her collection of stones and shells and all the other flotsam and jetsam that comes in is piled into a large cache which Miss Lauten calls Maude's kitchen. It is a rare experience for me watching and living with this enchanting young one and quite a challenge too.

Josef and Miranda had a concert at the Lewisohn Stadium this past summer which you may have heard about, and they sang their music from the Phalarope which they call the Africana Suite. As you probably know, in the show the arrangement was for four instruments and eight voices and I was curious to know how much would come over with just Josef and Miranda together with the full symphony orchestra. But it was brilliant and Josef's arrangement for the orchestra had a curious turn. It was as though the voices acted as accompaniment to the orchestra. The stadium had the largest audience that night of the entire summer and when the Africana Suite was done, they received a standing ovation that was truly thrilling. It made me feel that something of great good had come of our production.

I have been searching for plays and material for more productions but good theatrical material is not easy to come by. At the moment, I am working with Samson Raphaelson on an adaptation of a suspense melodrama which I am having good fun with. It will not be significant theatre but I am hoping that it will be good theatre. I talk with Annie Laurie frequently and she relays all news of you but not enough news of your writing, Alan. We need that desperately.

Some friends of mine, Mr. and Mrs. Eben W. Pyne, are leaving in October for a three week trip in Africa and if their journey takes them near Durban, I will ask them to call you. They have plans for a big game hunt in Rhodesia.

Willem joins me in lots of love to you both -

Mary

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