

Robben Island Gaol

Robben Island

7th April, 1964

My dear Astrid,

Benjie has been twice to see me and assures me that both you and Jennifer are well and that you are back at varsity. I was really glad to know that you were able again to pursue your studies.

Benjie has also told me of the disgusting letter you received. I am sorry that you have been caused so much pain and embarrassment. But I do hope that you will regard the letter as the malodorous product of a putrid mind and treat it with the contempt it deserves.

I was sorry I couldn't see you in Pretoria but I was happy that you had finally met the Zodwa of your lectures!

Benjie told me he would be another week or so in Cape Town. Will you tell him from me that I am absolutely delighted with his choice of EVERY single item? In future I'll send him my size only and he can experiment to his heart's content with colour-combinations and fashions. Even the shoes which I first viewed with alarm (I am rather conservative, I admit!) are extremely comfortable and the pyjamas are a peach! The record player too, has arrived and I had a few turns on my creaky joints in the solitude of my room!

I do not know, though, what he would like me to do with the underwear. We had agreed on three sets. But when I opened the box I found they had sold him six briefs. There wasn't a single vest. Unfortunately I do not have his Cape Town address. I would then have contacted him immediately.

I must say you're looking well after Benjie. He's looking fine. And he assures me that he is a model husband and father. And knowing him as I do, I take him at his word, of course.

Wishing you every success in your studies and a happy and blessed re-union with Benjie.

I remain,

Yours very Sincerely,

BOB.

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- A2618-Ba2-11

Document Title:- Letter to "Astrid" from Robben Island

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Document Date:- 7 April 1964