

TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN

Photograph of a 4-page letter, dated July 21

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Dear Marina,

I was very happy to receive your nice letter. I was also glad that you went to a doctor and your condition is normal. You told me once that June was born two weeks prematurely, did you not? You are probably right; (baby's) birthday will be about October 8.

I am now going to leave from here on Saturday, July 27. We will go to the ocean. I hope that in 5 days we shall be at my mother-in-law's, at Naushon Island. This island is not too far from Boston. We shall be there from July 31 to August 11 (I think). My address there:

Ruth Paine  
c/o (this means "care of") Arthur Young (do not write this)  
Harbor House  
Naushon Island  
Woods Hole, Mass.

Then we will go to Paoli - a small town near Philadelphia. The address there until 10th of September will be:

Ruth Paine  
c/o Arthur Young (it is important to write  
this in Paoli)  
Paoli, Penna.

From there, on to Columbus, Ohio, where live my mamma and my father. (By the way, I do not believe I wrote to you that my father did not get married in June. The woman changed her mind. Father, of course, was very hurt. (This would offend my father very much.) When he visited me in June, it was already decided that there would be no wedding.)

My brother and his family live not far from Columbus. We will visit there for a few days and then leave for home about the 17th.

TRANSLATED BY:  
TATIANA NIKONISHIN:del  
January 14, 1964

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 417

What if we come to visit you in New Orleans then? We may come on the evening of the 18th and live (spend?) with you a day or two. Then you may tell me if you wish to come to stay with me for the baby's birth. Of course, I wish very much that you would. I would be very glad to have your company at home and would be glad to look after June while you are in a hospital and afterwards, while you would be still weak after your confinement. It would be nice for her (June) here with children in the yard, etc. Our home is used to children!

If you wish to come to stay with me, then we can leave together for Dallas (on October 20, or thereabouts). But perhaps Lee would not let you go. He may feel lonesome without his wife and children. It is also true that a hospital here costs more, as you wrote in your letter. Before, I was looking for a hospital where it would cost less, but we do not have any like that here. Everything, including a doctor and hospital would cost here \$225.00. I am very sorry. But we may talk about this personally; may we not?

Please, address me by "thou" when writing to me (do they say it this way?). Try it. (This is from the verb "to try," is it not?). It would not be as hard for you to do in Russian as it is for me. Tell me please, is it correct to write "Thou" with a capital in letters as you do "You?"

I wrote to Ruth Kloefer about you. She is a secretary for the New Orleans Quaker Church (genitive of "church," feminine?) I asked her if she knows any Russians in New Orleans. I also wrote to Mrs. Paul Blanchard, Secretary of the Unitarian Church in New Orleans. I also asked her if she knows any Russians there. Perhaps one or the other would be able to find a Russian friend for you.

Write without fail. Regards to Lee from me, please.  
Kiss June.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ruth.

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Translator's Note: The sender writes a fairly good Russian, but she is not sure of her grammar; hence her questions regarding various word forms. She also gives in parentheses pronunciation of American proper names mentioned in the letter. She requests Marina to address her in letters with a familiar pronoun "thou" as is the Russian custom among close friends. (The writer herself uses "thou" in addressing Marina.) In a more formal letter, when using a pronoun "you," Russians spell it with a capital letter; that is why the writer asks if she should spell "thou" also with a capital (which is not done, as a rule).

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