

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

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o.O., 1964-02-19

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February, 19, 1964

Darling Moura, -

I have a problem (what am I talking about ? I have a thousand and three!). The one I mean concerns my godforsaken bones and the fact that another operation is overdue. Now: provided Britt Sellers had decided - for some reason of her own - that Peter should have one (or both) of his hip bones removed and replaced by lovely plastic bits of work, and Peter were eager to please. Where would he go and whom would he go to ? Would he go to America or would he know a Harley Street-man of the very highest order, not merely a first rate orthopedic surgeon but also an experienced specialist as far as the removal and replacement of hip bones are concerned. Would he - for example - go and see Professor Osmond of 46 Harley House, London N.W. 1 ? Osmond-Clarke is the very man who has been mentioned to us repeatedly and he just might be the creature we want. On the other hand: Not only have my European experiences thus far been catastrophical; not only do I labour under the general impression that those utterly and completely specialised blokes in the US might be preferable in a general sort of way (what they did to my father's cancer of the lungs when he was 70 years of age was quite unique in the history of surgery) but I also know about one particular doctor in New York who is being recommended to me almost incessantly. On the third and last hand, I'd rather not go to America. I don't like the little place, not to speak of the forbidding expenses. The latter, however, shouldn't really be taken into consideration. I've been ill now for three and a half years, unable to walk and catching one additional sickness after another. J'en ai mare. And as the thing has to be done I wish it to get done as superbly as humanly possible.

You, sweetie, move among the great, the important, the knowing. Do you think you could - and would - be so kind as to make some inquiries ? As badly stated above, I should not only like to know whether Osmond-Clarke is the leading orthopedic surgeon in London and whether he is also a hip specialist but I am eager to learn whether the great, the important and the knowing deem him equal or even superior to any of his opposite numbers in the US. In addition: what about the circus in whatever clinic Osmond-Clarke may operate in ? Would I be able to get a private room and (or), God forbid, even a bathroom attached thereto ?

This is an impudent letter, as sheer impudation but then you are my best friend in London, so please do forgive me. Needless to say that I should be most grateful for a soonish reply. Even more needless to add that I expect every single Moura to do her duty and tell me all about herself.

Actual real love (in contrast to just love) from yours

