

Wed 11/28

Antipolis

(that's Antibes = opposite

the town because the Romans built it to keep  
an eye on Nice, or if Nice <sup>was</sup> anything like  
what it is is now, it needed it.)

Jimmy dear :

Points in your letter.

- (i) Post hatreds & antagonisms gone, there never was  
a very convincing supply.
- (ii) Of course I'll do anything I can to help you, get  
you out of your feet again; for your own sake,  
apart from the child - I believe in your difficulties  
& understand them. Of course we'll be friends.
- (iii) The S. James' Park business requires some  
comment. Try & see how it appeared to me:  
I was over-joyed to see you again - Didn't  
grudge you Nancy <sup>curand?</sup> or even a bit of revenge.  
Was bitterly disappointed when you sent me away  
that evening when I was leaving for the -  
wanted to leave with our personal relations clear &  
sweet. I waited, hoping at Villefranche for a  
word from you, my birth-day, Christ was.  
Nothing. Then you answered, what was at

least we aut to be a very gentle letter  
 about what our position really was, rather  
 brutally, & it seemed to me that the affair  
 was hopeless, & it occurred to me then, that I  
 was in a position to put up a fight for  
 Cuddy's future, & that I'd better do it.  
 Your joy in seeing me again, didn't stand  
 much test then.

And, so far as I knew, you took about as  
 much interest in Cuddy's dangerous illness as  
 the man in the moon. It nearly killed me.

(iv) See here, Jimmy, I don't want to bargain  
 with you, but I am down here, to be with  
 the child, without a cent, & what is worse, without  
 a cent for her. (She has out-grown her shoes -  
 do you want those exquisite feet spoiled &  
 pinched?) In a way, my difficulties are as  
 pressing as yours - I live on next to nothing,  
 often without lunch, work hard & thank God  
 when Phil Russell turns up & takes me out. I  
 asked you in my letter, if you couldn't get  
 it yourself, to raise  $\$$  25 off mother. You  
 say nothing about that. It's no great sum.

3. but it would just put me straight over  
the child & leave a few hundred francs to go  
on with. It would be all the difference in  
the world? And you said she'd offered double. You  
ought to try that.  
You have no idea what very difficult this has  
been. The child was nursed like a Princess,  
with a grain of sympathy from her father, her  
grand-mother or her uncle. The occasion is  
urgent.

At any rate send something the moment you  
can. Even the sunshine can look a bit dim under  
these circumstances. I am writing full of affection  
for you & would be willing to call off E. S. P. Hayes  
a trust to your honour, but the exigencies of the  
situation ask for an effort from you. If he  
calls you a liar it's on his own judgment, I  
told him <sup>before I saw you</sup> that you were hard-pressed.

(v) Your post-script. I asked for D. Germain's  
address at Cannes. Cuddy's is c/o Odile Branswick,  
Villa les Sables, Bld. de la Croisette. But I ask  
you to send ~~no~~ one until I can afford new  
clothes for her. She is a very beautiful child  
& knows it. Has a benign sense about such

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things. It would be a humiliation for her, in  
a shabby over-coat & an old hat under M.  
Bernain's sharp & pitiless eyes.

Jimmy dear, we can be anything you  
want us to be. That's the truth, & all of it.

And do cheer-up; your letter is  
wrapped in historic gloom. You've got your  
wife & your kid back if you want 'em. A  
step-dance wouldn't be in-appropriate, & dancing  
attracts money & all pleasant things. And you  
can dance beautifully.

Opposite my window is the only art décorative  
house in Antibes. The Boudel. Orange walls  
& blue shutters & geraniums & pots.

Je t'embrasse -

Mary.

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