17 – 3 – 44

my dear friend, many Thanks for
your letter followed by a parcel
You ask me to accept them, so I
am keeping them. But do you know
I will not wear them till I see
you again. They are very nice, &
I greatly appreciate your sweet
thoughts – but somehow I cannot
express to you what I feel –
"I feel lost." Because I did
wrong – and <u>now I am in for it</u>
Moreover I feel alone, hence
desperately wretched.
I let you down, and cannot
forgive myself.

7/4/44 received

What can you do, if you break something V. Valuable or irreplacable?

Moreover I can feel your deep disgust and pain - but I wish I could save you that pain - is it possible? Please tell me, and I will do my utmost to undo what I did - The pain is unbearable. My friend help me - as you have always done. I look up to you for guidance and support. Forgive your erring pupil, as she is dearly paying for the wrong act.

Why have you not started your work? This is wrong — and I feel very guilty - but This is not to be so.
As soon as you feel strong enough, you better start your work - Can I be of any use?
I am anxious to hear of your health, and about your work. Thinking of any changes in your studio? and effecting them this year or waiting?
Have you made any sketch of the Hyderabad Princess? You could do that in your study.
You are missed so much —

My health seems to have departed - pale, hollow cheeked + hollow eyed. I lie in bed. The Dr thinks my liver is out of order, and I am anemic, and undernourished - need "Calcium + Liver" - injections - But am not taking any treatment. Just keep to my bed in disgust. Running low fever + cold also. I have no desire to take care of myself - I want to sink into oblivion -

I cannot thank you enough for your sweet consolation in writing - with all the best always my dearest friend Jennyson Cun

my dearest friend, your sweet letter of the 11th came like a breath of fresh Air, as I opened the letter two little blossoms slipped on to my breast, "Your kind message of good will to cheer me up." You are so wonderful, so kind— I can picture you watching the Valley covered with blossoms - and I wish I stood beside you and could answer your questions. How well you could paint now - and I wish I posed for you among the blossoms for so many pictures - My dearest friend cheer up - my own heart is full of pain - regrets, and the great desire to be free of 'Life'— I do wish we could work together in so many ways - but may be you need me no more — If you do - tell me, and I shall be free to work with you in a year or so! I realize that is all I wish to do— there are no other ambitions in life. It is very sweet of you to write to me— and I realize what an excellent friend

you are, and how concerned about me, like some one who starts to care unselfishly - like those two men who are here no more, and upon whome I call to help me to be brave. Having blundered, I have let myself go - suffering mental and physical tortures - with no desire to fight it all off - but a dull longing to pass on into oblivion - My answer is I deserve it - and brought it on myself - so should suffer -

I am being a coward - I cry and toss in agony - I have become an invalid. So now I lie in bed and am writing to you - I miss you my friend, and I mourn for what I have spoilt & lost - I have refused to be treated - If I am worth pulling through, I may get well in time by myself - otherwise I do not deserve to pull through & must allow myself to go under - Don't you think so? I believe you feel my desperation

through it & learn my lesson fully; and understand this theory of love. How it can be worked out best. May we remain "friends" or not? or would you relegate it to mere acquaintanceship like all those others? Yes, Spring has set in, but with dispair in my mind and heart - It is painful and dreary - but one has to live through everything to understand better. Your canvas is lying with me, and will be dispatched to you according to orders. I think it is not bad - For heaven's sake don't 'thank' me - Did you get the parcel of snaps? they have been paid for, and some money remains with me. Did you find out about sending Railway Parcels - at what address they can be sent + if they are safe?

By the end of this month the packing cases will be moved carefully to our godown which is repaired, & they will be quite safe there. Your paintings in the guest room will also be moved into the same place to keep together.

I gave you the message about the articles — as for the proper figures of the Income tax I will write as soon as I have ascertained it accurately.

Good about sending 7000/ to Russia — I am sorry your work is delayed due to your illness, but thank God you are better now, and will be able to take it up soon. I was almost thinking of coming up to see you; but on second

I tried to explain but he felt I
was trying to Talk like a missionary
I am mocked at by M_ & some
friends of his for Thoughts on Higher
living & Higher Thought_ they
think I am either a baby or
crazy_ But I find their talk
so vulgar and sickening at times
that I go away to be by myself.
I am trying to translate_"New Woman
_in Soviet Russia"_by Freda Brodi:
as I am called upon for some
active service for the F.S.U.
Wonder when we'll meet again.
It is already getting warmer_
The house repairs are not yet complete.
But I hope to shift into it in April
when I was told to go to Nagpur also
Co refused to stay behind, because she
wanted to see you all!!!
With all the best Thoughts & good wishes.
Do let me know how you are getting on.
My best wishes to everyone. Yr always.

5

Thoughts I found it may be a rash step which you may disapprove of, and I may regret later on. So in case you need me, I will come, not otherwise - and for as long as you wish!

Please pay heed to your health, because you owe a duty to it for the sake of your art - It must go on, and reach a certain limit before you stop. So my dear be very careful about it. My trip to Delhi was not pleasant, my sister was ill - and sick at heart and depressed I spent my time waiting to hear from you. Ha - I was more depressed to find me looking so sad, and wondered why we go on living - to what end -

My dear friend, I am going to be careless, & feel I may be endangering my life by doing so - but I feel the futility of life - I do not want to live - it is painful - I made a mistake, a horrible one, & that is going to put me deeper trouble & cause me more distress. Yes, I am a coward, I want to escape life & all the ugliness - I want to shut my eyes, & never open them again to see & hear things I dislike so much - I know you tell me to be tolerant - my father preached tolerance too - I know I aught to follow it - But I feel weak & afraid to see ugliness - my very soul

is agonized & rises against ugliness. I do not want to have to face & put up with it - please let me die - help me to do so - don't pray - for me - I want to escape the horrors of this life - Don't let them tie me down to life & its responcibalities, it will crush my spirit - Help me to be free of life to escape bondage. I wish you were here. I need your gentle & kind words - I am afraid of life - I want to die; & That is why I am not being careful - I am going out of Simla for four days - the Dr says it is taking a great risk - but I am doing it - Perhaps it is wrong & I should not, but I want to play with my life & risk it !!! When I am safe & back again, I'll wire to you, & in case I do not by The 25th or so I may be in trouble - anyway death would not take me too far away — because The spirit must live

Please know one thing & don't forget.
I wish you the best of luck &
hope you'll achieve all you desire
in this life - My very best thoughts
shall always be with you.

I do hope you are all well -

With all the best

Yours ...

I shall draw up a "will" roughly which may never be stamped or registered – but may be witnessed – will also write a letter for you (in case I never see you again.) & give all these things to M—— to keep, in case anything goes wrong with me: to dispose of them according to my instructions. I hope you'll find everything O.K. Give my fondest love to Mother, & tell her I miss Her terribly. Also to Raja – & my regards to Prof: & George & Ludwiller & Dr.

Funny in my selfish desire (genuine) for quitting I am not so worried about Coo – nor about the friend who may miss me –! Because none of us are indispensible in this world. Maybe both will be better off without me, & perhaps happier.

My dearest friend,

many thanks for yours of the 9th. I am pleased to hear you are better now, and to get all your news. Yes, I know how you feel, and everyone can see the agony of it imprinted on my face.

I feel crazy and life is an awful burden, but I have dug my own grave, and I must lie in it alone. I have lost what I held so dear, and I mourn the loss - but the memory of it is dearer to me than anything, and I shall be faithful to it till the last. So you can trust me to serve you as best as I can.

I do not expect any sympathy from you for what I have to go through, for this is a just punishment

for violating certain faith. Yet there is a defense, though it is none too great to be proud of - so I have to take the blame and be damned for it. M_ thinks I should undergo an operation to save myself this mental torture which may become a serious problem later on - but what is done, cannot be undone, even if I pay for it in every conceivable way. So is there any sense in taking care of myself? hardly!
Would you really care now if you got any news of me at all or not_? I wonder.
You cannot picture my grief it is so intense you can hardly imagine it. but I deserve it and must go

You are quite right - I decided to quit - but I realized I couldn't without making proper arrangements for what you had left with me in - trust. I must not fail you again. I was about to send for some "P. S." powder which would be so quick that no one wouldn't be able to pull me through. Then I thought I better at least write and fix up about your things - That is a responsibility I must not forget - Though I had forgotten "Coo & her Life". Funny?!! Anyway tell me with whom should I leave a letter in case I feel I cannot go through with it all? Is everything O.K? Anything required to be explained? I must fix up everything & not leave anything in a mess - Always best to leave things in proper order. So there is much for me to draft in case of emergency.

I feel very tired now, inspite of the fact that I am more than half lying in bed. So I'll have to stop. I have been wondering if it will be possible for me to contact you in case I am no more in flesh. Considering my enormous ignorance will I be of any use? I wish I knew; or you could tell me.

A dull cheek ache is always there, & I feel so weak with it. As if my very soul was writhing in torture. Do write to me. I wish I could be of some use. Let me beg of you to start your work well. Paint a little sketch with two faint figures in the fore-ground, spring around them, looking over the Valley, & see if it will make 'some' pictures. With a lonely sky. I was taunted with 'go home to Nagpur it will make you feel better & stronger'! My love to mother & father & Rani. Dr. George. Kindness.

25th My dear friend, many thanks for your letter redirected to me from Lahore - and for the wine, I am very sorry to hear of your slow progress towards recovery, and the time wasted thereby, but I dare say that cannot be helped - All the same I pray that you may gain strength soon, and be better able to get on with your work. I do wish I could be near you to help you towards a speedy recovery - Somehow I feel I could do so: But I dare say you are quite right, and will tell me when I should come. You know I am always there, & ready to help you in anyway to the best of my ability, as it will be a pleasure to do so.

Your letters give me strength & courage, & I am grateful to you for your kind words of wisdom & encouragement. They are so good & wholesome to hear and cherish. Thus my friend I thank you.

The lovely golden flower so well pressed was most welcome; it reminded me of little yellow flowers & the bush outside the monkey temple. One thought leads to another, & so how rich one's memory becomes with colourful recollections mingled with lovely sunset clouds & talks, of sacred work and thoughts.

I shall of course follow your kind advice, & read those books & take good care of them: Because I wish to know better, the experiences of greater minds. Yes, ones fate, & stars one cannot entirely change, so we have to brave the hard times in store for us.

The articles are at present 77/- and I wonder how they will progress. Apply
I will be back in Lahore by the 4th morning if all goes well: & then will let you know of my address in the hills & date of departure, because at present I do not know it myself.

Today it is late, so I shall post my letter tomorrow. The daughter of a friend of mine passed, & it was most sad –

Have you got up yet? you should not overwork in the begining – & take mother's advise & also Dr's. How does the garden look? Please convey my very best wishes to Mother & father. Remember me to George, & Dr – & give my love to Raja & Ludmilla. If there is anything I can do for you, do please let me know at my Lahore address because by the time you get this letter I will be leaving Delhi.

My dear friend you are missed all the time – when A– returns from Lahore (when he went soon after my arrival here) I will find out about 'that' Exhibition you mentioned in your letter. I will ring up Hamid & ask him also. With all good wishes & best of luck – always

my weight when I reached here was 8 stone my blood very low - 58 % - hemoglobien - when it should have been 100 %. Liver out of action Hay fever cold - & constant headaches.
I am taking Liver injections, & also Calcium injections - but so far the cold is not treated. The heat is becoming oppressive & weakening.
O sorry I forgot to inclose: those telegrams my youngest sister also has come here to see me! as she was very upset about me.
Co often talks of you, & sends many messages of love to you all & Raja.
I want to write to mother, & will do so in a couple of days.
Delhi is ablaze with flowers these days.
I will try & see Mrs G. before leaving.
M—'s fourth brother is getting married on the 7th! So the house will be full of guests from the 5th to the 10th at least. Hence I feel quite sorry for Co & self.

Thanks very much (Please send Vs snaps) for giving me a full discription 12
Of your paintings. I am pleased to hear you have
done so well inspite of your indisposition
early this summer. I wish you the best of luck
for more work as the summer has not yet ended.
I may be back at Lahore in November.
What about Exhibitions this winter? Why not
write to Richardson & find out. I know the
difficulties in Transport are so many. What did
Dickinson say- It would be best in Delhi
or Lahore I believe.
How are the flowers in your house?
The present you've sent is lovely, thanks very much,
I greatly apreciate the kind thoughts.
I also wish I could come and see you all.
Did you get the snaps? How is mother? I
am wondering if I should write to her, and
what not to write! I must do so once before—
No, I should not be morbid- it is cowardly.
I miss you all very much, and hope you
do the same, and remember last year? I
was very happy, & my best & most useful
summer was spent there: Surrounded by beauty,
peace & friendliness. Could one wish for better.
I can picture you so easily now in your daily rotine,
that I seem to posess mental pictures of you- Thanks for
completing portrait yours I am to get.

3rd afternoon. 12

My dearest friend, I cannot thank you enough for the kind thoughts and good wishes you have sent me in your letter. You are the best friend one could desire, and I must say you are a great help in strengthening one's resolve towards good purposes. So I have no better words to thank you with than these, My friend, with my heart I thank you for this invaluable friendship, which is my best guide in life. I shall do my best to come through this difficult period of mine, and be at your service. Your kind words are so soothing, and make me feel happy, & content. The parcels have arrived - thanks very much indeed - the apples have all reached well, but hardly three pares survived. We tasted them, & loved them. The children were thrilled to see the parcels had come from Coo's Uncle Kulu, & Coo felt quite grand. I want to do something for you on my Birthday, & wonder what shape my efforts & 'good will' will take. I'll try and get a couple of snaps taken so as to send them to you. For one month I'll have to work hard, & go over the book I mentioned to you, which I hope will be published by the end of this year; and I will be able to send you a copy.

We've had ceaseless rain for three days, and feel quite tired of it; but this is not yet the last of the monsoons, which may subside by the 15th.

8. p.m. 22nd

My dear friend, Thanks for your telegrame.
Coo sends her love and good wishes to you all.
I am quite well, and trying to take some strengthening medicines, because the D. thinks I do not look strong enough - Do I ? judge for yourself by the snap I am sending, & then give it to mother or Raja if you have no use for it!
Coo is sending one for you all with her good wishes.
I miss you very much ! what a statement !!!
I miss mother very much ! and wanted to write to her, but thought she would wonder at my vehemence, and the reason for it - so am postponing it till I hear from you.
Please convey my very best wishes & love and tell her my thoughts are very often with her; and I am longing to be with her.
I met a person (lady) who had visited Kullu along with Lady Hydari earlier this summer, & she gave me news of you all, & talked of your paintings - rather well. at tea yesterday with my friend Lady Jolly.
By the way I must tell you about a peculiar incident which occurred the other day.

At a restaurant someone (army person - Eng -) tried to talk to me - but on being ignored - put a tip near Coo's plate & marched off - I told the waiter to go and return it to the man! Later that afternoon as I was going back to that restaurant to wait for my sister there, 'that person' followed me, & insisted on talking. So I had to go into the restaurant and give him a piece of my mind; & then Hussia joined me, & I went to the pictures with her & Orchard, & came home with them. That person probably followed me as I was alone - So I realize there are peculiar characters about the place & can be a nuisance & one should not go out alone.

Now I better stop writing as I feel tired. How are you keeping? Yes, That book - well you'll see - I talked of it to you once (about my father) & hope it'll be out by the end of this year. O for a feeling of freedom to run about in the open breeze, to read, & write, & paint - ride & laugh as if nothing was wrong - I am tired of this state & feel so depressed & morbid - but one pays for one's wrong step —! I realize & understand better now,

The monsoons are still persistant, but have not been so heavy this year. Hope they come to an end by the end of this month – as it is rather depressing to be surrounded by an ocean of clouds – though the sunsets some times are glorious, & the children watch it beside me; & count the wonderful colours in the clouds.
How are the paintings progressing? father's portrait? I miss 'the studio' the paints, the Valley – and the garden – above all the peace and tranquility of the house: and hope one day soon I'll be back again, talking & laughing & feeling happy with you near, giving me all the news. Remember the headaches you got, or I did sometimes!? and that green jade coloured medicine mother applied on the forehead with a piece of cotton wool? I can picture you all at the dinner table, the subdued light, & talk –
Now I must stop though my thoughts are always with you

with the V. best always. My regards to father & George. How is the Lane? please do remember me to him if he is the same one. The Leghari Ayha has been turned out, & is seeking an ~~place~~ employment, & I may employ her - as I thought she was good. How are Ludmilla & Ranya? Give them our love & best wishes. More next time. By the way, do send me those snaps for Y——.

My dear friend,

many thanks for your letter - it wrung my heart with pain to read it - and I understand the reality of everything - But causing you pain, I have not spared myself and that is my excuse -

Why do we cause pain to those we love above all —?

You say you have not understood - how could you miss the meaning -? my dearest friend it is the worst - and why —? Because of desperation -

You will no dobut hate me,
and I think I deserve it_
all merciless criticism you
may choose & aflict me
with I will patiently bare.
Because to you it will sound
unreasonable_ but I asure
you it is almost as good
as yours explinations_ But I
understand and realize your
reasons_ they are unselfish
and good, but mine are not
selfish either_ in fact it causes
me more pain than you

can imagen - But this pain
will prove to me myself and
my feelings, which must outlive
my struggle. So dearest friend
I beg you pardon for letting
you down in a sense, and
yet I feel I am not letting
you down., but only proving
to yourself the truth of what
I have learnt - You want
only impersonal friendship
-unselfish - so you will get
it for the asking, & I will
never bother you about the

personal element in it — If I can ever be of any use to you, I am whole heartedly at your service, because to serve you is a pleasure & an honour.

I can see your face pale with disapointment — and I feel wretched — I cannot write to you all I feel — But if you choose to believe me I swear by all I hold most Sacred to me that I will not let you down in anyway whatever. And as soon as I am once more

in a normal state I shall take the vow and keep it for ever because all I have seen of life has caused disgust and I wish to prepair myself for a life free of personal feelings or thoughts.

My friend - my master.

I crave your pardon for causing you disapointment - But you must - nay I leave it to you, so that your heart may dictate to you whether you trust me or not - hence forth.

I must stop for too full are my thoughts + cannot be expressed.

I writhe in agony with the pain I have inflicted upon myself & on you – and I am sorry it was anyone besides myself. You must never thank me for anything, because to serve you is my pleasure.

1/ I shall write & inquire about the articles & let you know as soon as possible.

2/ The snaps are dispatched – It cost 6/8/- only – so there still remains some money – till further orders – As for the canvas it is not bad (I mean the surface) may I send it on to you? & how? in a wooden packing case? or how?

3

4/ details of the income tax I shall write as soon as I hear. 18

5/ I may see the Gladystins in Delhi – I will be there till the 9th. Anything to do there?

6/ The house here is still quite unsettled – & again lack of servants is felt – Soon they will be replaced. I feel most upset, & miss you all very much – I have often seen you in my dreams –

Last night I saw myself dying, & I insist on walking to my grave & on reaching there I find I am not feeling the sinking feeling, so have to bring the Coffin back! I get awfull palpitations – & I am told it is due to irregular breathing & nerves henkkit.

Is there anything else I could do? Do please let me know. I am pleased to hear you have started your work again, and I wish you luck and great development this year.
I quite realize the difficulty in higher progress, & also know what an uphill job it is - So send you my very best wishes & thoughts - I wish I could help But what can another do, even with the best intentions.
I long to see you work out your new paintings, but I dare say you neither need nor want me.
Cw sends her best love & kisses to you & to Roger - Please remember me to everyone - with all the best always -

Where are George, Raya & Ludmilla? Some one said George had gone to Russia. Is that so?

3. Bath Island.
Karachi.
20-1-59

My dear Svetoslav,

thank you very much for yours of the 20th Jan: '59. & the New Year Greetings etc:

We are pleased to get the blessings & good wishes of our kind and understanding friends, & hope we'll be able to achieve something really good for Pakistan.

I'm sorry to say I never got the letter you wrote last March, though I wrote to you during Xmas of 1957 when we were in Delhi.

Last Summer M. & I went to the States in August to participate in the International Law Conference in connection with the Rivers. It was most interesting, & we loved seeing Washington & New York. It reminded me of all you had told me about the people of that place, & I wondered where the Roerich Museum was. O I wish I could see you & tell you all I felt & thought of when I saw that place, & Spain we saw on our way back. At Madrid we saw Musé Del Parado, & I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the quaint old building in Barcelona hewn out

of Rocks. O it was so nice, but really a flying visit. A fortnight in U.S. & Spain with in three days. The bullfight was positively sickening. The Art Gallery at Washington was most impressive & beautifully built & I loved Washington. As for the snapshot of my Portrait in Pink - I am enclosing a copy of it plus the small one of Shirin self. Petman painted Shirin & a copy of that is also enclosed but it is not so good I'm afraid. I'll try & get a better one taken of the Portrait you did & send it to you next month. Do let me know of the exhibition in Delhi next year so that I try to come & see it if all goes well.

When you go to Kulu, think of us. An excellent idea to open a Memorial Museum in your father's name. I wish you the best of luck in that endavour, & it is better to make it where he lived & worked in peace & comfort.
Did you meet Julie Medlock? She is in Bangalore, is a writer & a Theosophist & was keen to meet you. Svetoslav I am so glad people all think your work reaches the same hights as those of the old masters. Somehow I feel so utterly proud of your work, & would love to see your further progress in the next exhibition. God bless you!
Shirin is studying in England, & will be coming here during the holidays in Summer. She paints fairly well now! without any Training, & refuses to get any. Maybe she'd listen to you. Now she is over 19. !!! makes me feel really old. Both the boys are with us. How is Devika? To convey our regards to her.
Do let me know when you get this letter & snaps. Thanks again, & all the best of luck to you both from us both. Yours A