

1

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE
RIVERSIDE 2971

September 12, 1931.

Dear Svetoslov,

For my birthday Leslie presented me with a Tibetan seal which she got from the Roerich Museum. I happened to show it to my publisher and, as soon as he heard that Professor Roerich had brought it out from Tibet, he suggested having a drawing made and used on the dedication page of my new book and continued on all my future books. I attach a proof of the drawing to this letter and would be grateful to you if you would send me a translation of it. As soon as the book is off the press I shall give myself the pleasure of sending you a copy.

We miss you very much but we hope that you are finding much to interest you in India and that you are continuing to paint.

I have just called the first meeting of Lodge No. 1 in the Kiva Room for next Saturday evening. Wish you were going to be there.

Very cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

2

R. T. M. SCOTT

265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE
RIVERSIDE 9-2971

February 6, 1933.

Dear Svetoslov,

It seems such a long time since we have seen you and so very much has happened since those days. Leslie and I often think and talk about the times that were and wish that you could drop in for one of the old time talks or that we could join you at one of your delightful dinners.

The Lodge maintains its stout course toward its great goal although financial stress has come to many of us with the result that, exoterically, expansion has been checked. However the seed which was planted by our little group, high up in the Roerich Building, has never died and I do not think that it ever will. We owe much to you for this but, since you are one of us, you owe it also to yourself which, of course, is according to the Law.

I left India twenty-five years ago and cannot claim to know that country now but I think you are fortunate to be out of such an uncomfortable country as this one today. Here we seem to have lost stability and solidarity and the future appears to be little better than a blank. We are still living at the same address but I would not be surprised if we were forced to move to some tiny apartment until the storm blows over or blows us over altogether.

I am plugging away at a new novel and using the night hours for my best work, going to bed at six in the morning and getting up at eleven or twelve, to continue through most of the day and into the night again. Of course the book is sensational, in order to sell, but I am striking at the failure of the people to govern themselves amid the complicated problems of the present day.

Leslie continues with her Secret Doctrine class every Friday night and I make the coffee for them at the close of the class. We wish you were here to talk to the class occasionally as you once did before.

We all send our love and best wishes to you.

Cordially and fraternally,

R. T. M. Scott

3

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK

Dec. 12, 1934.

Dear Svetoslov,

Lately, as Christmas draws near, Leslie and I have been thinking a great deal about you. As a Christmas letter, I suppose this will be late in reaching you; you are so far away. We wish you were nearer and that we could have some more of the old talks. So few people can be interested in the deeper things of life and yet hold sympathy with little laughs and sorrows which go to make life wholesome.

The new order of Ancient Universal Masonry, established with your help under such significant circumstances at The Master Building, continues. Of course it has gone through hard times, like all other organizations, but it continues and we hope that it will now expand. Something was given to it which could not be killed. We wish we could talk about that "something" with you over one of Leslie's Indian curries which she still makes every bit as well, I believe, as they are made in India.

Manly P. Hall is lecturing here at The Master Building and at Pythian Temple. Leslie is attending the lectures but increasing deafness has removed that field for me. I have to depend upon the printed page and quiet conversation where I can sit near the speaker.

I wonder if India is much changed since Leslie and I lived there before the war. It made a deep impression upon me. Of course I was much younger and knew very little although I thought I knew quite a lot. The one big thing that I learned about India was that it requires many years to understand it and that no tourist can hope to do so. Probably no white man knows India better than a Roerich. What is your opinion? Is there more than a superficial change in India?

I suppose that there is no use asking when you are coming back to New York. I think, however, that some day we shall see you, probably unexpectedly. That will be a very happy day for us.

I forgot to tell you (almost) that Leslie has had one of her sonnets, "Eros", set to music and sung by Gladys Swarthout whose fame will make publication certain.

We shall be thinking about you on Christmas and shall visualize you in the settings which are so well shown by the beautiful photographs which you sent us. Our very best hopes and wishes go to you.

Cordially,

Leslie G. Scott *Wm. J. Scott*

P.S.- We should have written long ago but we have been, and still are, so worried on account of the depression that we have failed to do many of the things that we would like to have done.

4

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
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TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

September 7, 1935.

Dear Svetoslov,

Leslie and I have just received your letter of August 19th and are delighted to hear from you again. We are looking forward with great interest to the arrival of the book which you mention and I shall write to you again when it arrives.

The difficulties of the Lodge are not yet surmounted in that since the split Leslie and I have been waiting for this fall to revive the efforts of those who remained true to their obligations. In the world today very few seem to be faithful to solemn obligations unless it is to their own private interests so to be. The League of Nations is built upon obligations which are often thrust aside when they run contrary to private interests. Dictators and oligarchic leaders think in a future which is only the present; democracies are fancies of the thoughtless.

It would indeed give us great pleasure to see you again and to discuss once more the things which are worth while. Leslie's book may or may not come out this fall. It depends upon the results of a second appeal for subscriptions. We are hoping for the best.

I am turning out a piece of hack work for a magazine before getting down to a new novel. A new novel will be published in London next month and the same one will be published in New York next February. Last month my English publishers brought out a cheap edition of "The Mad Monk." That is all the news about myself.

Fraternally and cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

5

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
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TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

September 21, 1935.

Dear Svetoslov,

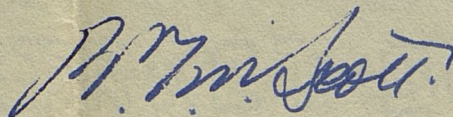
Leslie and I were so pleased to receive, today, the old French book on Masonry. There has yet been no time to read it of course but, from a few glances, it appears to be exceedingly interesting. Thank you so much for thinking of us.

The present war scare has rather upset me. My old war experiences are surging over me again. I am not making any attempt to propel myself into this war, if there is to be one, but, of course, I may be ordered into it. Let us hope that the danger to the world will pass.

I often pass the Roerich Building and look up at your high windows where we had so many discussions and delightful dinners. Sometimes Leslie and I go there for lunch but faces have changed and the place does not seem quite the same. Probably it is because we have so much to do that we cannot join in the activities just now.

The very best of wishes come to you from both of us.

Cordially,



6

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

October 19, 1935.

NOTICE

An organization meeting of Lodge Benoo No. 1,
A:. U:. M:., will be held at this address on Saturday,
October 26th at 8.30 P. M. You are urgently requested
to be present.

By Order of the W:. M:.

.....*R. T. M. Scott*.....
Sec:.

7

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
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TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

October 27, 1935.

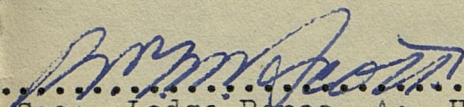
Svetoslov Roerich, Esq.,
Naggar,
Kulu,
Punjab,
British India.

Dear Bro:: Roerich,

By unanimous vote I am directed to
inform you that your Honorary Membership has been re-
affirmed in Wor:: Lodge Benoo, No. 1, A:: U:: M::.

The members of this Wor:: Lodge direct
me to convey to you their hearty, good wishes in all
things and at all times.

Yours frat::,


.....
Sec:: Lodge Benoo, A:: U:: M::.

8

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
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TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

December 1, 1935.

Dear Svetoslov,

Leslie and I found it very pleasant and stimulating to receive your letter upon the subject of fire walkers and the fakirs and holy men of India. During my three or four years in that country I saw many of the traveling fakirs and it is possible that I glimpsed, but only glimpsed, some of the men who possessed true super-normal qualities. From my trifling experiences I find that what you write rings true.

I have commenced to write a popular book upon the subject of psychic research and intend to deal mostly with the inadequacy of psychic researchers in America from the standpoint of both science and spirituality. The trouble with most psychic researchers in this country is that they know nothing of scientific methods and their spirituality consists of an emotional inflammation. Probably I shall destroy my manuscript in the belief that it would only annoy without doing any good. However, it is good fun to write it and starts much new thinking as I tap the typewriter keys.

I am just reading a new book by Professor J. B. Rhine of Duke University. It is very clearly and scientifically written and, after more than a hundred thousand experiments, proves the reality of extra-sensory perception both mental and objective, the first being telepathy and the second being clairvoyance. There is nothing spiritual in the book but it must carry great weight from the scientific viewpoint since it is backed by the university. This is one case where the research work is really scientific but it relates in no way to the only thing that can make life worth while - immortality. Until immortality can be established as a scientific fact it seems to me that the masses of mankind must continue to grope blindly. Is this blind groping both necessary and intended? Can science and spirituality not be combined? May they not be one and the same thing?

I suppose this letter will arrive too late for Christmas but Leslie and I send you our best Christmas wishes and hopes for a Happy New Year.

Cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

9

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
—
TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

February 7, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

I have your very interesting letter of January 16th. Leslie and I appreciate your sympathetic thoughts and kind wishes. We wish that we could sit down and have a good talk with you.

Of course we know about the "development" at 310 Riverside Drive and both Leslie and I have tried to do what we could which, unfortunately, may have been very little. We feel certain that a great injustice has been done and is still being done to the name of Roerich and we only wish that we could be of genuine assistance to you.

A strange thing seemed to happen to your last letter. It arrived the day before yesterday and I took it into the front room during the evening to read the "reincarnation" newspaper clipping to a friend, placing the letter and clipping in my pocket after reading the latter. Before going to bed that night I went into my combination library and workroom and dropped your letter and the clipping on my desk. Rather worried about your affairs, I started to go to my bedroom but turned at the door to reread your letter. Because I was the only person in the room I could scarcely believe my eyes when I looked at my desk. Your letter was not there. The clipping, too, had vanished. Although I could not believe that I had not brought the letter from the front room I went back to that room and searched fruitlessly for it. Something urged me to look in the dining room - a room in which I had not been since dinner - and I found both letter and clipping there beneath a silver box that was covered with lotus flowers. I cannot understand this - the reason for it, I mean.

With our very best wishes, I am,

Cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

(OVER)

P. S.-

When I finished the reverse side I reached for your letter on my desk to obtain the exact address for the envelope and, for the second ^{time}, your letter has vanished. I am certain that I read it just before I commenced this letter and that it was by my elbow on the desk when I commenced writing. I have searched everywhere and cannot find it. The envelope and clipping are on my desk where I am certain the letter also was lying not many minutes ago. Leslie was the only other person in the room and she is positive that she did not take or even touch the missing letter since I last saw it.

Wm. J.

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

February 20, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

I have your letter of February 1st in reference to the name of Millikan which was received in India by clairaudience about six months ago. It would appear to be the name of my friend except that his name is Milliken but the difference between a and e can scarcely be distinguished by clairaudience.

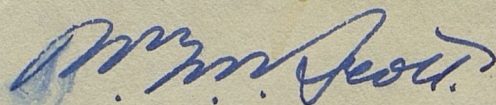
Conrad Milliken has been a very close friend of ours for quite a number of years and it is very probable that you met him in our company. I am convinced that he is perfectly honorable and I have full confidence in him both as a friend and as a lawyer. He is one of those very rare men who is thoroughly a man of the world and yet beyond it. There are really two Conrad Millikens: one is the lawyer and the man-about-town; the other is the philosopher, the humanitarian, the psychic researcher and the poet. He has written many very beautiful Italian sonnets which have been published from time to time in newspaper and magazine under an assumed name. His father is over eighty, vigorous and mentally alert, a Protestant clergyman. His mother is charming and of the old school.

Leslie introduced Conrad Milliken to Miss Grant and they had quite a long interview. Of course Miss Grant is thoroughly loyal to the Roerichs and you must know the details of that interview. Conrad is too ethical to divulge them even to me.

It is good of you to think of sending me the spirit photographs and I shall be delighted to receive them. I am working on spirit photography with a small group at present but we do not use a camera but keep the photographic plates at all times in double light-proof envelopes until developed. Some interesting results have been achieved - but the path is long.

Always with the best of wishes to you and
yours, I am,

Cordially,



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R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
—
TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

April 26, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

Thank you so much for the spirit photographs which just arrived. They are very interesting and as near to positive proof as anything I have seen because they were taken by a friend of yours. Several friends have been very much impressed by them. As requested by you I shall certainly not use them for publication purposes.

I have a close friend here who is studying supernormal qualities in man and who is very much interested in psychic phenomena of all kinds. He has just told me an astonishing story about a friend of his who shut himself up in a coat closet with a camera and proceeded to take some photographs (perhaps it would be better to say that he proceeded to open the shutter of his camera) in the complete darkness of that confined space. When the film was developed he found that he had taken pictures of strange people who were quite unknown to him. I am going to dig a little farther into this story and will try to see the photographs. If possible I shall have copies made and send them out to you.

Our own photographic experiments continue with very slight results except that any results are big. The plates (I think I told you this) are sealed by the head of a large photographic establishment in two sets of wooden, light-proof boxes, one inside the other. The boxes are taped and signed by this man and are never opened by us. They are simply placed upon a table during a seance which lasts about one and a half hours in dim red light. Many of the plates, when developed personally by this head man, show markings which he states cannot be explained by photographic science. The markings are usually slight and often resemble the sound tracks on a motion picture film. Recently we obtained the letter B on two plates. The letter seemed to be exactly the same in each case and was on exactly the same position of each plate. This was very significant because at the seance it was alleged that Alexander Bell, inventor of the telephone, was communicating.

Leslie and I are anxiously awaiting developments at the Roerich Museum. We are hoping for the best and sending you our best thoughts always.

Cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

12

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
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TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

July 9, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

Leslie and I were so pleased to receive your letter of the 8th.

I see a good deal of Conrad Milliken and I gather from him that your case has taken several turns which are in your favor and I am very glad to know it. However there is much yet to be done.

I mentioned to Conrad that I had received a letter from you and he told me, when replying, to ask you exactly what disposition you had made regarding any personal property which you had left in New York. I do not know why he wants this information and did not ask him. It is of course none of my business and it will be quite all right with me if you ignore the question or deal with it in any way that you see fit. I merely pass the question on to you because I want to be helpful.

Both Leslie and I are shocked and puzzled to read in your letter that your enemies may attack the philosophy and occult researches of your Father and Mother. Can you give us some idea of the possible nature of such attacks? In this field Leslie might be of considerable help as - and I think you know this - she is well equipped for philosophic and occult argument. I believe that your present New York opponents would make themselves ridiculous if they attempted to argue with her along these lines.

I am going to ask a personal favor. Inclosed are two snapshots of mountain paintings which were done last year by my Mother who has passed her eightieth birthday. She lives in California but several years ago she was here and spent hours of study and admiration before your Father's mountain paintings. Could you send me a few words of helpful encouragement or constructive criticism from you or your Father regarding her work? She is just starting a new mountain canvas and some words of help or encouragement from you or your Father would be an inspiration to her. She does not paint professionally and nothing that you said would be used commercially.

Leslie and I return best greetings and wishes to your Father and Mother - and to you the same of course.

Cordially,

Robert Scott

13

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE ~~RIVERSIDE 9-2671~~

ACademy 4-6458

July 25, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

Your letter of June 29th came to hand several days ago and, as always, it was most welcome.

Last night Leslie, Conrad Milliken and I had dinner with Mrs. Lichtman and Mr. Fosdick at Claremont. We sat at the dinner table on the terrace until nearly midnight. The view over the Hudson River, shrouded in a faint haze, made the setting enchanting.

You are right that things spiritual are the only hope of mankind but, immersed in his physical senses, man does not often pause to hope. Perhaps art most often brings those hopeful pauses. It kindles without forcing.

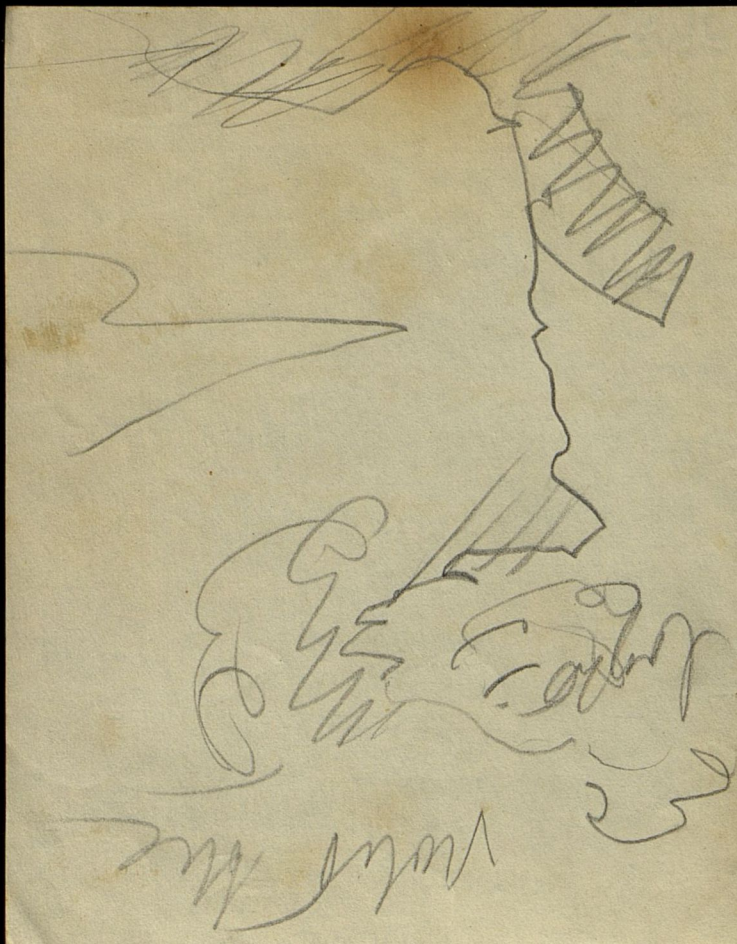
Leslie and I are looking forward to the photograph of the lama with "real powers." Since it is a photograph of your painting of that lama it can show more than a photograph of the lama himself because a painting is to a photograph as ~~as~~ spirit is to matter.

I have just had word that my publishers are going to republish my early Indian stories. Of course they are just mystery stories but, in some ways, I like them better than anything I have written and I am glad to see them go into print again.

With all good wishes from us both,

Yours cordially,

R. T. M. Scott



THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION
125 WEST 4TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

14

R. T. M. SCOTT
265 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE RIVERSIDE 9-2971

November 13, 1936.

Dear Svetoslov,

Your mountain picture arrived safely and Leslie and I were delighted. It is such a lovely present of the kind that gives pleasure which grows as time goes on. At present it is standing on the mantelpiece in the drawing-room while we decide where to place it permanently. Everybody remarks upon it when entering the room. Please accept our very best thanks.

I have just seen Miss Grant's book, "Oriental Philosophy," but have not had time to read it yet as I am slaving at a new mystery novel. The Dial Press seems to have made a very good job of the book and your Father's paintings are reproduced very well. They must add a great deal to the text.

I have not done anything much lately in the field of psychic research but in my new book I am just now writing a chapter on a trumpet medium's seance in which I try to show the mixture of the genuine and the fraudulent and the reasons for both. The chapter bothers me because I find it so interesting that it is running too long. It is necessary always to keep in mind that suspense must be kept up for the run-of-the-street reader who will weary if there is too much metaphysical discussion.

Always with the best wishes, I am,

Cordially,

R. T. M. Scott

15

R. T. M. SCOTT
44 WEST 77TH STREET
NEW YORK 24

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 7-0837

19 January 49

Svetoslav Roerich, Esq.,
Room No. 212,
Taj Mahal Hotel,
Bombay,
India.

Dear Svetoslav:

I was delighted to receive your letter of the 8th today and Leslie was so pleased to hear from you again.

Leslie has been very ill for a long time - trouble with an eighth nerve of the ear, bringing on dizziness and nausea - but is now recovering. She did a great deal of personality diagnosis according to the Rorschach technique for war cripples and probably over tired herself.

We are still interested in the old ideas that we once had when we were all together. The little Masonic Lodge is still running but it is very small and we meet in a large studio in our apartment. You, of course, are an honorary member of that Lodge.

It would be a bold stroke, as you suggest, if Science could establish survival after death but I am not so sure that it would remove problems and international entanglements. Problems and entanglements may be necessary for the expansion of consciousness. I have come to the conclusion that there are two states of consciousness. There is the waking state, such as I am at this moment using, and the state that people call dream consciousness. I think, however, that a dream is merely the memory of an experience in the opposite state of consciousness. Writing this letter to you is an experience which will be a "dream" if I remember it while asleep tonight. Consciousness is always awake and merely changes from one state to the other. The "dream" state of consciousness differs from the waking state in that time and space become mutable and one can go backward or forward in time and travel anywhere. I have proved this to my own satisfaction but cannot give the proof to others. The "dream" state of consciousness can only be properly studied while in that state of consciousness.

R. T. M. SCOTT
44 WEST 77TH STREET
NEW YORK

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 7-0837

For several years a number of us have tried to meet in "dreams" and we have had some remarkable experiences. We have also experimented with hypnagogic visualizations, the visualizations which come midway between "waking" and "dreaming." Once a lady in New Jersey wrote me that she had an hypnagogic visualization of a white cat sitting up and begging. She looked at her watch and it was exactly midnight. At that exact moment I had stopped playing bridge and had gone out to give our white cat a saucer of milk in the kitchen and the cat had stood up, begging for the milk! Just chance? Perhaps, but I don't think so.

Leslie joins me in wishing that you do come to New York and that we may see you again.

Cordially,

Rey