

Arabah
March^{sic} {April} 18th 1933.

Dear Mother.

Last Sunday being Easter Sunday I left off work early & went with Sardi to see the harvesting. He & Semman & Old Ahmed have rented a bit of land between them & have grown some wheat, it is now cut & being threshed^{sic}, & I sat out there quite a long time watching the two cows go~~r~~/~~oi~~>ng round & round with the primitive treshing^{sic} machine. quite near a number of girls were gleaning, in fact they might have been the fields of Boaz & any one of the girls would have done for Ruth. the costumes & the setting were perfect.

Yesterday was Shem en Nessim - not

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the scent of ~~that name~~ but an ancient Arab feast from which the scent takes its name, it means Smelling the Breeze & the custom is for the people to go out early & greet each other & in the evening they eat either geese, fowls or pigeons. They do not know what the meaning of the custom is they only say "Our people have always done it, but we do not know why."

I thought I should have had a letter from Nancy about returning to England together but there was nothing by today's mail. perhaps she is waiting a reply from Cooks. I hope I shall hear tomorrow as I want to make arrangements here. my picture is very nearly finished & then there will be the business of storing everything for the summer etc

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To say nothing of packing up.

I dropped my watch out of my pocket one day last week & broke some portion of the fly wheel. it was detached from its pivot, so when Sardic was going into Baliana with a parcel I got him to take it in & see if it could be mended. The watch maker there has made an excellent job of it, & so far all is well -

Love to you & Father
also to Pat

Your affectionate
daughter

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