

Arabah el Madfunah
March 24th 1936

Dear Father.

I think it is your turn for a letter this week. I was so pleased to find your epistle awaiting me on my return from the Red Sea, I quite forgot which day was my birthday when we were out in the desert but all the same it was a very nice way of spending it. Life has been fairly quiet since our return we had two guests, the secretary from the Residency & his wife the poor man had an awful cold when he arrived & spent the rest of his visit in bed which was most disappointing. then there was all the hurry & scurry of getting Amice packed up & off. & now I am just plodding along on my own.

Last Tuesday I went to visit my old friend Sheikh Ali of the tribe of snake charmers. I rode Singab's lady camel & had a following of all the men & some of their relations, they had 3 donkeys between them & took turns at

374

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374

riding, they all asked the sheikh to write them charms. some for their selves, or families or even for their animals. Singab of course had one for his lady camel & our water carrier asked for one for his buffalo. To ensure a continual flow of milk.

While I was there a poor old man with a hand & arm all wrapped up in rags came & knelt & begged the sheikh to heal him.

The sheikh stroked the wrapped arm very gently & repeated what I suppose was a part of the Koran & the poor old chap went off much comforted.

On my way back I had lunch in a garden under the shade of lemon trees in bloom. This was a different garden to the one I usually visit as we had returned by another road. Of course I had to drink coffee with the owner of the garden & say the usual polite things. I got home about tea time feeling rather tired & worn about the sitting parts, as it was my first camel ride this season, & the day was rather warm.

We have yet another new police officer, he came

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374³

To pay his ceremonial call last Thursday. he seems a very good man for the post, the last one was not efficient, & there were a number of robberies & even murders during his time here

Amice has given me two more copies of her Legend ^{in you} as I hav'nt got an envelope large enough to take them I will keep them until my return unless you specially want them posted before

I hear you have been having a gay time at the Pictures. I wish I could have seen the Ghost goes West it sounds gorgeous. I hope you saw one of Walt Disney's Silly Symphonies they really ^{are} splendid.

Mother tells me you are tearing up bits of the garden again. if you are making any major alterations you had better put "Here it is" on the gate so that I may know my home when I return.

Lots of love to you & Mother
your affectionate daughter

P.S I expect Mann Egerton will come for Lady G on April 1st.

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Lots of love to you & Mother
Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

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