

Arabah.  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1934

Arabah. 273<sup>1</sup>

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Dear Mother

Here are some snaps that Amice took of the Pelican and the stork, in one of them you will see me keeping the Pelican within range of the camera, can you imagine having tea in company with such pets. Later on I hope to send some puppy pictures.

Nothing very exciting has happened since last letter. I seemed to have such a lot of news to tell you all at once & now there is a slump.

My last lesson was quite amusing. Sheikh Jed el Karim came with Sheikh Sarbit, so at my version of Big & Little Claus was finished

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and corrected, I asked Sheikh Sarbit to read it out. which he did with great enjoyment, & they both had a good laugh at the various happenings. Nannie was there too & she also enjoyed it & said it was a very good story from the Arabic point of view. I am now writing the Origin of the Flea. it is a Roumanian story. briefly. The Ark sprung a leak, & the Serpent said he would mend it if Noah would grant him his wish. so Noah promised. & the snake put his tail in the hole & all was well. then, when the Flood subsided the snake claimed his reward & said he wanted the blood of a man every day. Noah said it was unreasonable. but the snake

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insisted, so Noah took him & flung  
him in the fire & burnt him.  
but God was still angry with  
mankind, so he blew the ashes  
of the snake all over the world  
& turned them into fleas & the  
fleas worried & bit mankind  
so that the snake is still getting  
his reward for his service to Noah  
in the time of the flood.

Dont you think this is an  
amusing story. it is very suitable  
for Arabic. & I am sure will  
be very much appreciated, especially  
as the flea season will soon be  
starting. Amice caught one in  
her bags yesterday & I had one in  
my boots this morning so we  
are both swearing at the snake.  
Please tell Pat I was very pleased

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to have a letter from her last mail  
 & thank her very much for good  
 wishes etc. Tell her my official  
 age here is 5. as this is my 5<sup>th</sup>  
 year in Abydos.

Lots of love to you &  
 Father & Pat.

Your affectionate  
 daughter  
 Myrtle.

Please thank father for getting  
 the cream machine for us.  
 also sweet pea seeds.

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