Anabakil Madfunak. March 28: 1937.

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Dear Mother.

When I opened my writing block I found I had not torn of the final page of my last letter, you must have wondered why I ended so abuptly. I am enclosing it with this. How to continue our holiday adventures. When we work up the morning following our stienwous day we expected to be very stiff but praise to allah us did not feel a bit the worse, un had a swim in the sea before chessing, rafter healtfast we went in to surgande to fell up with petrol mady for one return journey, Hanofy had made us promise that we would not go of the regular Track without telling him exactly what our plans were a how long we repeted to take or the return journey, so that he would know where to come To look for us if we did not turn up at the hortice outpost within the stipulated time. So, after getting our petrol o some provisions from the stores we want clong to make a politic call. he has such a july bungalow right on the sea store, I instead I being furnished with the auful ornali Frank furniture that most Egyptians love it had bedown ups , low divans will sadd to bay cus Lions 1 sumple wooder lowny clairs rafu fries of and

Arabah el Madfunah. March 28th 1937.

Dear Mother.

When I opened my writing block I found I had not torn off the final page of my last letter, you must have wondered why I ended so abruptly. I am enclosing it with this.

Now to continue our holiday adventures. When we woke up the morning following our strenuous day we expected to be very stiff but praise to Allah we did not feel a bit the worse, we had a swim in the sea before dressing, & after breakfast we went in to Hurgardasic to fill up with petrol ready for our return journey, Hanafey had made us promise that we would not go off the regular track without telling him exactly what our plans were & how long we expected to take on the return journey, so that he would know where to come to look for us if we did not turn up at the Frontier Outpost within the stipulated time. So, after getting our petrol & some provisions from the stores we went along to make a polite call. he has such a jolly bungalow right on the sea shore, & instead of being furnished with the awful ornate French furniture that most Egyptians love it had bedouin<sup>sic</sup> rugs & low divans with saddle bag cushions & simple wooden lounge chairs & a few pieces of arabsic

emborday Longing on the wells, he lives there all alone as he is in manied, he says he would'it support a wife + live the life he likes as well - so prefus his liberty. we discussed our plans for our return journey + he gave us instructions + sould plans of how to reach the places we wanted to su on on way back, we were Talled of the possibility of our relinning to bais at the and of the season we the Red See & Sug Road. The way for Hungarde to Sury is one of the discit shiller that single cans are not allowed to go on without special permission, but Handy sand he would give us a furmit as he considers we are repriesed in disal travel, he was amaged when he saw the provision or had made for any imaging of thought In world now stop langting when he saw our emugency water nation in Lot water bottles. (nobbe) He produced a collection of minuals a rocks a shells a let us take what we liked from them, I am spaid on publicall catheded into a stay of our on how run had to sust back to the brosslands in Time for lunch. We left the Marine Research station about 3:30, The Bross Pands are very anxion that we shall visit them again they say it is not

embroidery hanging on the walls, he lives there all alone as he is unmarried, he says he could'nt<sup>sic</sup> support a wife & live the life he likes as well – so prefers his liberty. we discussed our plans for our return journey & he gave us instructions & sketch plans of how to reach the places we wanted to see on our way back, we even talked of the possibility of our returning to Cairo at the end of the season via the Red Sea & Suez Road. the way from Hurgardasic to Suez is one of the desert stretches that single cars are not allowed to go on without special permission, but Hanefey said he would give us a permitt<sup>sic</sup> as he considers we are experienced in desert travel, he was amazed when he saw the provisions we had made for any emergency & I thought he would never stop laughing when he saw our emergency water ration in hot water bottles. (rubber) He produced a collection of minerals & rocks & shells & let us take what we liked from them, I am afraid our polite call extended into a stay of over an hour & we had to rush back to the Crosslands in time for lunch. We left the Marine Research station about 3.30, the Crosslands are very anxious that we shall visit them again they say it is not

any hother them in May than it is in bairs as there is always a good heige or the shore. So we are sciently thinking of going that way.

We had planned to neach the fool hills a lette before sur set, so as to make a skutch at sur set , down of the good range of the dulitan for the East. we had to be very rapid, in fact could only take colour notes a hope to make a fiction for them & apholograph de mon laisuned Time. We found a nice shell of sand I made our bods & cot our suppr. (fued fist) by slan light. I had a very peaceful night, but amic was distinhed by a disul nat (justos) it got in her blanket unde he feet first, other came & crift unde her neck, Islantled he so she sal up , fig stand to it away, we saw it's tracks in the sand in the morning I were so disappointed as un Lava so longed to see a live jerahoa. We were up before dawn a had our paints all ready for the sur now. I really was manteres. but impossible to really paint, the colours changed way minute. We continued our journey Passenchy until funch which we cot under the shade of a disal true, its name is you

any hotter there in May than it is in Cairo as there is always a good breeze on the shore. so we are seriously thinking of going that way.

We had planned to reach the foot hills a little before sun set, so as to make a sketch at sun set & dawn of the great range of the "dukhan" from the East. we had to be very rapid, in fact could only take colour notes & hope to make a picture from them & a photograph at a more leisured time. We found a nice stretch of sand & made our beds & eat our supper. (fried fish) by star light. I had a very peaceful night, but Amice was disturbed by a desert rat (jeraboa<sup>sic</sup>) it got in her blanket under her feet first, & then came & crept under her neck, it startled her so she sat up & frightened he <it> away. we saw its tracks in the sand in the morning & were so disappointed as we have longed to see a live jeraboa<sup>sic</sup>. We were up before dawn & had our paints all ready for the sun rise. it really was marvelous<sup>sic</sup> but impossible to really paint. the colours changed every minute.

We continued our journey leisurely until lunch which we eat under the shade of a desert tree, its name is Yser

but we call it the Hair true as I has long green Tenchil's instead of heaves ( this is due to lack of moisture ) after funct I made a statel of the true a amice with a Jaing story about it. Soon after we left the vally of the hair true us came to the place where we were going to go of the track o follow a wady that led into the Lean't of the pink granite mountains called the Justian we bumped , waddled along this vally for about 5 miles other we came to the head of it, I was a sort of national amphitheatie, how was on encampment of Bidouins thay had a well, othere was a little carth so they were all to get crong & food for themselves a their could camels. Al one Time some prospector had done a little mining In graphile bet all that remained of their occupation was a Tumble down but on high of stones, The Bedowns were delighted to see us, we had hong It then sweets o capacities lott of which were very wilcome. They showed us the best place to camp a winked us to chunk the will them after or Lad cater our supper. we proposed our had a cal our woring meal as the sun set it tuned the punk grande to flame + the whole vally was a flow. dandeness followed

but we call it the Hair tree as it has long green tendrils instead of leaves (this is due to lack of moisture) after lunch I made a sketch of the tree & Amice wrote a fairy story about it. Soon after we left the valley of the hair tree we came to the place where we were going to go off the track & follow a wady that led into the heart of the pink granite mountains called the Quattar we bumped & waddled along this valley for about 5 miles & then we came to the head of it, it was a sort of natural amphitheatre, here was an encampment of Bedouins they had a well, & there was a little earth so they were able to get enough food for themselves & their eattle/<camel> camels.

At one time some prospectors had done a little mining for graphite but all that remained of their occupation was a tumble down hut & a heap of stones. The Bedouins were delighted to see us, we had brought them sweets & cigarettes both of which were very welcome. they showed us the best place to camp & invited us to drink tea with them after we had eaten our supper. we prepared our beds & eat our evening meal as the sun set, it turned the pink granite to flame & the whole valley was aglow. darkness followed

vay rapidly, the Bedowins had lit a fire, rafter a lettle white amen of joined the circle, we squalled on the ground in the place of Lorous biside the chief, all the others grouped round. The flickering flames lit up then faces as they but forward to push Twigs a studes under the kelthe, the dogs formed an outer sing. We exchanged snaps of conversation, the chief told us he was quite content to pass all his days there, his father had died there & his grandfather before him, I as long as their was sweet wali remongh conth to grow food he would be satisfied and wish to visit the outside world. we told him that he would have to go a very long way before he found a more lovely spot. In Told us then was a very hantiful will up in the mountains as hours journey a foot or officed to quick us then in the morning, we were dalighted of the prospect. so need morning we stanted of at the first streak of day light, we lift sondie to pack our bidding it in the con oschoff alone into the mountain pass with anal chief. we went through the most magnificial scenary, the pass Led up o up, part of the Time we were clambering over hope boulders a walking along rocky ledges, we found strange

very rapidly, the Bedouins had lit a fire, & after a little while Amice & I joined the circle, we squatted on the ground in the place of honour beside the chief, all the others grouped round. the flickering flames lit up their faces as they bent forward to push twigs & sticks under the kettle, the dogs formed an outer ring. we exchanged scraps of conversation, the chief told us he was quite content to pass all his days there, his father had died there & his grandfather before him, & as long as there was sweet water & enough earth to grow food he would be satisfied & not wish to visit the outside world. we told him that he would have to go a very long way before he found a more lovely spot. he told us there was a very beautiful well up in the mountains an hours sic journey on foot & offered to guide us there in the morning, we were delighted at the prospect. so next morning we started off at the first streak of day light, we left Sardic to pack our bedding etc in the car & set off alone into the mountain pass with <the> Arab chief.

we went through the most magnificent scenery, the pass led up & up, part of the time we were clambering over huge boulders or walking along rocky ledges, we found strange

little plants growing has a there, our old guide knew then names & then uses, there was a hub that had a very strong purport odow, we asked if it was used for medicine o In said no, only for the scent o went or to aplan further thus. If a little child should make a miss. The people crust the Lab in then fingers so that there is only a pleasant smell. we were very amused with his deplacation. When we needed the end of the pass we saw a truly marvelous sight, a clear pool stood of the fool of the rocky wall & The water dipped into it from about of the whole of the rock was a cascade of maider hair form. To see such a they in the midst of the storay disast was mineculous our of our deaded that this was the place where Moses struck the wite of the walk flowed forth. Little birds came & charle for the wali a chagor flus dated to i fo. amice of removed our show o stockings & sat on a rock will our feet in the water, but it was so in cold that we could't keep thin in long, we stayed then about as how other Lad to return in order to continue our journay according to the programme we had an anged with our friend Hanafay Bay. Sondie had wrigthing mady when we returned hi was

little plants growing here & there, our old guide knew their names & their uses, there was a herb that had a strong pungent odour, we asked if it was used for medicine & he said no, only for the scent & went on to explain further thus. "If a little child should make a mess – the people crush the herb in their fingers so that there is only a pleasant smell." we were very amused with his explaination<sup>sic</sup>.

When we reached the end of the pass we saw a truly marvelous sight, a clear pool stood at the foot of the rocky wall & the water dripped into it from above & the whole of the rock was a cascade of maiden hair fern. To see such a thing in the midst of the stoney idesert was miraculous & we at once decided that this was the place where Moses struck the rock & the water flowed forth. Little birds came & drank from the water & dragon flies darted to & fro.

Amice & I removed our shoes & stockings & sat on a rock with our feet in the water, but it was so icy cold that we could'nt<sup>sic</sup> keep them in long, we stayed there about an hour & then had to return in order to continue our journey according to the programme we had arranged with our friend Hanafey Bey. Sardic had everything ready when we returned. he was

very referred to see us, he did not at all like being teft behind while we went off with a stranger. We said good-by to our pretinesque quide o his dogs o set off. we made swhat pictures or the way so our progress was nother stow o'it was past score o quite dank when we arrived at the Kina hortin outpost, in had a lette for the Souma of the Red Sca boast to the Stangert in change Telling him to give us the Rist House for the might & qually look after us. We son a Telegram to Hanafy To announce ou safe anisal , the Lad a good west I our supper passed a very confertable might. We was of again conf the next morning , arrived in camp in time for Punch, very fit, very surbennt o qually pland with our schols. I am enclosing a few springs of the maides Lan for for the chiffing will for you to see. We seen to have more papers Than we can deal will now so would you stop scrading the Obsauce I seems a puly for it to come a for us not have Time to do more Than a cursory glane through. I do not think in shall Junst her before the 1st week is Hay so do not copied me home befor June this year. Love to you both your affectional dangete . Hypthe.

very relieved to see us, he did not at all like being left behind while we went off with a stranger. We said good-bye to our picturesque guide & his dogs & set off. we made several pictures on the way so our progress was rather slow & it was past seven & quite dark when we arrived at the Kena Frontier Outpost, we had a letter from the Governor of the Red Sea Coast to the Seargent<sup>sic</sup> in charge telling him to give us the Rest House for the night & generally look after us. We sent a telegram to Hanafey To announce our safe arrival & then had a good wash & our supper & passed a very comfortable night.

We were off again early the next morning & arrived in camp in time for lunch, very fit, very sunburnt & generally pleased with ourselves.

I am enclosing a few sprigs of the maiden hair fern from the dripping well for you to see.

We seem to have more papers than we can deal with now so would you stop sending the Observer – it seems a pity for it to come & for us not to have time to do more than a cursory glance through. I do not think we shall finish here before the 1<sup>st</sup> week in May so do not expect me home before June this year.

Lots of love to you both. your affectionate daughter. Myrtle.



To Kena

To Hurgada

quarries
ruins of resevoir<sup>sic</sup>
" temple
where we made a
sketch.

