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Arabah el Madfuna  
March 31<sup>st</sup> 1936

Dear Mother.

Tomorrow is April 1<sup>st</sup> & I shall soon be making preparations for my return. I have written to books for the homeward sailing list so hope soon to give you some idea when to expect me.

I thought you knew Amice was leaving early so as to go to Canada. she had intended to go in the autumn & come on to Egypt in the New Year but suddenly changed her plans because she was afraid of bother with Italy & wanted to get the photographs etc that were stored here shipped to England so arranged to go to Canada in the spring instead.

I received the parcel of Humorists with the shelf cover for Nannie. I thought I had thanked you for them but probably I was so full of the news of our trip that it slipped my memory. Nannie was very pleased

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Madame Roche sent me a lovely basket of vegetables & flowers this week. There was a bundle of lovely fresh asparagus, Nannie & I did enjoy it. I shall probably go over to visit them Easter Sunday

Sardic & Semman had half a days holiday last Thursday to go & visit a man in a village <sup>near by</sup> who had just returned from the pilgrimage to Mecca, he was holding a large reception & all his friends were going to compliment him on his safe return. Sardic said there were over a hundred guests present when he was there. I expect Sardic was very envious, it is his great ambition to go to Mecca, when

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we were on the shores of the Red Sea he gazed longingly at the Mountains of Sinai that were visible on the other side.

We had a sand storm on Sunday it has demolished our poor little garden, there wasn't much left in it but it looks very sad now. Nannie is busy collecting seeds. one finds strange packets & screws of paper all over the place, & if they are left on a shelf in the sun one hears the strangest pops & bangs going on inside them as the pods burst in the heat.

Sheikh Jed-el Karim tells me his donkey (ass) has had a foal, I expect it will soon be trotting backward & forwards to school beside its mother. Sandie says he hopes his donkey will have a foal in five month's time.

I have been mending a rat trap. Nannie used to set it & the rat had a good feed & went off. so I did a few things to it with a pair of pliers & she set it again & in half an hour it had caught & killed the rat. such a huge fellow. Nannie was excited about it.

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to adjust the washer & now that is all right. we  
are having the flea season & have to flit the  
beds each night to insure a peaceful rest.  
yesterday I had to retire to our tent in the  
temple & undress & have a hunt. I caught him!

Lots of love to you & Father & to Pat.  
your affectionate daughter  
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