



Dear Elisabeth, Sept. 9, 1983

NO and I enjoyed your lovely letter to the utmost. Thank you so much!

You write that you did not realize that we do so much gardening. We have 2 acres here, one acre in planting: a big orchard of 11 apple trees, 4 apricots, 4 plums, 1 prune, 5 peach, 4 pear; a little nut orchard of filberts, walnut, Chinese chestnut + Hall's Hardy almond. A rhubarb patch, asparagus patch, red raspberries, blueberries & grapes. We have a garden of lettuce, onions, potatoes, chard, beets, carrots, Chinese cabbage, beans, cucumbers, tomatoes & squash. We share much of our produce, the fruit especially, with friends. I have 5 deep freezers & I freeze ok so much for the long winter months. NO & I call this dear place

To make grape juice every October, enough to last the year for NO - he has a year

every
fresh
img.

I said to KO, "KO, I love this place but I couldn't take care of it by myself." KO replied, "I love it too but I couldn't take care of it by myself." We are partners! Indeed, it shall be 42 years this Oct. 3, '83 that KO & I have been married! I am the happiest, luckiest person in the world!

I am a native of Illinois; grew up on a beautiful 350 A. farm 30 miles south of Chicago. Had the dearest parents, 3 dear brothers & 4 loving sisters. I had a happy happy childhood. It was my good fortune to go to California in Dec. 1940 & I met KO Emery Dec. 31, '40 at a New Year's party! We were married Oct. 3, '41... I haven't gotten over it yet! KO is wonderful! We lived in beautiful California (I loved it) for 20 years. Our 2 daughters were born in that wonderful state. We moved to Cape Cod June 1962. It took me until 1973, when the orchard started producing, to be able to say I truly loved Cape Cod. I was able to put in a late early July garden after our arrival in 1962 so that helped my aching, homesick-for-California heart. But now I truly love Cape Cod; it is country, with many trees & small villages. I am a country "girl", a daughter of the land. KO was a city boy but he absolutely loves the country life too.

I like to get the early seeds in as near to Apr. 1 as possible. By Oct 30 or so I have everything harvested from the garden & we have all the apples picked. Jack Frost comes soon after. It's always a toss-up; shall I beat Jack Frost? We also have Jerusalem artichokes & I dig them Nov. 1 or so & store them in soil in buckets on the steps leading to the furnace basement. We also have Egyptian onions & garlic. These are perennials. Every July 30 I strip the Egyptian onion & the garlic sets from the tops of

the person - give these away to friends. I grow
basil every summer too. What do you use your
basil for? I don't plant anything after July. Own
is a summer harvest, fall harvest garden & I
freeze what I must & store what I can. potatoes
keep so beautifully + no trouble. Carrots I keep in
leaves in a big cardboard box in the laundry^{room}.
Artichokes in earth in buckets on the basement
steps; I freeze ^{also freeze cabbage, brussels chard, tomatoes} peaches, plums, prunes, berries. The
apples are laid out on trays (cardboard boxes cut
down to 2 inches of sides all around).

I go for my 9th chemotherapy shot this morning.
I am very happy to say the shots are really helping.
I fear I'll be a bit tired until Sept. 13 perhaps but after
that I'll be recovered from the shot & can get more
work done, rest less. Also, the pain has lessened consid-
erably and I am taking fewer & fewer pain pills: I've
needed NONE last week, the week before, & this week. So you
see? I'm feeling ^{better}.
Elisabeth, you say "we" in your letter. Please sign your next
letter more completely. Thank you again so much for your #14
missive Love, Kay & our dear ones

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14 Sept. 1982

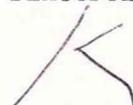
Elisabeth Mann Borgese
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Canada

Dear Elisabeth:

Yesterday I heard from my Israeli contact, who confirmed the Israeli interest in my visiting there after the meeting at Goa. He of course wants to know the date, hour, and flight number of my arrival. I had told him previously just that I expected to be in Goa October 24 (a day before my talk) to about the end of October. Since the Goa session presumably will not be meeting on Saturday and Sunday (30, 31 October) perhaps it would be best for me to leave Goa on the evening of the 30th or morning of the 31st, if that fits with your plans. In the meantime I will tell the Israelis that I will let them know the details when I know them.

Loking forward to seeing you again along with some of my Indian friends,

Sincerely,



K. O. Emery

Emery

22 July 1983

Dear Elisabeth:

Thanks for your note of 11 July. I don't see a great preference with respect to Persian Gulf or Arabian Gulf. Most of the western world uses Persian Gulf ~~but~~ and Iran likes that because of its claim on Bahrain — however Zimbad probably was a Kuwaiti — an Arab as have most of the sailors and ships of the Middle Ages and probably earlier. The fuss is about like that for English Channel vs. La Manche. Only an Iranian would get excited, I guess.

Kay is doing better the past couple of weeks; The chemotherapy seems to be taking over. Goes in tomorrow for another ch. shot & to learn about blood tests. Expect that cancer cells will be down and white corpuscles up — hope so anyway. She enclosed a note that she sent to friends a month or so ago.

Best wishes,

K

written Apr. 8, 83 or so

On May 27, 1982, I discovered a lump in my left armpit and one in my left breast. On June 1, 1982, Dr. Seth Harvey removed them. They were malignant but he was so optimistic and I felt so good physically and mentally, so, why worry?

On September 9, 1982 Dr. Harvey removed a tiny lump from my left collarbone. Again, he didn't seem worried as he removed it. But imagine the surprise in store for us when it turned out to be malignant. This brought Dr. Lawrence Cloud, the cancer specialist, into the picture.

All was going smoothly but by December 21 I began getting a pain in my right rib area. Then pain in right hip and shoulder area. Drs. Cloud and Harvey didn't seem perturbed but by March 8, 1983 I was so full of aches and pain that I wasted the whole day lying down. By March 30, after a check up by Dr. Harvey, blood tests, X-rays, and bonescans, the answer was cancer in the bone. Charlet has taken me to Hyannis, about 45 minutes from Woods Hole, to the radiation therapy center for consultation with Dr. Arthur Elman, more tests and x-rays, and radiation of the affected areas to relieve the pain mostly; bone cancer can't be cured. Patients last from one to ten years, I understand.

I have had a very happy, wonderful, productive life and I don't want it ruined by my being a burden to my dear ones. I told Dr. Harvey that I believe in the right to life (the right to die); I hope and pray I go in good time. If I can't do my work, I want to go. A thing like this is always easier on the one who leaves, not those who are left: my dear KO, Charlet, Becky, Barbara, my brothers and sisters, my dear friends near and far. What wonderful dear ones I have: dear close relatives, dear brothers and sisters, dear friends. How lovely and happy and wonderful my life has been because of them. How fortunate I am.

I am even looking forward to a beautiful end. Some years ago KO told me if he went first, please cremate his body and throw his ashes into the Atlantic. I agreed to do it but I thought about it and asked him if my body might be cremated and ashes thrown into the Atlantic too? Of course, he agreed. But, he said, whoever goes first, save the ashes, when the second one goes, mix the ashes together and throw them into the Atlantic together! How is that for a perfect romantic ending?!

Chemotherapy
KO left for Mainland China on ^{got home May 7th 1983} April 8 to give a couple of (very remarkable!) talks, see many scientists, and see a bit of the country. He shall return by May 5 or soon after. He was very reluctant to go but he knew he was leaving me in excellent care: our wonderful Charlet. Charlet has taken me to Hyannis seven times so far with five more to go. Then I return to ^{seven}

By 6/28/83 I've had 4 chemotherapy shots with 8 more to go maybe: 2 shots a month. This means I'll be finished by the end of October perhaps. These shots tire me & give me nausea & they say my hair might fall out. But they also say it grows back - that's good, isn't it? !!
By July 8 I got my 5th chemotherapy shot & it took 5 days for me to get my zip back. The cure, they say, is worse than the ~~dead~~ disease, ha. But by July 14 (just the other day!) I'm suddenly feeling oh so much better, able to do more work! So I'm hoping that from now on it shall be better in every way, not worse. For 3 1/2 months I've been resting more than working.

Written May 8 or so

All the radiation has left me extremely tired and though it is supposed to relieve the pain, I feel far from my old wonderful, healthy, zippy self. I still hurt and it seems I need a bit more radiation. The radiation gave me nausea and loss of appetite (turned me off coffee, peanut butter, and a few other favorites) yet I am to eat well so my body can rebuild the good tissues which were destroyed along with the cancerous cells. I hover around 98 to 103 pounds. I am 5' 5" tall.

Please don't worry about me. I'm a terrible writer (as you know). Wish my thoughts would fly from me to you as I try to do my endless undone work. I do what I can, when I can, if I can, and get furdur and furdur behind. "There comes an hour of sadness with the setting of the sun not for the sins committed but the things I have not done." So, please remember--no news is good news.

Must tell you our squash-pumpkin story. Last early summer I planted seeds and kept seeing chipmunks digging them up. Scared me. Visions of a poor harvest: poor harvest and long winter--help, help. So I kept planting. KO "took care" of 12+ chippies and we used them as garden fertilizer. Time passed and plants started popping up here, there, and everywhere on our little subsistence farm in the rhubarb-asparagus-strawberry-grape-berry area, in the orchard area and even some in the garden, ha! Our little four legged furry friends would dig up the seeds, eat one or two there and leave the empty husks (just to scare me?), take a jowl-full over to the here, there, and everywhere where they ate some and perhaps lost some? or buried some? Anyhow, in the end I harvested 880 pounds of squash and pumpkin! Ate all winter and shared with friends. Also, I like to get beat-down, tired-looking bananas at the store. They are a good price and we like their ripeness. One day I got a little package of them--or so I thought. Got them home and discovered my yellow bananas were yellow squash!

Ever since KO retired 7/1/79 he has been busy writing the book on the work he has done here in the Atlantic. Of course it is just one of a million things he has been doing since 7/1/79. The book has turned into a big huge job. He told me once that had he realized at the beginning what an undertaking it was going to turn into, he might never have undertaken it in the first place. Maybe yes and probably no! He has set deadline after deadline. Now he's hoping to be finished sometime late this summer. He has invested in a Wang Word Processor and Charlet has been reading the two big, thick books on instructions, information, directions, etc. It is set up over at her house: she plans to do the Wang typing of KO's book. The Wang is much faster than the typewriter. Charlet Wanged this typed letter for me.

It is wonderful having Barbara only 80+ miles away--not in some farther-off land. And it is marvelous having Charlet and Becky only 10 miles away. Charlet is really a remarkable person! She takes after her darling father, KO Emery! And she helps us in a million-billion ways. She has us over every night for supper (until I can get a little stronger). Yesterday she and KO mowed our front yard, orchard area, and grape, etc. area. I always used to rake; alas, I couldn't--can't--do it.

July 20, 1983

Dear Elizabeth Borgese Mann,

KO told me he'd mentioned my "poor health" to you & in a recent letter to him you asked how I am. KO asked if I had an extra letter for you - I'm sending these to our friends. I'm so glad to send one to you.

I am suddenly feeling the best yet, after 3 1/2 months of much pain & fatigue. Dr. Cloud's nurse told us that my white blood count is very good & that from now on I should be feeling better, not worse, from the chemotherapy shots. The July 8 shot laid me low with weariness for 5 days but since then I feel as tho perhaps I can do more work & need less rest. I hope so.

Even tho I struggle with pain (pain pills help) & fatigue & can't do things as I used to, I keep trying anyhow. When people ask me how I am I tell them I'd rather they'd say "how nice to see you." Or I tell them what little odd job or jobs I've been able to do. Also, I accept death as a part of life; it is. At the moment I'm more alive than dead! I realize too that life is never perfect so my problem is just part of life - we must all take the bad with the good & live had so much good.

A man who was dying of cancer had a little 3-year-old son. The little boy asked his father was he going up? Or was he going down? The father said he didn't know but he'd been in the army & had lost buddies so he knew that whichever way he went, he'd be among friends!

Rainfall for April = 6.80 inches; May = 3.69 & June 2.68 = 13.27 inches. All this moisture

2. spells mosquitoes & I'm careful not to go out until the sun has driven the little bitors somewhere where they suffer less & me too, without them to bite me. So I put in seeds (all done now as of 6/17), weed, pull rhubarb, etc. The asparagus & strawberries are all finished; they were delish. I just hope I can keep up & keep ahead of the harvest work as it progresses now thru October. I love the work so much & it's so rewarding, delicious & nutritious. We have picked our first (early transparent) apple tree - about 123#. The apricots are almost ready. Then pears, peaches, plums & more apples. I am picking beans & lettuce & tiny onions from the garden. Pretty soon tomatoes, cucumbers & Chinese Cabbage shall be ready.

July 28 our darling Charlet gave me a Lilt home permanent. She is such a wonderful friend & marvelous daughter. They come no better. She is still giving me delicious evening meals. She has spoiled me ~~rather~~ rotten.

We are all - KO, me, Charlet, Becky (Charlet's dear little 10-year-old), Barbara - fine & busy, doing what we can with each day according to our own work list, health, strength, age, determination, etc.; Make each day be of merit. Do what you can today so you can sleep better tonight & won't have it hanging over your head tomorrow - as so many things are. Instead of less there's always more work. Instead of more there's always less time. KO is as fine as a 69 year old dear boy can be; I'm 69 too. He keeps busy; he gets tired. He has a cataract in each eye; me too. But we are happy & feel so rich & fortunate in our good life together (4 1/2 years this October 83!) & with our loved ones & our dear friends. We send our best,
Our Becky plays the violin!
Kay

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14 May 1983

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CANADA

Dear Elisabeth:

I have just returned from a month-long trip to China and Israel that began on 8 April--just before your letter of 13 April was written. The letter surfaced in my stack of mail this morning--thus the delay in this answer.

The fee is not a consideration, and I would be very glad to help in the training program. However, my wife is in a bad stage of bone cancer such that I must stay close at hand for the next couple of months at least. As she has priority, the best that I can offer is a promise to let you know if I find that the situation is likely to improve by early July (though bone cancer is very deadly). As a substitute, you might talk with Dr. S. P. Srivastava at the Bedford Institute. I have never met him, but his writings indicate a good knowledge of petroleum, he evidently is a knowledgeable Indian, and he is close at hand to Dalhousie.

I'm sorry that it has to be this way.

Best regards,



K. O. Emery

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16 Nov. 1982

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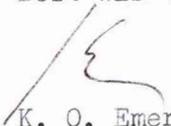
Dear Elisabeth:

Your explanation of the foul-up between UNEP and Aeroflot makes sense; I had thought that the Indians might have been mixed up in it too. Incidentally, your cable re Aeroflot tickets didn't come either, nor have any tickets --nothing! Generally speaking, the cheapest travel usually is the most expensive, at least in terms of time. In fact, I had independently thought of buying the tickets myself when the others didn't arrive, but decided that reimbursement might be too complicated, and besides--what if the sessions had been cancelled.

I am agreeable to helping again sometime, but let's leave the control in my hands next time with travel (not the most expensive) to be reimbursed. By the way, my office phone is (617) 548-1400 X2831, but as I have returned now I do my writing and drafting at home. Phone is (617) 548-6253; generally someone is there.

By now the view from the windows of your home is one of ice or very cold ocean water.

Best wishes,



K. O. Emery

25 Oct. 1982

Elisabeth M. Borgese
IOI Training Programme
National Institute of Oceanography
Goa, India

Dear Elisabeth:

What happened? I was ready with visa, shots, malaria pills, talks, slides, etc, but no ticket or notification arrived!

The whole episode represents quite a waste of time, money, and convenience for me. It also must have been confusing to your program and students.

Sincerely,



K. O. Emery

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27 Sept. 1982

Elizabeth Borgese
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Dear Elisabeth:

Tried to phone via (902) 424-2210, but no answer; I supposed that that is the University so perhaps the staff is on strike like everyone else! You might let me know your office phone number next time you write.

A couple of weeks ago I started the visa nonsense with India. Today the word came down that I need a guarantee on official letterhead of an organization to support my stay there. Also wanted to know what Indians I will be talking with in Goa. Guess India is trying to reduce tourism! The solution must be to send something on Dalhousie University letterhead enclosing at least part of the program. My talk was originally listed as by Dave Ross--so be sure to change the name.

The material should be sent to Travel Agenda; 119 W. 57th St., Suite 1008, New York, NY 10019.

Best wishes for your difficult
job re India,



K. O. Emery