

*Ans'd & self  
book autographed,  
June 24/47*

Suite 3, The Georgian,  
1015, Moss Street.  
Victoria, B.C.

10th June, 1947.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

This is fan mail! .... and also a request. I want to tell you how very much I have enjoyed reading "Pride's Fancy". I found myself remembering, as I read, something you said a long time ago at the Merckels' in Halifax - that writing a story should not be very different from telling it to a bunch of people sitting round the fire; their attention should not even wish to wander. Well, mine did not. And now and then I found a private pleasure in some familiar Halifax allusion. You almost made me homesick for Nova Scotia ... and I'm practically a foreigner after all! And I remember well that log of a Spanish brig, and my attempts at translation.

I wonder if you know how well your books are known and liked in this part of the world? When Raiffe and I came back west in 1945 and renewed acquaintance with old friends, one of them - a Cambridge man, formerly a schoolmaster in England and now a breeder of prize Jerseys - said to me "I've been reading a book you must read - a rattling good book." I had read it, for he was talking about "Roger Sudden". The libraries and bookstores were enthusiastic about "Pride's Fancy", and it was put in the "Duplicate Pay Collection" of the Public Library - a category reserved for books in special demand; and it is still in that category.

Raiffe was recalled to his pre-war work in China after he was demobilised, and has been there some months; I'm joining him in Hong Kong soon. I want to send - or take - to him a copy of "Pride's Fancy"; it's just his kind of book. So here is the request ... Would you be so kind as to autograph the book sent herewith, as you did "Roger Sudden"? It will greatly add to its value for us.

I hear from Tully and Andrew sometimes in their new home in Lower Granville: (I owe them a letter at the moment!) If only there were not a whole continent between us, so that I could see them sometimes!

I hope all is well with you and yours. My best wishes to you and your work, and kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

*Pauline M. Barrett.*