

Dear Mrs. Alice!

It is extremely touching how you are sending exact and good news into all parts of the world and are making us all very happy with this good deed. On top of it you are adding the best raisins to Ogros!'s cake by inviting him to your place, with cute little homes and cozy corners. One can really never know today what might be possible or impossible. Giulia has already been with you for a whole year, dropped out of the sky, so to speak, and it might actually happen that I too will suddenly blow into your home. In any case, I thank you from all my heart for your good will and your sympathy towards me. I would give much to get to know you personally and to share your problems and elations. Who knows what the future might bring?

In any case, my house will always be open to you as long as I own it: to you and Gretli and anybody else you want to bring along. It would be fun to have us two sit and talk in Mia's old room while the children can romp in the rest of the house. But we would have to wait out the cold winter (!) all the plans will have to wait for spring and summer. I don't want to burden you with questions, Giulia will answer them. Let me thank you very much for all the love and the good which you are providing for her and all of us and am sending you the very best regards and highest esteems, your Ogros!.

Dearest Giuletta!

You seemed to have had a beautiful Christmas with many presents, active and passive, a skitour and a kitten which I can't quite imagine. Is it from Schaffhausen or did Mutti send it across land and sea?? The latter cannot be possible, please enlighten me! What is the state of your passport? Did you get it (extended) and did you have difficulties over it? Your school attendance is running till March three more weeks or seven? I have the feeling that dear Alice will be able to get you through (the grade) somehow. If not, you will be well capable of (traveling) maybe better than Mutti or Suser! the coffee farmers wife! I would love to watch her pick the coffee beans or supervise the blacks at their work or climb the palm trees to get at the coconuts! I doubt she is a good climber, might as well throw a rope over the tree and pull it down. At her size she can reach the nuts and knock them on the ground and drink the milk if she doesn't get interrupted by a tiger.

I put all of your, Susi's and Mutti's letters of the past year in chronological order and stored them in a folder. Had again a good laugh at your drawings but unfortunately I had to put an end to them (destroy) as well as your Mufti correspondence (too dangerous) which wasn't my fault (Nazi rule). You may still please me with drawings as long as they don't show any landscapes but only domestic scenes. Sometimes I think you might want to learn a new technique. Isn't there a lithograph or etching master near you where you could watch or learn? Of course, only if you have time but an hour here and there might be feasible? Mrs. Alice knows everybody and might find a dependable person? This could be important for a future profession and can help you along! You haven't answered me about Ulk, how is Gretli? I have very sweet letter from Gu and Mia. I am doing very well, have a nice warm home and am even able to make Schoepsen roast so well that all people who are allowed to taste it, find it extremely good. I greet and embrace you fervently, dear child and know that much is churning in your little head.

In liveliest and most loyal love I remain your old Ogros!.