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Dearest Mama and Papa:

Hello!

Keeping track of you both is difficult...so we'll just assume that you are either in Paris or Spain or hopping around the continent, and sooner or later you'll receive our letters.

Life has been gay and just lovely. Paul completed the forward and outline of The Night Before Cookbook and sent it to the publisher. Now we just have to sit tight and wait for them to let us know if they intend to publish it. It may take several months for them to make up their minds, we have been told. At any rate, it's an exciting project (you can imagine how enthused Paul is...he's spending half his life in the kitchen and the other half on Bloomingdale's Sixth Floor Housewares Department!)

We've entered into the fall season with full spirit. We heard a Liszt recital at Town Hall by a fairly-good-but-not-exceptional pianist Raymond Lewenthal and then went to a big party afterwards at the home of Mrs. Kakia Levanos, who said she is a friend of yours and went on and on about sending regards. We saw a splendid production of "Don Quixote" at the ballet; it was brilliantly executed by Ballanchine and exquisitely costumed. Tomorrow night Jerome Lowenthal plays at Carnegie Hall and the Manns are giving a party in his honor. On Friday we go to the theatre with Danny Selznick to see "A Right Honorable Gentleman" (it was supposed to be a hit in London) and Saturday to The Moscow Philharmonic, where Rostropovich is soloist.

We saw a beautiful production of "La Boheme" at the Met last week, with Gianni Raimondi as Rodolfo and Mirella Freni as Mimi. They were both superb and it was a romantic, heavenly evening. It was one of those rare evenings at the Met where everything went perfectly.

Paul still builds model planes in his spare time (it's become a passion with him) and our second bedroom looks like LaGuardia Airport! He does that sort of thing so well and loves building and working with his hands.

There's rarely a dull moment, yet we've managed to space our social engagements so that we're not under a tremendous amount of pressure. We have entertaining to do and people to whom we owe dinners. We'll do it little by little. In our household one doesn't have to find an excuse to cook! We thrive on it!

How are you both? Do hope you are well and that all is fine. Lali sent us the pictures of the Spanish house and it is overwhelmingly charming. We can't wait to see it...maybe next summer we will be lucky enough to get on a charter flight that will take us to Spain. The house is so sunny and cheerful and the flowers and greenery look beautiful.

Speaking of Spain, we saw a marvelous film the other night. Is is called "To Die In Madrid" and is a moving portrait of the Spanish Civil War. It's amazing how brave the photographers were to take such important shots while the battles were raging. It's a movie we both recommend if you are anywhere where it is playing.

I saw an Israeli movie called "Sallah" and it's just terrible. Miss it -- no matter what you do. That movie should do more to spread anti-Semitism than anything else I can think of. It's entirely graceless and although tongue-in-cheek (the Israelis make fun of themselves and the condition of a poor Oriental immigrant Jew who bumbles his way in his new country), most people won't realize the intent and will be aghast at the lack of manners and cleanliness of the people and the terrible conditions.

Last night we went to see "Casablanca" at the Museum of Modern Art and then went to someone's house to see "Funny Face " on television. Ah, Hepburn! How lucky you are to know her! It was quite a movie night for us. "Casablanca" to me is one of the greats of all time.

At the moment I am working on radio commercials for a huge album that we are putting out on John F. Kennedy. It's a record with voices of his friends and family and comes with a huge 200 page book. Perhaps you'd like one; I'll see if I can get a copy for you when you come.

We haven't heard from Lali, and I'm almost ready to give up. She never ever calls or shows any indication that she wants to see us. I call her every two weeks or so to say hello and always invite her over, but she has never come. I guess she wants to lead her own life. We do try, though...it's rather discouraging. You can't force another person to be friendly.

It won't be long now before you're in New York, although it must seem like ages away for you because of your hectic schedule. Do you have any idea when you'll be arriving? We'll have to get together with Eva and plan Christmas. Maybe she'll agree to have it in New York. Paul and I both have to work on Christmas Eve and getting to New Haven in time for dinner might not be that easy if the weather is bad. We'll see...it's far off.

How is the book coming along, Papa?

Please say hello to Adam and Maria for us. After seeing "Funny Face" we got nostalgic about Paris. It must be beautiful weather there now. We look at our slides so often and have wonderful memories. We're really fortunate to have had such romantic trips.

Whoops...must get back to work. Much, much love from us both. We miss you!

Lisa