August 27th

Dearest Nela and Arthur,

Jason has arrived here from Interlochen the happiest I have seen him in his eleven years, bursting with seriousness (it's quite amazing) and enthusiasm for his summer -- detailing the experience at music camp and all he's learned and felt and the friends he's made, etc. It appeared to me when I visited after France that he was thriving, playing piano in recitals and first trumpet in the daily morning orchestra. It is a serious place and very strict, the children love that however, all the structure and the chance to play instruments day and night (there is music from every bush) and there are concerts every night that they may attend if they wish. Jason's teachers told me he is extraordinarily musical and gifted in his way, he got all A's when graded, and has a fine ear and enjoys improvising on his instruments. Interlochen had all sorts of sports, too, and a great camaraderie among the students which was apparant and joyous.

I think most of all what it accomplished this past summer was a strong sense of responsibility for Jason. He is more independent, more serious about his work in all areas, and has "grown up" considerably. I am amazed atthe change in him, I guess it always happens just around this year or so.

Aspen has been a delight. I am here to write about the music festival for the Washington Post and found a famous picture here of Arthur Rubinstein on the Ski Lift for the Goethe Centennial. In fact, Mrs. Paepke invited us for tea yesterday and said to send her love to you both. I have been working hard here but enjoying it all the same, because combining music interviews with the scenery is very special. I did find a young viola student here who may live with us in New York and help babysit if our schedules coincide and she seems to be mature and kind.

Jason is off to my parents for two weeks while I return to New York to work on the night shift of the radio for two weeks. I don't look forward to it but I do need the money; I must work from 11:00 p.m. at night to 7:00 a.m. and all day long I am also busy and nap a little and am exhausted after the two weeks. I will never accept it again because of the fatigue but I did say I would do it. Usually I am on the radio station for 4 hours a week only. This is to fill in for someone on vacation.

I tried to reach the photographer, Nela, to no avail and assume she sent the photos directly to the magazine. I will call once I arrive in New York tomorrow and let you know. I think that is the customary situation with photographers on assignment directly from magazines. Do let me know if you hear from her.

We both send you much love. I did enjoy our brief meeting in Paris and hope all is well and happy. I will write along with Jason once we are settled in to our work routine. Thank you again for treating Jason to camp. I will send you the pictures once they are developed as well as his reports from there and can only assure you it seems to have been a "special experience" for him in every respect and he is immensely happy and calm.

Pele