

MRS. EUNICE HOLSAERT
4 DEAN STREET
COBBLE HILL
BROOKLYN 1, N. Y.

Nov. 27th

Dearest Faith,

Shai was enthusiastic about you, your work, your new slimness, and the respect you have earned from your peers and superiors. Bravo! And I must say that your last letter and the newsletters do make it sound as if things are humming.

Too bad our mail has been kidnapped, or whatever. Let's hope it keeps going back and forth more faithfully from now on in. I hear that you received no mail from your devoted family for almost two weeks -- and in that interval I wrote two or three times. Nasty business!

I finally found a B'klyn lumberyard and a kindly man who cut and stripped the moulding for your painting of Shai. I had it hung on her wall when she got back from Nashville. She was impressed. As luck would have it, the spear shaped vine in her room has one long, long ~~tr~~dril which I draped ~~xxx~~ up one side and over the top of the painting -- very nice. Another item of horticultural interest is that the geranium has grown so big and robust that I have repotted it in the ex-gardenia pot -- it has a thriving, brilliant red flower and three more coming.

I got Shai a silver Haitian-type bracelet -- sturdier but much like the ones Chat brought you from Haiti. You know, a round wire with balls at each end. I'm sure she'll like it since I've heard a great deal of hint, hint

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from her about it. This will be from you. \$6.00 and tax. It's sterling and comes from The Village Jeweler.

I got her a round, old, gold-plated, perfectly plain bracelet -- child size -- from the Jewel Box -- and of course, she will have the saree when it comes. Tifi got her ~~at~~ findings (bobbins, etc.) for her sewing machine, Laddie and Bops got her a Ravel record (a request) and Penny got her a small book of Kathakali mudras.

THE night will be spent having dinner after school with me, and the night following we will celebrate with Howard and Clarice -- dinner out -- and not at the Plaza, I trust! H offered a party again, but S naturally said thank you but no thank you.

Now, what do YOU want for Xmas? Please give us ideas. Do you by any chance want a portable transistor radio? Shai thought you might. If books -- what books? If records -- what records? Also, let us know as soon as you can whether you'll be home to collect your booty or whether all and sundry should ship your gifts to you. HELP!

We miss you very much.

Love,
Madre