

[APR 1944]

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Dear Mr Malbooy

I thank you for your letter. About the book I will not write much now because it is so much easier to talk. I was very interested in it, it did disturb me a little. It seems to me that the writer is putting before himself a problem which at any rate is not pressing if it exists at all, in the character of Mary. Her intense desire to belong to herself and no one else seems to me natural after her marriage but not before.

I will not answer your question as to why I was not at Rimini at sunset time. I only wish I had been. It is lovely here, the heavy blossom is out and there are flowers everywhere, the marsh marigolds are lovely. I cannot express just the joy of standing deep in among them, but you know it just as well as I do. How wonderful it was that day among the flowers at Asolo.

I hope you are having a lovely time among the mountain little towns and flowers, you must be have been walking now for an hour or two I should think by now because it is nearly ten. I hope your day is brilliantly sunshiny too. I have just had to stop this letter to run out and put the sitting hens back on their nests for Manjorie, goslings and just coming out under two of them. We, I mean Mildred & I began chinaw painting yesterday

I am longing to go on only I have a lot of other things to do this morning. I was struggling yesterday to make a pattern for my cup and saucer, it is difficult because it is all in one colour and for embroidery and illumination any number can be used. However ~~the more~~ ~~a~~ ~~more~~ my mind gets fuller as I think about it.

Our box has not come yet and there does not seem any immediate prospect of it coming, so we are going to Guildford this morning to get a new dress for Mildred. We went to Cooks man in London as you suggested he was very nice and helpful, but he wrote yesterday to say that as it had not yet arrived he thought it must be coming by ordinary freight which sounds very slow, but we have none of us the least idea how long it is likely to take.

We are looking forward to your coming here; and I find myself often thinking of Wales it will be lovely.

Time's up and I must go to Guildford.

yours affectionately

Ruth Turner

I am sorry about the pins for your Mother being delayed, but they were in our box, we will send them as soon as it comes.