

June 25, 1989

Dear family and friends....

This isn't a newsletter, but almost. There's too much news to wait for the next newsletter and too much news to write to each of you individually. If you've written to me recently, please forgive this impersonal response. I did have to suddenly move (it took three days in intense heat, and wiped me out for about two weeks), I have had to make big decisions, there are all the end-of-the-term requirements and activities and ETCETERA so that I am swamped to the MAX.

I suspected it was time to go home when my supply of American breakfast food had become exhausted, but it became indisputable when both glue sticks suddenly went dry!

Yes, the big news is that I am coming home. But "home" has many meanings! I'll be looking for a quiet place to write and a way to earn some dollars quickly to pay for my flight home. I'm confident I'll find both. I haven't yet been offered short-term residence with any of you (except one son), but I am running ads in papers in affluent suburbs of Philadelphia. You may feel free to place such an ad for me in your area if you're inclined, using that address or your own. With your own you could, if you wish, screen responses before sending them on, in case there should be a need to respond hastily to anyone.

Why Pennsylvania, you may ask? It's because an American here wants to employ me to organize her mother's home. She and her husband have been here for four months, have one more to go, and we've become good friends.

I had an incredible treat today – Mrs. Grass' Noodle Soup – Golden Nugget and all. Thanks to one of you. Took a bit of doing. Had to pick out all the pieces of unpopped popcorn, which were about one-for-one with the noodles. (The packages had split on their way across the ocean.) It was worth it, though. And I'm glad to have those kernels to add to my dwindling supply, which I plan to take with me to Shenyang in a week when I go there for my farewell visit.

Once I started your shopping I found unexpected wonderful things on the market and decided to buy some without orders figuring that some of you may find these treasures irresistible when you see them. Let me know if you'd be willing to have a "showing" in your home for your friends or mine.

How would you let me know? Well, I can be reached at this address until the end of July and two weeks is generally the maximum time it takes for your letters to come. IN the States, who knows where I'll be?

Don't know when I'll get to your city, but it will truly be good to be on U.S. soil again. Hope your summer's been good. Please take gentle care.