

Coquitlam, March 10, 1991

Dear David,

I have not written to you for a long time because I was waiting for a letter from Raizel. I called her on the same day I did call you and she said she would send me a letter. She did not know then for sure whether they would be still interested in my lecture. Since I have not heard from her since that time, I assume that they are not, and I am not surprised. With the conflict in the Middle East and the exodus of Soviet Jews, they have more interesting subjects to discuss than Singer or Polish-Jewish relations. Anyway, I have some taste of Montreal due to your interesting and vividly written article (famous David R.'s style). Besides, I am Gimpele the Fool and I always try to see the good side of things. Who knows, maybe if I went to Montreal, I would break my finger?

I have heard from some friends that my article on Poles in Singer's fiction was finally published in Polin, but I have not received any offprints yet. Emissaries come to this British Columbian Goray with a delay, you know.

I feel so much happier and relaxed now with the war being nearly over. I am now waiting for professor Shmeruk's final corrections of the translation; the war delayed the whole process since he was too depressed to work on it and being away from Jerusalem he did not have all the necessary sources.

I signed up in a translation agency and I do some Polish-English translations in order to increase our budget. These are mainly documents and technical texts. I am also working on my book on Singer. I should have completed it by now but the operation and Satan in Goray interrupted my plans. Now the Satan tempts me to translate some more of Singer's works instead of writing about the writer himself, but so far I have been able to resist these temptations. I hope your Purimspiel was a success and I am surprised they have not written about it in the local newspapers; Canada seems to be backward in some respects.

Marcin is sending one of his masterpieces to Aryeh. He is still in the Middle Ages while Aryeh has probably reached the peak of Renaissance. I would be happy, however, to see one of his medieval knights if he has got a spare copy.

Chris is very busy during the week so we try to do something really special at weekends. Today we went to the Vancouver aquarium and Marcin was really impressed with whales, dolphins and sharks. I myself always enjoy looking at penguins. And the aquarium is located in Stanley Park, one of the most beautiful parks I have even been too (you probably have been there). It

made me think^{of}/how much our Little One has travelled already: about two years ago we visited the aquarium in Coney Island but of course he was too young to remember anything. When I was his age the biggest trip I made was to the Baltic Sea. You probably had similar thoughts when you were travelling around Israel with Aryeh.

We do not know yet what our plans in regard to Poland-Canada will be. Martin wants a sister and we would be happy to please him but it does not seem to be that easy as you yourselves know. It seems I had a miscarriage in January. The doctor was not able to decide whether it was a miscarriage or delayed period but I am pretty sure it was the former.

David, I am so grateful for all the photocopies you sent me! I am attending my Yiddish literature course here in Coquitlam (designed by Prof. D.R.) and I regret that I cannot attend the one in New York. Now when I know a little bit of Yiddish I could get so much more from your courses because I would be able to read most of the sources in the original. But, the Gimplish side of me tells me that maybe there is some good side of doing it on my own because I do not have to write papers and receive bad marks. The publishing house in Wroclaw (the one for whom I have translated Satan in Goray) has just published Travels of Benjamin III and I would like to review it as soon as my mother sends me a copy from Poland.

Have a wonderful Pesach. Pesach and Easter (in Polish Wielkanoc, that is "The Great Night") are at the same time this year. I will again use my Jewish cookbook to prepare some Easter dishes, like I did at Christmas time.

Love from
M+C+M