



Seniors and Youths revealing
the art of storytelling and fairytales

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"letter to a child"

e-book





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Bujok Gregorz - Poland

My dear friend,

I know that in a few weeks big day will come to you - coming into the world, but before you come into the world, let me give you some useful advice about the world.

First of all, love all people and they will reward you the same. People are those beings who do not want to and do not know how to be lonely. So - smile, not because, to be rated well by people but because that is what you have inside could get out. Smile, first of all to your parents, because that's who you know at the beginning, it will be a great joy for them when they see you laughing. When you have friends, smile to them - is one of the best things you can give to another person. Smile also to people which you don't know who may be a little bit surprised, but precisely they will become your friends.

If you love people - love also nature. This will allow you to rest on a daily basis, and make every day will be for you a wonderful discovery. Green trees, the smell of the forest moss, noise of mountain brook help your difficulties go away. When you start to grow, use the nature. The nature is what gives you the ability to find the right distance for life.

If I were to give you one of the most important advice I would say you simply - Love. Love is one of the best things given to human, gives the opportunity to develop and seek new experience in every day life. Love to someone allow you to live every single day, give dynamism to your life and give it a taste, it is love that will help you when you will have no desire to go on, make trees flourish even in winter, and your life will spring source of water that never ends.

So my dear friend - prepare yourself before your difficult road, but you manage to - life is the greatest gift that you could get, and although it will not be easy - remember just in life you can discover the goodness, because the world around is full of goodness and you may find love she is all around. So my friend do not give up and live every day as you wanted to reach heaven.

Do not take my advice as too arrogant, it's just that everything I learned in my life.

Good luck.

Cappelles Georges - Belgium

Hello, dear little child

The weather is beautiful today. The sun is shining and I am happy. It is Monday morning and I bear you now about eight months. It is very special for dad and me to be witness of this miracle in our lives. The whole family lives with us. It feels great, but uncertain.

We can hardly wait for you to take you in our arms and laugh at you and talk with you.

How do you look? What will be your character? Will you be happy? Are you like mamma or dad?

You have to wait in my stomach until you are big enough. Until then I only feel kicks, turns and all your other movements you make. We have no idea what you are feeling in my stomach. Is it warm and pleasant? Do you have enough space? Do you have an idea of how it will be within a few weeks? It is completely different, you know. Can you think? What do you think? Can you have dreams? What do you dream?

I live to eat ice cream. You can also enjoy this wonderful food.

Or would you prefer to suck your thumb or the dummy? I know you like that.

Maybe you can already hear or feel your mamma or dad. Maybe you are curious about your new parents.

Sometimes I dream of you. Then you are very close to me in a chair and you tell me a story. This is always beautiful and exciting. Where did you learn the art of storytelling and fairytales?

Last night I had this dream. Your story was about a child who was walking on the colourful rainbow. It was like "Le petit prince". The child danced and sang. The child was waving with the arms and called "Mamma, mamma, where are you?" Suddenly the child fell down and I was so frightened and I waked up and cried. It was pity because I wanted to save the child.

The dogs Woef and Waf wait also to see you. The cat Mien feels that something is coming and doesn't know what.

As I have told you, it is very sunny but in the wintertime it can be very cold here. But don't worry, we will make sure that you do not have cold.

At home we have prepared everything for your arrival. Your room is ready. Sorry, but I tell you nothing about the wallpaper of your room. That remains a surprise.

You have beautiful clothes hanging in the wardrobe and we have already bought the first toy which you can see and listen. The toy has so many colours and it plays music. On St. Nicholas you will certainly receive more toys. The holy man is good for the children.

We hope you will be happy with it.

Your dad prepares also your birthday. He looked for a lot of games. He has bought books of fairytales to tell. He speaks to me everyday about you.

My mother would like to be your godmother and she wants to do a lot of things for you. She is curious about your name. But we keep it secret. We keep it as a surprise. I hope you will like your name. People will call you with this name. When they talk about you, they will use this name. Your name is not common, but it is beautiful. It begins with a "S".

The father of your dad wants to be your godfather. He is impatient and sometimes he tells much about his childhood and the school and the games and the stories from this time. Those fairytales are old but very beautiful. He will also listen to songs with you. Music is his life!

In baptism, we ask God to be a good Father for you. We will teach you about God. And what about the girl from the neighbour? Her name is Lies. She is seven years old and every day she asks where you are and when she will see you.

We hope we can give you a bright future and we hope that you like to be with us. There are very nice things to do on the earth. I know that we can not dream for you, but we can help make your dreams real.

People I know, ask me for your birthday and they wish us the best.

We hope to see you soon in a good health. You are welcome in our family. You are expected. We will always be there for you.

A lot of love.

Your mama and dad.

Dike Alison - England

To My Little Witch x

My dear little witch. Here, sent with unfathomable love, is a message from your Granny .. and from all of your Grannys from the back of beyond. If, by some mishap... such as being plucked from my garden by the talons of a Golden Eagle who mistook me for a vole or by being mangled by a lamprey whilst fishing for minnows in the river Stour... I don't get to see you, I hope you take a little time to swallow this note.

I know you are a girl child as, when I threaded hair through my wedding ring and held it over your mammy's belly it swung around in a wide circle. As I placed my hand upon her smooth belly you were a feather's width away and I felt you move through my own baby's skin, the three generations speaking with fingertips.

You're just a little love soup..created from junkyard of codes and secret languages accidental evolutions. Ancient chants called from the tribes who lived before

You will know things ... and you will wonder how you Knew them.

Very soon a time will come. you may hear a calling yell, you may feel a rush in your limbs, squeezed and contorted through contracting tunnels, 'what's going on' ? The pond will dry and everything will be light... you will gasp and feel the Mistral. Don't be afraid this wild sensation is Life.

From your mama's breast will spring forth a magical sauce, an ancestral recipe of amulets and customs. The stories we have sent down to you. the protective potions divine divinations. To Nourish your little soul.

As the hours pass by we will know you better and check your tiny toes and stroke your velvet ears look for familiar features in your face. You are a little book of stories and we will read you .. read the fairytales in your eyes.

Your frantic hands tell us of your journey here but we have forgotten how to interpret the language of your signs.

Once upon a time my own mama checked my toes too and found I had carried with me the webbed toes of the Queen of Sheba. If you have the gifts, keep them secret my love in case the wind changes and they are mistaken for the cloven hooves of the Devil,

Soon she noticed I had brought, too the red hair of Cleopatra and Mary Magdalene. If you also carry this gift be sure not to wander at midnight on the New Years Day for there will be those who will despise you for it,... especially, if by chance you are the first person they meet. .. local belief construes that you

will taint them with an unlucky year. You may also, of course, transform into a fox occasionally, but only when challenged.

It will be some time before we know if you have the left hand of Joan of Arc and if you do your mother may make you wear *The Glove*, to disguise your gift. This may interrupt your words and make you falter and stammer ... you will need to eat fruit which has been pecked by a blackbird to help you recover. Your towering Grandfather from the West always hailed King Crow or saluted Mr. Magpie and you will do well if you show them the same respect.

If, like me, you might be given the double lobe. Make sure you wear your hair long and keep your left ear to the wall...or you will display the exceptional gift of perception and intelligence..which allows you to hear better, the words of those who curse you ..but don't let them know.. this will give you an advantage. It will take some time before you see the sun. We will watch carefully to see if you are a freckle bearer. I am the freckle bearer for now and we have to be careful to love our markings despite the fear of many who cannot understand our shared conversation with the sun.

The telling marks whether you be redheaded or not would have been enough, at one time to indicate knowledge of witchcraft and an unnatural relationship with the forces of nature.

It may be true that we have ancient instincts and that we sometimes choose the shady dark places to save us from being burned, one way or another. You will one day find a lover who navigates your freckles like they were a wonderful sky of stars.. never feel ashamed of them.

You will also possess the echo of the Highland piper's chanter wailing within, describing your forefather's last days on the heathery battlefield, You will find yourself one day, with a heath of purple underfoot, and your springy footstep will awaken old melodies from the turf, and you will sing as if you have always known the tune ...ghosts of crotchets and minims are waiting to reassemble for you. Please, always pipe outside so that the birds and winds can respond to your cry.

You will also recognise an ancient tune from the bones of my Grandmothers

lullaby which will be sung to you whilst rocking you to sleep...

Shoosh.. shooshy Bye Bye all my Sooshy byes... all the shooshy bye byes... one two three...

By the age of five you may think you have forgotten the Soothing but it is an orchid lying dormant beneath the soil waiting to bloom when the conditions are perfect....and I'm sure you will lull to your grandchild the hypnotic rhythms to sleepify her and she will dream of Scottish castles and hold onto the thread. You have the pattern for the ancient Gaelic tongue.. Your Paisley people wove the spells of the gypsies of Kashmir and Turkestan. Wear a Paisley shawl

about your shoulders, I offer this advice to protect you my darling, and you will discover where your witchwork came from. You may have the gift to interpret the tales within the teardrops. It takes time..It takes time.

Now.....If ever you stare at a splinter which pushes it's self from your skin or if your anger turns to a gaze which makes a wall fall down.....don't be afraid. It is something we have always possessed.

Contain the powers, if you can, and carry the thimble ... the Silver Thimble which is squashed flat. I will cross your palm with the thing if I can. (Tak ma thimmel as your far back Grannys would have said) It will help you through the destructive moment .

Try to use your powers wisely and keep the Knowledge to yourself and your offspring. It will be best not to let your suitors know or you will never win a husband.

On the first day of the month, it is wise to shout 'White Rabbits" without fail, from out of your backdoor ... you are calling to your sisters, the 3 white witches to offer you gentle protection, and if... when you are a young woman gazing into the mirror, the glass breaks, never forget to turn the shards over three times and bury them in the garden so that you keep your beauty safe for all time.

This is how I have kept my fiery hair, which empowers me in old age ...although I work and toil as a peasant by day I plant my seeds by night, walking the lanes whistling ancient tunes to jog people from their boredom. This alone is a spell and a half, for folk cannot resist following the piper.

Darling Seedpod.

You may carry the codes of the dexterous Waggonmakers from the English Midlands or bear the signs of Scots McKechnie, the Horse Lords, or the long limbed Dikes , Giant Ditch Dwellers of Somerset. In Dumfries Harkness wore the Army Cape for you and the friendly cheek of the Robin like Ruddicks has served me well. You are a pudding of all these things.

So ..Please...never pick your toenails on a Sunday or if there is a full moon... just in case the man in the moon takes you away from us... would starve without our tiny can of witch soup.

I love you already

Granny x

Duran Franciska - Spain

Hello my baby.

Today i must take the hardest decision of my life. I carry within just 4 weeks and i feel mine. I feel full of life and a part of my wish to share this life with you.

How would your eyes?

What about your hands?

I see your smile and laughed. I hear you say mama and i shudder. God i have life inside me. What do i do? I'm confused.

My little hopefully gets to know the summers i've lived. And these old books i keep thinking about you.

Always follow the moon there, flying the stars above you. Hopefully there old books i keep thinking about you.

I try to sleep and forget my decision but i cannot. I'm confused:

The phone rings: RING RING RING

-Hello my love how are you feelling?

-Well

-Are yoy ready?

(I am silent)

-What do you think of my love?

-I thought you had clear

-Have you changed your mind?

-You know it would be very complicated?

-You know that our lives will be truncated?

-You know that our project will not go forward?

-And my love talk, talk and talk in my

I know it will be strong

I know my life will fill your

I know that my projects has your name

I know you live the best moments of my life

I know a thousand places we travel together

I make up stories

I know you to educate and foremost to be a good person capable of loving

Because my love, love is the most important thing you do in life

Because love to decided to do from this point

And because i know that love is never having to say sorry never, so i decided to let you live within me.

I hang up the telephone and i touch gently my hands grounds in my belly and tell you:

Good night my love gives your life tomorrow a new day.

Gavira Lourdes - Spain

Some days ago, I found out that a new little person is growing inside of me. I have decided to write you a letter about your arrival:

Welcome to the great theater of the world, this is the show of your great play: your life. In this you have to perform on different stages, many of these will be funny, nice and enriching. In contrast, others maybe will be sad, difficult or disappointing. These last maybe sound more hideous but it will be those which make you stronger and value the important things.

The first stage you will visit will be your home. The performers who live there will look after and love you very much. Now they look forward to your arrival.

When you begin to grow, you will meet other performers in other places. They will be your friends. They must be chosen well by you because you will spend a lot of time with them. You will perform together on different stages like school, parties, journeys or universities. They should go with you in good and bad situations. They will be your second family. Another important point in your play will be when you have to choose what you want to do. At university, you will learn to act as a doctor, teacher, astronaut or writer. You must work hard to become the best.

We will travel around the world and I want you to get to know different places. Performers act in different in each country, depending on their religion, culture and tradition which have to be respected. They dress up with different costumes depending on the stages where they perform their plays. Some wear warm fancy dresses, others light clothing. They speak different languages too but everyone has something in common, everyone has feelings. Feelings are something which you will have to experience. It gives you value, force, and energy. They help you love too. Love will be another important theme in your play, you should love so much. Love people, places, music, life and love yourself.

Each of these stages are in a big place with a beautiful landscape: nature. You should look after it since is the house of us, the theater of the people. It will help you find your way when you are confused. Remember we came from it and it can help us to find ourselves.

All your plays must be accompanied by a great soundtrack. For this, we will listen to different songs and melodies. If you prefer, you will able to write and play it. Every day, I feel you more inside of me. It is a big mystery. It is amazing how you are increasingly going to fill my body and my life. You are future, illusion, innocence and purity. Currently I only want to look after you and make of you a great person. You are my life so I promise to protect you and go with you always, in all your acts so that nothing can stop your great success in the world.

Ievina Laura - Latvia

I know that at the moment your world seems so perfect to you and you do not want to change anything. You feel calm, warm, loved and cuddled. But I want to encourage you not to be scared and be ready to something more. Soon you will start a new stage of life - exiting, beautiful, full of new possibilities and events. No, it is not going to be so calm as it was till now. You will need to work hard to be in harmony with yourself. But do not worry - together with you there will be your parents, who will always support, encourage and help you.

I want to tell you some story about them.

Your father is an artist. He writes beautiful songs and he has a wonderful voice. On the stage his performances are so impressing, but he always says that it is just because of your mother closeness. Almost all songs' lyrics are about your mother and her big significance in his life. But you would never guess - now he has composed a song for you. Because he already loves you very much and can not wait until you come.

Your mother is a teacher. She teaches for children so serious things as literature and Latvian grammar. Pupils do not always listen to her and they are not always eager to learn all of what she is teaching. But despite this facts her pupils likes her teacher. They know that she loves them and wants to do her best for their future. You must know that your mother will love you as well, just different - stronger and tender.

You are going to be a happy man. Because you will be loved. This is a reason, why you do not need to be scared when the time will come and will challenge you to star a new period in your life. You will not regret it - I promise.

Kalvane Aija - Latvia

Hey there, my little tot!

No matter what others say, I know that you hear and feel everything. This letter is like a small message, which you will read by yourself in a few years. Times and the environment have changed, but there will be a constant value, which no one will be able to take away or change. It is parents' love. Love, who tolerates everything, helps at a difficult time and gives strength in weakness.

Perhaps now you are surprised and knit your brow because you do not know who I am and for what purpose I am writing this letter. It is likely that we will never meet face to face, but remember - I have always been and will be near to you. I am your Guardian Angel -an invisible friend who will be there when you say the first word or make the first step, when you do not know what to do or have doubts about a decision to make. I am your reliable companion, who will not leave you in the lurch and will give divine blessing in everyday life.

You're so welcomed! The most beautiful nursery is decorated. I have not seen anything like that before! The morning sun decorates walls in soft colours, but in the evening ... It seems that the painted butterflies on the wallpaper come to life and, flapping their colourful wings, fill the room with a magical light. However, the most brilliant light shows your mother's eyes. It seems that they shine! Eyes are filled with warmth, light and love. She looks spiritual. It looks like she is surrounded by million candles. She does not walk. She flies - you are making her so great.

Very soon you will see the world by your eyes. Latvia is a very beautiful country. People are friendly and responsive, and the nature is unique. You will enjoy four seasons that are changing not only each other, but also a natural outfit. Spring comes dressed in a green coat and the surrounding area is filled with life. In summer, the sun goes around the earth and the sky is as blue as ever. Autumn man carries a paint container, a brush and decorates the tree leaves red, yellow, brownish. Winter, dressed in the Queen's dress, lets everyone to enjoy the snow and its cold white glow. Oh! I already imagine your joy and surprise in finding the first snowdrop bloom, watching how from the small seeds grow carrots, beets or potatoes, finding the first mushroom in a linden alley and rolling a snowman.

The world is wide, and you will be the King, baby. Just remember that not everything is gold that shines, and not everyone is a friend who sits next to. You need learn a lot, but I believe in the strength of your spirit and the warmth of your heart. You will not go astray, but you will be the greatest support for the family and friends. The most important things are not written in books. They can

be learnt by resisting and keeping your eyes and ears open. And you will also see that the simple things are the best ones - birds singing at dawn, the stars at night, the road beneath your feet and water clarity. Wherever you go, to what countries you may be, remember that the native home is always the safest. Be who you are, do not lose your spirit and remember the advice of parents. They have a gold value and strength of the diamond.

Do you hear it? Your mom is singing you a song. The room imperceptibly fills up with the energy of music and love. And so it has been since the moment she got to know about your presence beneath her heart. Very soon your laughter, steps' patter and endless babble will echo here. Very soon ...

Well ... Very soon your path full of surprises will begin, buddy! Do not forget what you read about in this letter, and everything will be just fine.

The best wishes,
Your Guardian Angel

Kesgin Dilara - Turkey

Hello Bantling/ Kiddy,

You are about to leave the place that you have been used to for a long time. I don't know does it make any sense to you but I'm sure that it excites the people around you. And I also sure of your purity. Actually I've been trying to solve the meaning of life for a long time or rather to understand. Because if I understand, I believe that I can find a solution. I've been here for years. Why "Me" , I don't know. Indeed I even don't know precisely who I am. Sometimes my voice comes strange, my face comes meaningless and my looks seem unfamiliar to me. Do you know what is the strangest thing? To understand and explain I think. Actually the words. Thousand of words, different voices in each language. I wish everybody understood each other. Even I don't understand myself how it will be? Albert Camus told the bootlessness of life so good in his book of "The Myth of Sisyphus". Meaningless repetitions, hundered of stones that we fetch them up to hill all times but they fall down when they're on top...He knows there isn't any solution for this vicious circle. But he is aware that this nonsensicalness can be downgraded. Thus, by saying " Even striving up to hills separately is enough to resent" Camus proves to suicide is wrong. In this process humanbeings discover something about themselves. One or other day, you will say that this is the only thing that makes me enjoy the life and you will start to run after it. I mean, I hope you will. Because if you don't run after your beliefs, your happiness's your life becomes to ridiculous prosaic chains of acts. And this make life meaningless and feel you unhappy. The most important thing is that you should see the good sides of what you have. Only by this you can enjoy life. When you leave the place you're living right now, you will see the life is not livable as you thought. However, if you can see the half full part of the glass smiles won't be lacking on your face. Imagine a little boy. He has bright yellow, beautiful chrysanthemums, which are taller than him, in his hands. He slogs while carrying them and fastens upon grasses around him. That's why he is defeated by his fatigue. Nevertheless, he doesn't know that the chrysanthemums are magical and if he talks with them, they will take him into magical journey like a fairytale. The life is exactly same with this kiddy. Everything is magical. You must just know the language that they speak. And you can only explore it by yourself by being able to find the keys of magical door which will bring you into happiness. That's why during your whole life you should observe, listen the people around you, find the traces that are supplied for you and listen your heart.

With love, E. Dilara KESGIN

Lampe Carola - Germany

Dear little angel,

soon you will see the light of our world and we are all very excited for you ! Will you be healthy and how will you look out? Will your hair be blond, black, smooth, curly, or will you arrive without hair, and they will grow only when you're here? Will you cry very much, out of breath from the massive breakthrough of your arriving to be here? Or you can't hardly expect it to arrive here and now you are sleep peaceful. What color will have your little eyes? How light or how dark your skin is going to be? Will you always be hungry and a little tired of never? Are your tiny hands and foots also complete? Will be everything up to you? To whom will you remember us in the family, whom will you see similar? Perhaps the grandmother or the grandpa, or aunt, uncle, or perhaps your mum or dad? Well, there have been waiting a lot for you: your mam, your dad, the grandparents, uncles and aunts, friends. Your little brother and nieces and nephews are really looking forward to find a new playmate. Although it will take a little while, they can hardly expect it yet. I can see it in my mind, the way you do things like playing hide-and-seek and tag, frolicking together on the meadow, climbing on trees, find out the mysteries of the forest, telling you some tales of monsters, eating secretly sweets from the cabinet, wrangling about the toys, listening together to storytails from the grandma, falling into the beds happy and full, dreaming about a new adventure.

What for a beautiful time is waiting for you. We will do our best to give you support, to help you if it is difficult from time to time, to let yourself grow up well and we always see you as a gift that we will care and respect till you will go your own way of life and will stand alone.

Which talents will you bring with? Will we discover in time this? Maybe you going to be a musician or a writer, a globetrotter or a skilled craftsman? Or we wonder whatever is possible. Will you also have your own children, a family? How the world will be made up there? Will people mingle more and more in the knowledge that there is no separation. Will their awareness grow to manifest a peaceful and fair world? Will we finally all live in peace and harmony?

What for an exciting time !

We expect you to see and very pleased all of you,
you sweet little creature.

Be welcomed by heart !

Marczynski Konrad – Poland

Dear Child

I am writing to you this letter in late November 2011. Year 2011 wasn't a special year. However, people are seldom able to evaluate the importance of events prior to their completion. Typically, this ability comes with a time.

From my perspective this year was important because it was the last year before the European Football Championships in Poland and Ukraine. Perhaps till now it will be the biggest sports event organized in Poland. Unfortunately in Warsaw, not all promised facilities will be prepared. For example, the construction of the Warsaw Metro (Underground)- will be later a year and a half. It is expected in the late 2013. And it is not the whole line - this is only the central part (6 stations). I think that the whole second line of metro will be ready not sooner than you will be an adult.

Another important thing from my perspective is the World economic crisis, which spreads through Europe. For now, no one is sure if this is the hardest phase of the crisis, or just the beginning. There are many people who claim that this is the end of the European common currency. At this point it is difficult for me to evaluate the consequences of these events, but I assume that at the time when you will be reading this letter, the situation will be revealed. I hope that it will reveal in a positive direction.

From my personal perspective the year 2011 is the year when I have finished 30 years. The funny thing is that for you, as you read these words, the 30 years will probably be impressive. I also feel the same about this number as impressive, because I feel that "a moment ago" I had finished high school, and the university was literally yesterday.

However some things reminds me that the studies were not yesterday. I will write you about such event. Surely you remember the band Nirvana and their album "Never mind". This is the one, with the blue cover with a little baby diving in a pool. I'm sure you were surprised, how this little baby is able to dive so well. Sometimes even adults have trouble not only to dive but also swim.

Well, back to the subject. The album was released 20 years ago! And in 2011 it was the 20th anniversary of releasing this album. When I had heard this news I had understood that I wasn't a teenager who just finished high school. This album had appeared when I was 10 years old and my friend lent me the audio

tape. Yes I had used the audio tapes.

Oh, one more thing - recently I have re-started to learn playing a piano. I hope that in the future when you will be reading this letter I will be playing piano quite well. I have been learning to play a piano when I was a child, and after 3 years I stopped. Sometimes I regret a little that I stopped. Because if I hadn't I would be playing now at a much higher level. However, on the other hand I am glad that I came back to playing. It was my dream for a very long time. Because I think that the most important thing is to pursue your dreams.

Generally, at this point I could finish my letter -but I want to write you two very important things: first - no matter how old you are - the most important how old you feel. The second is that in life you must have dreams and you need to pursue them.

Attached you can find a photo of Animal. He is now with me in Warsaw - and it is a small souvenir for you from 2011.

Yours
Konrad

Medvedevs Eduards - Latvia

Hi, my baby! Your dad is writing to you. I want to tell you what happened today.

Last night I dreamed, as if you were already born and we took a walk in our park with you, your sister and your mom. The spring was outside already, the trees hid behind the young foliage... Mom and sister wanted an ice cream and candy all of a sudden. They ran to the store around the corner, leaving us alone.

And so I looked at you and marvelled about the power of nature! You looked like me and your mother at the same time - I could not take my eyes off you! I saw your blue eyes and I had a feeling that you understood everything. You listened to me and showed your cute toothless smile! And when I started to sing you a song, you hit your hands and feet awkwardly as you wanted to dance.

Then your eyes closed slowly and you drifted to your dreamland, and meanwhile I had to wake up -my annoying alarm clock called again - it was time to get ready for work ... I did not want to get up so badly... Everything was as usually, one more sleepy morning - to have a shower, to brush teeth, to have a shave, to get dressed, to make a strong coffee, to kindle the stove for keeping the house warm. Here I drove the car, and finally I was at work. People came to me and asked for something all the time, some projects appeared on my table. I did not realize that it was the time to have lunch. I remembered about the dream only sitting over a cup of coffee after lunch... How we walked in our park... I started thinking how we all will go to the village at the weekend and take a walk through the woods. Maybe we will take bicycles and go for a ride on our route. We will also take a camera and take photos for memory. If we see an elk or a deer, we will take a picture, too. At the end of our road will go to the grandparents farm and feed cows and calves with a hay. We will drink tea and drive back to cook dinner for the whole family. It will be fun. In the evening we will go to a bathhouse for steaming and cooling with cold water. After that we will drink green tea and talk, talk, dream...

I will come home from work soon, hug mother's tummy, and you will feel the touch of my strong hands and hear my voice ... Your sister and I enjoy stroking mother's tummy every evening and watching how you hit your feet from the other side. We sing you cheerful songs with guitar's accompaniment, dance and have fun. We will teach you too when you will grow up. Recently your sister and I repaired our old piano, and mom arranges concerts! Mom has baked a delicious cake and is calling us for dinner.

Maybe I will see you in my dreams tonight!

Baby, born soon! We are waiting for you!

Mirea Nela - Romania

Dear Child,

I'm writing to you a Welcome letter. You are welcomed in a world where you should choose only what's good and to leave behind what's beautiful. In your childhood I will help you discover the fact that the fire burns and that the height makes you feel dizzy so that later on when you'll be a grown-up you stay away from everything is evil. I will offer you the love for reading so that you can travel freely through worlds and stories where you can meet characters that later on will guide you through life and I will show you that a gratitude smile can open hearts. That you shouldn't be ashamed to apologize when you make a mistake, but it's unforgettable to do it again. I will make you appreciate time and that comfort and love are unconditionally. I will show you how to love your country. We will pass through the history of our beautiful country and understand the fact that it depends on us that tomorrow world would be a better one. To understand what it means, to believe in what's good and never give back your way, no matter how hard it is, to find out what the truth means. I know you won't lie, I know this because, since you are a baby, you'll find out that this won't hurt just the others, but it will hurt yourself. You will be surrounded by people who will lie but you'll have to forgive them showing them how the truth looks like. You will realize that deep down in their soul they are good people. That there is nobody in this world who doesn't want to be loved and happy but as we aren't the same, they won't follow the same way through life. To some of us it takes ages to find the answers, to others it take just one day. I will teach you how to love in life. I will teach you how to choose what's suitable for you, to make a profession out of passion and love. Perhaps I will let you choose your job, but maybe I will try to inoculate your love for children and young people. I would be very proud of you knowing the fact that everybody owes you the way they have been educated and I will enjoy seeing that you've developed the love of teaching the others what's good in life. I will teach you how to respect the money. I will let you choose by yourself what you consider it's best for you after you listen to everybody's stories. You will understand that there is only one God and a single way in life: love. The wars started from good reasons would seem hard to you, and you'll find out that in order to do good things you should never hurt anyone. People should be allowed to choose their own ways, nobody should impose them what to do. You will learn how to love the old people and to learn from them. You will always seek for a person to confirm your values of Truth, Good and Love.

We are eager to meet you!!!

Odysseos Stylianos - Cyprus

My favorite child,

Tomorrow it will be the big day. I will take you for the first time in my arms. We would look to the eyes for the first time.

All this time we expect you with such longing and love, my soul ... My instinct told me that you're secretly a boy even though they told that you are a girl ... I don't hide you, that I was so nervous for a while.

We had everything ready, my angel! The clothes, your diapers, your accessories ... Your brothers waiting anxiously to play, to be embraced, to scold, to retrieve ... We had dreams in our dreams to play, to pat, to pamper ... along with your mother. Your sister had already distinguished the ribbons that I will give her, your brother caressed the belly of your mother and proudly said: "It's my little sister in there ..."

But most of all we had prepared the hearts and our arms ... A heart that with your silent and your dynamic presence, day by day made us more happy ... A hug would become even more high and wide to fit apart from your brothers and you! We had imagined you all these 9 months that your mother was carrying you in her womb, we had to caress the palms, we had to feel you move ...

But you did not come ... Your little heart stopped with it's your mother a week ago that awful morning and now I here with your older brothers but not full embrace you and your mother, imagine a large angel with angel the sky

Unfortunately sometimes the moments of joy are short brackets which paid hard... And I really enjoyed it very much that you will come ... I enjoyed it so much that even your brothers often complained about the excessive love which I showed you before even born. And finally I lost you and your mother at a time. Eventually they are right: "What brings hours brings no time".

Why did you leave me sweeties? I waited you with so much longing, I desire you so much ... Where are you? You were here supporting us and you gone ... Of course life does not need you or us. You're dead. Definitely going to die and we once did. But no matter, because life does not die ...

Bye sweeties, good to go, we love you ...

With love,

your family...

Onisiforou Antonis - Cyprus

Dear child

Before you open your eyes in this world and reality, I will try to find a way to make you see how life is. Of course it is very difficult of your the absolute innocence and purity will prevent you from understanding grown ups world and even harder of the people around you

So the only thing I have to do is to create your environment your small kingdom that will target i knowing that the best guide will be the good example and the right experiences. remind you of the parental security and serenity I will try to make people around you understand and have always in mind that through your parents you deserve and must cherish the equality affection and necessary respect .

If I could I would make your first cry entering in life to be the only one you would experience and your first smile to last for ever.

I do not intend to try making easy every difficult situation

because you are meant to be a fighter and visualizer of any success and victory in your life.

The aids and the facilities that you will be provided are the means to help you for evolution, success and personal improvement. By no means will these goods be the purpose or

If I ever humiliated you or even worse I thoughtlessly hurt you using physical and psychological violence I'd know that you would try to win the better of your life by using violence brutality.

In the world of the materialism high technology evolution and speed it would be hard but not impossible to help you find the balance between the materialist moral spiritual humanitarian and sentimental values.

And all these without forgetting event for a moment to lose the gifts and joys that your age could offer.

I want you to live like a baby being a baby like a small child, a teenager, or an adult being on that age.

I will support you to face every difficulty or challenge hoping to show the maturity and will power needed.

Reaching the matter of knowledge and education, again it's all yours, as I'll make you understand that both can be caned by you and not by anybody.

Motives and facilities by me, judgment research and conclusion by YOU

Everything you do in your life do it with love as love will embrace you for all your life.

Optimist and positive ness not interfere with your activeness or determination or take you away from reality, leading to illusions.

If you offered a beautiful rose just enjoy the charming and delicate aroma and the beauty of the flower ignoring the thorns.

But coming to the world as a baby I have only caresses, care tenderness for you. I will whisper you the fairytale of the new born princess and the fairies who came to give her graces, talents abilities, and charm. But her parents couldn't prevent wickedness and envy from doing harm.

I haven't met mean or good fairies or godmothers in our modern life.

You will get every blessing and support by your family and society. And as always good and evil co exist in tales the same happens in real life too.

I will fight to make you strong decisive and brave to be able to struggle against dragons, witches and evils of the contemporary society. To be able to enjoy living with others,

Co-existing, receiving, sharing and giving material or spiritual or other precious values.

Above all I will embrace you, give you the first caress, the first paternal kiss and make you FEEL what LOVE, LOVE, LOVE means.

Pastore Luuize - Latvia

Dear child,

Currently you are still in mother's womb, but soon enough you will come into the world and when you will grow up a little and ready to come into the world not only physically but also mentally to announce yourself to the big world, you will then receive this letter.

I want to tell you three stories.

The first story will be about time and place. I was born November the 2nd, 1986 in country that was then Soviet Union. The same year in May, when I was still in my mum's womb, one of the greatest tragedies in human history happened - there was an explosion in Chernobyl nuclear power plant. Five years later probably one of the greatest fortunes in the history of 20th century happened - the country I was born in, Soviet Union collapsed. Whilst the formation of the new Latvian state, I grew up in the yard happily riding on pigs, standing in the endless cues by the shop hoping to exchange a food coupon for some basic goods like sugar or flour, permitted to have one slice of bread a day, frightened by gangs of thieves that stole everything, even our underwear left to dry outside, and experienced experiments instilling democratic values on my generation as some kind of pilot rabbits. In general I was a happy kid, although I did not think in these terms back then. Everything changed in outrageous speed and we approached to the level of Europe's welfare, and it seemed that we are extremely lucky to experience this growth. It's year 2011 now and we are experiencing crisis all around the world - both on economical causes and mental, regarding the change and lack of values. Now I catch myself thinking that I'm not that lucky after all to live in this time.

But once I switched on one of those Discovery Channel or National Geographic programs picturing how nations, tribes and children live all around the world. It turned out that tiny little Europe and North America what we call the Western countries cannot represent the whole world no matter how we wanted. It also turned out that no matter how difficult living conditions sometimes seem, there are places in the world where a 25 year old young woman like me would not have all the liberties that I am given and the destiny of a child that is up to be born is going to predetermined by whether it is a boy or a girl and whether it will be born in a place where there is access to clean drinking water in order for him or her to survive.

You will be born in a country that is actually in a size of a dust in the world map, in a continent that sometimes possesses megalomania, yet you will grow up in one of the safest places in the world which is not affected by wars or nature catastrophes, where you will be allowed to believe what you would want to

believe - and change your belief any time - and become whoever you would like to become regardless of your gender, nationality or colour of your skin. And it is already a great start to a happy life!

The second story will be about happiness. Once a writer named Françoise Sagan met writer and philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre in Paris at times when he had become almost blind. Sagan, a little bewildered, asked Sartre if she could ask him a personal question. Of course, Sartre replied. How can you, a writer, not fall in despair when you have lost your sight? And Sartre responded - in my life, I had loved women, seen beautiful sceneries, enjoyed life fully and been a happy man. Of course, I can do none of these things now. I cannot be as happy as then. Right now I can simply be happy by an old habit.

I think that is beautiful said. It is possible that happiness is just a matter of choice. To be happy or unhappy is simply your own choice. The key is to make the choice intentionally, and the conditions, time and place, will not have power to make you neither unhappy or - what is more important - happy. It will be you who will make you happy.

As trivial as it may sound the third story will be about the meaning of life. A Danish writer Karen Blixen wrote a story on teenagers Peter and Rosa. At this age we start to ask ourselves existential questions on which, in the best scenario, we tend to search answers for the rest of our lives, while in the worst case - by discovering a suitable formula we exploit it until it becomes a dogma. In this story a teenager Peter was in the woods when he saw a beautiful, gingery fox. This encounter thrilled him as sometimes we are enraptured by the mystery of big, silent, starry sky. Rose, he said to his childhood mate, a work by a human determines how good a human is. You can not call someone great unless his works are great. Similarly, it is also with God. If God's work does not do him honour, how can he himself be honourable? But me - I am one of the God's works! This sudden apprehension that you have been created with a certain goal is shocking. Terrifying and miraculous at the same time. However we call it - God, the Creator, Universe, karma or float of energy - but we all have a mission on Earth. Peter reveals it like this:

"I've been gazing at the stars," he says. "I've been looking at the sea, the trees and animals, and also the birds. And I have noticed how well they all fit into the God's plan and that they've become just what God intended them to be. The other day I saw a fox. It looked at me and gently wagged it's tail. While I watched this I wondered, how good she'd understood to be a fox. All she did or thought was so peculiar for foxes, nothing in her possessed a thing that God would not intend her to have inherent. And she does not interfere; never does she block the path that was meant to be there for her. If the fox would not be so beautiful and complete, would also God not be so: beautiful and complete."

Luize Pastore

Popova Svetlana - Bulgaria

My dearest child,

You are welcome to join us!

Here you may see many interesting things that you have already seen.

Here you will do too many things better than you have done before.

With all my love I am telling you the story:

In the beginning it was only sky. Then came the earth with water in the darkness. Then the light was created and the day and the night were born. In the air above the oceans clouds were formed.

Then came the land with all the plants, seeds, trees, fruits on it. Sun and moon were to give light during the day and the night. Weeks, months, years, centuries to measure a circle of days. The stars were made to show us the right way. Fishes, birds, animals, reptiles, man, woman were blessed to live in happiness.

So be blessed you too to live here and enjoy every single day!

Rincon Joaquin - Spain

My dear little son.

When you read this letter, or when your mother to read it, I will not be here. Unfortunately I'll never get to know you, and that saddens me in the depths of my soul. Knowing that I will have the opportunity never takes you into my arms, or to play with you, gave me torment day per day. More even than the condition of the disease that keeps me so far away from you.

There is not a single moment that I not think of your birth. If you look like me or your mother. If you inherit the aquiline nose that characterizes me or if instead you have blond hair like her. Either way you are, I'm sure there's no one as beautiful and as charming as you in this world.

We cannot share memories and moments lived, not when you need me I'll be as confident, but do not forget that you are something of me. Remember that everything you do will always be something for me. And that, that's something that comforts me.

Your mother educate you well, you must confident her, she will never fail you. I know that in the rain and cold nights you sit next to mom and the heat of the fire for the umpteenth time you look the photos of our youth. Here you'll find me at every stage of my life, look good because you'll probably reflected in my.

I hope mom does not ever show you this picture that we're in the mountains and I had fallen from a rock, jajajaja I still remember how your mother could not stop laughing. Imagine, I was so big and rolling on the floor. Well, let me tell you what is really important, the main reason for this letter. You know you never were a wealthy family but rather just money. Therefore I cannot leave large inheritances or property, or land. However you lay the most precious thing I have: my love and respect for others never trample anyone and never let them do to you.

When you can read and write your mother give you this book. Open it. Don't be surprised, whether it is blank. Is the book of your life that you need to fill with the ink of your exploits and adventures, joys and sorrows ... complete it until the end, do not let even a blank page. Live the life!

My son, my time is coming and I have to go, remember that in the dark when you close your eyes, you can see me because I live in you.
I love you.

Tomanek Joanna - Poland

Dear Child,

I don't know your name yet, I don't know when are you going to read or hear this letter and when you will be able to understand its meaning. What the world will be like? Can happen that you are going to experience absolutely different world and social order than I live in.

Shortly before I was born the situation in the Poland was very difficult. Influence of Soviet Union was absolutely exhausting. Shops were empty and the only product that was available was vinegar. To buy anything people were staying in lines day and night. Then more and more strikes took place. The Solidarność movement appeared. The system transformation was implemented and the democracy in Poland became the truth. In a short time more and more shops started to appear. Finally also huge hipper markets entered the market and changed very much our shopping habits.

Another huge change was a technological jump: TV, computers, mobile phones, internet. When I was born there was not such a thing as a computer. The first one appeared in our home when I was about six years old. It was working with a magnetic tape. Later appeared the big and flexible floppy disks and after that, when I was entering high school also smaller and more resistant disks.

When I was 18 the CDs were in use, but it was a luxury to have at home the CD recorder. In my class had it only one person. Nowadays, in the every day life we are using pen-drives that memory exceeds several times the capacity of my first computer. In the end IT dominated the communication with others. We have emails, skype, facebook. What will come later?

I wonder how the world will be when you will be in the age of five, ten, fifteen years... In the moment of writing this letter huge changes take place. We have so called the "Arab spring" that is changing the Arab world in the direction of democracy. We have a financial crisis. We have also wars and ecological catastrophes... All that can change the world significantly.

Whatever happens, no matter how challenging it will be, I am sure that with love of your parents and a courage to face the humanity, you will have a good and satisfying life.

Veres Irina - Romania

Letter to my child

I did not even get birth to you and I write you. I will put well this text and I will show it to you when you will grow up, this just you to know how I saw you when you were only a dream... I imagine by now how I will keep my tears inside my eyes in the moment I will hold you in my arms. But I think it will be "that moment", the moment that will be without problems the most important moment in my life.

I suppose you will have almond eyes, and you will be neither too big, nor too plump, because I am little. But, I think you will be a sweet child and you will melt my heart in the second you will appear, then when you will walk, talk, or even when you will disappoint me. It is all right. I am ready. I am ready to be always behind you, and I know that at some time I have to hide, because you will not want me to do this anymore. You will wish to tread alone without anyone to protect you.

I know you will be a warm and loving child (then an adult), open, generous, friendly and cheerful, because you will inherit all these from me. I count on your father to touch you with some dust of reason, logic and power, not that I did not have them myself.

All you have to know is that whatever happens I will always be next to you. Any of your fears we will face it together.

And you should forgive me if I will exaggerate with education, and tease you to be sensed and polite.

In rest, remains as planned. I will be behind you even when you will not know that, and if I have to give up at me for you I will do it without hesitation.

I thought that, a good present would be to write about you, for you to see yourself through my eyes over the years.

Zvirbule Dace - Latvia

November 20, 2011

Renda

Hi, my dear little grandson,

I'm your Granny Dace and mum of your daddy Gatis. All of us are excitedly expecting you to be born at Christmas season this year. Your daddy Gatis and your mum Linda told me that probably your name would be Jēkabs. Although they are going to name you just after your birth, nevertheless I would like to call you by your name already now. So, I'm calling you Jēkabs. Hi, Jēkab!! That's a good name, and you, Jēkab, are expected very much by your big cousin Jurģis, whose dad Ģirts is the eldest brother of your daddy Gatis. Jurģis was born four years ago exactly at the Christmas Eve. So, he hopes that you also are going to be born exactly at the Christmas Eve and then both of you would have the birthday the same date. Jurģis looks forward to meet you soon. And so do I! I have attached to this letter a picture of Jurģis where he is at the Cave of Devil close to the Abava River. After you will be born we are going to take you to the Cave of Devil, and to the Rock of Devil, and to the Waterfall of Abava, and to the Chambers of Mara and to the Cave of Robbers... So that you could see how beautiful is your homeland Latvia! If your name is Jēkabs, then both names Jurģis un Jēkabs would start with the same letter and that would make a magic link between you and your cousin Jurģis. Your father's name Gatis also starts with the same letter as his brothers' names Ģirts and Ģints. That's my hope that they always will keep in touch and help each other.

If your name is Jēkabs, my little grandson, then you must be strong and wise man, because there has already been another Jacob - Duke of Courland, who was governing the whole Western part of Latvia during the 17th century. He also gained two colonies for the Dukedom of Courland - the Island of Andrew in Gambia in 1651 and the Island of Tobago in West India in 1652. But his main achievement was creating of shipyards and manufactures in Courland. At the times of Duke Jacob on the banks of Abava River and Dzezsāmurupe (Iron Hammer River) in Renda village people produced iron, glass, paper and oil, cultivated grapes and brew the famous dry wine of Renda.

I hope that nobody would push you to invade colonies and to war. I hope that you would never enter into any army at all. I will tell you and Jurģis Latvian fairytales and sing Latvian folksongs. In fairytales all heroes - Lāčplēsis (Bearslayer), Kurbads (Where is starvation) and the Old soldier - fall killed in action. And abusers get everything in the castles cleared by heroes.

So, my dear little grandson, your mother gives you birth not for a war, but for a peace and for a long, long life doing a job that saves lives instead of killing.

Maybe you are going to become an interpreter like your daddy and to help people better understand each other.

November 26, 2011

Renda

Excuse me, Jēkab, I haven't get back to this letter the whole week. There is a bank become bankrupt again here in Latvia, just because the stockholders from Russia and Lithuania have stolen one hundred million lats from their own bank. I had to write about it a lot for the newspaper, so, I didn't have a time to finish this letter to you. See, this country isn't as nice at all, but you have made your choice to be born here. I believe, you know for sure, why you are up to be born exactly in Latvia. Probably, you already have been here a long time ago as the duke Jacob, who made the Dukedom of Courland strong and rich, because he did not enter in any war. Maybe exactly you, Jēkab, are destined to do something so good that Latvians could be proud of our country again.

But the main thing, my dear little grandson, - I wish you to be born a healthy and happy boy and to live a long and happy life full of love! We all love you so much, Jēkab! Please, come to us in this world easy and merrily, my dear grandson! You are so welcome, Jēkab!

Merry Christmas!
I hope to see you soon,

Your Granny Dace



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