

Monday, July 26

Dear Rob,

Sharon is beautiful - and so are you. Your picture is now propped up on the mantelpiece with the others beside it. They arrived today. Please - more of you - and Sharon, the photo's, and other things you write about.

I've been writing all kinds of messages about lenses, etc. without knowing much at all about what I'm writing about - but the offer is definite: whatever it seems wise to buy because you would be likely to want it (like lenses - or exposure meter, flash, etc. - I assume there are people you can ask who know what they are talking about) I'll give you the money for. After all, it would cost far more to decide that you want them after you are back home.

Please - Dad and I would like a picture of a gecko.

Last night after dinner I went for a longer walk - about 45 minutes - returning about 8:15 to find Robert. Heustel settled in the living room - in the midst of one of the usual difficult conversations - that is, long stretches of silence - and long after Jack and Craig stopped by. They were at the Aerniseggens' for surprise and had taken the baby for a walk to put her to sleep. I went walking with them and then back to the Aerniseggens' to see slides and movies they had just had developed. When they walked me back home about 10:30, Robert was still there. He had had trouble with his battery (battery, as he calls it) - and had to call his father and the base. Finally after a banana and a glass of milk he left about 11:30 - and Dad brought him and Frank

up in the morning for breakfast, which
I made. Help! But as Dad said - in the
winter it's wonderful to see Frank
coming up with that snowblower.

I think I told you that in the fall the
Times Book Review published an article on
a trip to see D. C. foliage and second hand
bookstores. I loaned it to Jane and Craig,
and this weekend we are going to see
at least two of them in Connecticut. We'll
leave Thursday afternoon - stay at a motel -
stay at Millbrook Friday night - and come
home Saturday. Luggage, books, and all. One
place sounds perfect for you ^{and me, too} - it is run
by a couple in their early 70's - his
specialty is history and photography and hers
is children's books and cooking and gardening,
she has a stock of books illustrated by
Lockhart! The other is a branch of a big
book dealer Craig knows in New Haven.
If it is worth it - and it should be - I'd
like to go again in the fall when the leaves
turn. I maybe alone so my time is
completely free (I'm always afraid of either
holding back or rushing others) - so think
and start a list of things you would like
me to look for (and start thinking up ingenious
places where we can find more bookshelves).
Anyway, the trip should be fun.

I still love you - and think you look
intelligent, noble, and soulful - as well as
messy.

Love,
Lois