

29 October 1966

Dear Giuliano,

Welcome back to London, but now you must be very careful: no sudden movements, long naps if you can take them, and rest with your feet raised up. Don't worry, it won't be long now...

I'm sorry that we were not in London longer so that we could have seen more of Stefania, but we had to return, and I have been hard at work ever since. A few days ago I saw Janos Scholz, and he gave me this photograph that I am sending on to you. The sketch is oil on paper, 218 X 311, with a kind of pink-vermilion and grey paint. It is somewhat clumsy, but since it also looks very Cortonesque, I thought you might know the composition or the artist. Janos thinks it may be for a tapestry and has thoughts that it might be by Sebastiano Ricci. As for me, I have no ideas on the matter.

Carol and I did buy that Salvator Rosa from Jack Baer, and it raises a few questions that you may know the answers to. First of all, how big is the ex-Chigi picture? I have no idea of the size, but I would appreciate knowing this. Also, do you remember where the picture is? Or is that a secret? I would like a photograph if possible, so I am not just trying to find out something that perhaps the owner does not want known.

We had one long telephone call from Tony but no other word. He is far too busy at the moment to come to New York, but we expect to see him in December. He was full of ideas for names for our child: one of the better ones for a girl is Flavia Partita Cleopatra Ursula Claudia Maria. Of course that's one of the sets of names for a Principessa Muccavacca (the Vespasiani-Doppiozani branch), but Tony has given us permission to use it. For a boy the name is not so interesting: Cesare Tito Flavio, genannt Cici.

I am sure that you will have heard from Tony by now yourself. He was absolutely delighted at your good news, and he said that he was sorry not to be in London himself to keep Stefania company. Lo zio in ~~ix~~ perpetuità a multi nipotini.

Carol gets bigger and better. No trouble at all except for the rigid diet her doctor demands: one lamb chop a day + enough lettuce for a half-grown rabbit. She looks splendid but of course is always hungry. I have lost a few pounds myself to keep her company and do not object at all.

Please let us hear from you. Carol enjoyed Stefania's letter, and we would like to hear about all new developments. Our love to you both, and best regards to Ruth and Julius and Jack and Roddy, etc.

Love,
Milton