Nechamka Ronen to Fenya Kiev Post 4-1913 Fragment

Good Day, Dear Fenya!

Happy and Healthy New Year! We've got your last letter and New Year card. You know, I am quite surprised with your letter, with what you are writing about America. You write you envy me, because I live here, in Russia. And I am envious of you, that you are in America. I would have considered myself the happiest person, if I had been in America.

I don't know how difficult it would be (with regards to finding a job), but I prefer being in America better than to live here, where we Jews are considered a second-class people. It hurts so much when they try to insult us (not in this country where our people are hated by everybody. It is the most painful place, Russia, where a Jew can be easily humiliated). I will do everything, my best, to leave this country and go to America. If there is a possibility, no matter what you write me (even if you write so badly about it).

You complain (are sore) that I write short (very few) letters to you. But about what should I write? Days go one after another, without any change (life is boring, nothing to write about). I do not give lessons now because of the Jewish holidays. After the holidays I hope I will have more. I found some lessons (people to teach music to?) I do not go to the theater as I used to before. They now present too many new plays (they stage many new plays in dramatics and opera). Do you remember Turgenev's, "The Nest of the Middle Class Families?

...They now...

...I continue to take music lessons and maybe my lessons will be helpful for me there, in America, when I come there. Franka does not work. The pictures (*postcards*) that we've made are ready, but we do not look good in these pictures and I do not want to send them to you. Though, if you want I will mail them because they are the last ones where I am together with Rosa. My cousin from Fastov visited us in Kiev and I might go with him on Sukkot (*on the second day of the holiday?*).

Fenya! (Shame on you) We've asked you thousands of times to make some pictures and mail them to us. Is it so difficult (for you to fulfill our request)?

Be well, best regards from Moshka, Berta and everybody who knows you. Say hello to Leva.



