

Ronen Family to Fannie, Kiev, Beilis Reference November 4, post November 1913  
Reference to Beilis Case

Kiev, 4 November post April, 1913  
Family to Fanny

Dear Daughter!

We received your letter and were very happy that you moved back to New York. I don't know why but when you wrote that you were staying in Boston it hurt me for some reason, but earlier this wasn't so; maybe earlier it didn't hurt as much because I had formerly gotten used to the fact that you were in New York. My dear, why didn't you write why you left for Boston. Write me how your health is, how you're living: why is it impossible to convince you to send your picture, how many times have the children asked you to send your picture, and you don't send it. Is it really so difficult for you to fulfill this request! You asked that we [send] our photograph but I am always busy and therefore it's completely not in my head, and Papa is also always busy [feminine form] and the children had their picture taken but it didn't come out well, but they will send it to you anyway. My dear daughter! We sent you a letter to Boston and for so [long] didn't receive an answer that I worried terribly. I

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have been writing you letters but not waiting until you received [them] from us. Oh how I would like to see you, to talk not the way it was once when I didn't understand what it means to love – and now I understand. Forgive us for not answering sooner, we were busy with the Beilis affair but thank God he at least was acquitted [in October, 1913]. (You are probably aware who this important person Beilis is). Write whether you're working a lot, whether Lyova is working, how he is doing. I'm very disappointed that America doesn't please you, although such a one as you America can't please. Why when I ask you anything do you never answer me? Write me about everything; what do you look like have you gained weight? Do you see Evgeny, Rebecca, do you know that Liza is already in America. Write whether you received our letter which we sent you in Boston? (Nama is insisting [that we] write another[but] to obey her one needs to sit for three hours and even then you won't get done writing but however, it is necessary to satisfy her, or else...Franya's remark).

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Well my dear farewell don't forget your parents. Be healthy Answer right away.

Your parents

Bow to Lev from mother and father [written in margin]

At last Mama's finished write [imperative form, meaning dictating? Which we know she was doing]; terrible how we don't like to write mother's [letters], now I'll begin.

My dear wonderful Fenichka! I am totally not mad at you and I haven't written because I always was in a bad mood when it was necessary to write you, of course you forgive me, I hope that this will not happen in the future. I am not working yet, sit at home, you of course know what I do at home...But still you always argue and it's also not good to be home, occasionally you think about what to do [what is to be done] and you think yourself into such thoughts that you can't believe you could think yourself into them, in general it's very bad to be at home, but what is to be done; you probably will think such a stupid girl sitting at home thinking such things and doesn't think about [getting] something done, but believe me that I would like to [get something done] myself, but what's to be done when I have such a character/personality.

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Judge for yourself I'm no longer a little girl but nevertheless I still don't know anything about work: of course if I had studied/gone to school as one should. But whose fault is it [who is to blame]? We won't talk about that... You of course will say that it's my fault, let it be so – I won't argue... But anyway what's past is not talked about. And here – this work doesn't please me, and even if it pleased me you can't master it that quickly. But I feel guilty/ashamed and then that's not good and then – and for all that it takes a lot of time. Now you understand why I want so much to be in America, it seems to me that in America I would be able to do something/succeed at something, I don't say it'd be a lot but at any rate more than here. And now I've stocked up on patience and I'll wait until you take me [bring me there]; for which I will be eternally thankful to you and until such time I'll try to busy myself with something. But however, enough about me, let's move on to you.

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How are you living there, what are you doing, do you go for walks like you did here and in general what do you do there all day if you're not working. What kinds of clothes do they wear there, the same as here or different ones from ours? How do you feel amongst strangers, I understand that it's not like here but still... How is Lyova doing? Why do you never write anything about him, whenever the conversation even begins to turn to your relations you immediately are silent is it really that embarrassing to write us something, for which I will be very thankful. When will you write more? Farewell I kiss you and be happy

Franya [Franka]

PS Heartfelt greetings to Lyova and his sisters. All acquaintances bow to you [salute you] and especially the Chudinsky's and Misha [?] Chudak.

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Hello dear Fenya!

Forgive me for not answering your last letter for so long. But you see – here in Russia we are following the Beilis affair so closely that there was no time to write. About this affair the whole newspaper was full daily, all day I am busy and I wanted to know all the details of this affair, therefore I had to read in the evenings. Fenya! Write how you spend time in general, whether you go to the theater, whether you're working, in a word, write about everything that touches/has to do with you. Here with us for a time the talk about leaving for American has stopped for the moment, but I still think that sooner or later we also will be there. Now I have lessons again for 25 rubles per month, maybe it will be even more, but probably I don't know... Until now I haven't been anywhere because the Jews (I don't know if all of them?) gave their word during the Beilis trial not to attend entertainment venues. Now I want to, as possible, attend the theaters more often. This year in the Solovtsovsky Theater there's a very good repertoire. I was there only once for "Nest of the Gentry" [a play based on Turgenev's novel] and I attended a few concerts. In a word, what can I tell you – over time a person's habits and general views on life change.

Such a change has occurred recently with me. Fenya! I already wrote that I, Roza and Franka had our photo taken but it came out not very well, but if you want, I'll send you the card (for lack of stamped paper they write on plain) as the saying goes but you didn't answer me anything to this suggestion/offer. Roza left for home long ago not having finished her cure. She would have needed to be in Kiev for longer but the delineated time to finally/conclusively heal her legs is not

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predictable and besides the treatment costs her 50 rubles a month for the doctor besides living [expenses].

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That would be okay. After all for certain you remember what a marvelous memory she had, and/but now...Do you know that she can read a letter several times and is unable to retell what is written there an hour later. Maybe this will pass with time, since she told us that formerly it was much worse, but for the time being "sit at the sea and await the weather" [there's nothing that can be done about it, especially if you don't try anything]. And that's how things are turning out for her as well. But she does remember absolutely everything that happened before her illness. Dear Fenichka, write more and absolutely get your picture taken! This request accompanies every letter we send you and remains a [unfulfilled] request. Goodbye. [Until we meet] that is until the next letter, and for now goodnight...I'm going to bed now.

PS A bow from Mashka, Mme Bedereva and all [your] acquaintances. Hello to Lev and his sisters.

Nechama

4.  
 Pnygdu carara a gnet re astatubnadi, u. ad gny  
 nygduam. A euy revere ut ~~carara~~ hnygdu br  
 padomni: monito reuadi a gnyuadi kar. euygny  
 de kmo luyobani. cor amadi re dygdu.  
 reuyub... mu reuano exatetui mo a, dygdu  
 dygdu: madi euyub re emady... de lee madi  
 rnygnyuadi a madi re reuyam. U boni- ana  
 padoma madi- rnygnyubadi, da mo reuadi dygdu  
 rnygnyubadi u mo re madi exepo luyubadi.  
 a mo madi emadi, a mo reuyubadi, a mo madi  
 u no luyubadi mady nygnyuadi luyubadi  
 Pnygdu mu rnygnyubadi rnygnyuadi madi  
 luyubadi dygdu br dygnyubadi, mu rnygnyubadi  
 mo. a dygdu br dygnyubadi mo rnygdu da gnyubadi  
 re exatetui rnygnyubadi, de luyubadi euyubadi  
 rnygnyubadi. U boni gnyubadi rnygnyubadi  
 u dygdu rnygnyubadi rnygnyubadi rnygnyubadi  
 a madi dygdu luyubadi dygnyubadi, a mo rnygnyubadi  
 rnygnyubadi gnyubadi rnygnyubadi. de dygdu. de dygdu  
 dygnyubadi cor madi rnygnyubadi u madi.

[illegible]



[illegible][illegible]



2. писала письма, а не ждала пока ты получишь  
этот пакет. Не как бы сама хотела уведомить  
тебя, поговорить с тобой как когда-то ты и  
не хотела поговорить, что знаешь любить — а так  
я и пишу. Прости что я так мало пишу  
и отнимаю твои занятые часы. Письма  
но сама пишу что от себя оправдываю (тебе пишу  
уверенно что это великий недостаток). Письма  
мне работало и ты, работало и я, как  
яг поживает, очень сильно досаждало что ты так  
не привнесла Америки, но все же так приятно  
печалиться, когда такой как ты Англичан не слышишь  
уверенно. Потому когда я чувствую что надо написать  
вам, то ты мне никогда не отвечаешь. Письма  
все время; как ты пишешь и выходишь по  
вниманию и ты. Видишь ли ты ее ввела  
с Рокки, знаешь Лиза уже в Америку.  
Письма пишу и ты мне писала много  
и ты сама писала в Boston. (Маме  
тоже писала много еще писала, что ем  
и ее уверенность то нужно писать при тебе,  
и то не все еще пишешь, но очень нужно  
уверенно, а не так.



[illegible]