

Teresa's letter to sister Rosina

My dearest sister,

I have received the letter that you sent through Antonietta. I am happy that you are well as I can assure you of our good health as well. You have to excuse me if I did not respond sooner, but I had to wait for Domenico's return, so that I could go to his house and find out about the things you asked. I asked our mother (about the will) and she said that she did not talk about it since you left. She made me understand that she is ready to do it according to her desire. I told her that she does not have to do it only because I suggested something. She says that she has in mind to do it. After all, she says that if she wants to change it, she can always do it after.

My dear sister, we don't have to worry about this. Our brother also says that nothing bothers him. Our mother can go to his house and get whatever she needs. For this reason, my dear sister, we must close our eyes on everything because if I come there, they remain alone. It is better that they are in good terms among themselves because

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if I come to stay with you, we can remain tranquil and reassured that we have a brother in Italy who takes care of our old parents. It is right that we bear everything for them. In fact, anytime I say that I plan to come to America, our father has tears in his eyes. Therefore, I wish that they stay in full agreement with our brother, so that we can stay calm.

My dear sister, all of us in the family had the pictures taken, but they did not come great. As soon as we will receive them we will mail them to you. Our niece Mariantonia took a picture of herself on Sunday and, on Wednesday she had high fever. It seems that it is scarlet fever. Her father is so nervous. Let's hope that it is something mild and, that it will go away soon.

My dear sister, I sent you a letter on Jan. 2, with a little picture of me & Mariantonia. Let me know if you received it; I placed double stamps to be sure.

Regarding that pig of Cosimo, it was almost all true what he wrote to you, but, it would have been better if a roof had closed his mouth. About two weeks ago, he wrote again to me, to Andrea, imploring forgiveness from all of us. I did not answer him. I have no interest. After he sent "the officer", saying that he wants to make up with me. He says that soon after our marriage,

We would come to America together, because to leave alone it's not good. But, I don't want to make up with him. He was too angry and hurt and I fear he is not sincere. Probably, he wants to laugh behind our shoulders.

Since the 6<sup>th</sup> of this month, I feel alone because Augusta left for Milan. She is nervous for the death of her mother. She has an older sister that leaves her two children with her. So far, she did not return she says, when she returns to her house, I have to do everything. She thinks she's the princess, because every day she goes to the Maddalena Hospital to cure the wounded.

I did not have the time to go to your employers. But, I can tell you that the brother with all his family are well and are living in the country. From there they ask the "baron" for help & mercy, that he may go to pick them up. But, he is not in a hurry because Mimietta does not want them in the house. That's what I know.

My dear sister, let me know <sup>if</sup> I can do some work there because you know that I have expenses even for the trip's two way ticket. I can have ideas on planning everything from your advices. Help me to decide whether I have to bring with me all the linens and clothes that I have, or only the things I need in the short time. I always follow your advice. Let me know everything.

Teresa to sister Roscoe 1

Regarding the doubt you have expressed, mother says also to be careful, to take care of your health and not trust even <sup>the helper</sup> that you have now. Do you understand?

Write soon and give me all good news. Nisi Di Bene greets you and she always asks about you. We like each other. We always joke and laugh a lot. She says she would like to leave with me. Here all send you greetings; The Di Bono sisters; Nanniella, O' Ruffate; his son Malsi, sends you many kisses. So many kisses and embraces & blessings from mother & father and so many kisses and embraces from whom always loves you - your sister Teresa.

P.S. Give our best greetings to your husband, from me and all. Tell him to write a few lines in your letter. I want you to know that Concettina Cimmino never showed up. She never came to visit us. I did not go to visit her either.