

Alexandria  
January 15

Dear Stacy and Henry,

You're so right, Henry. I despise all inventions after 1800 (AD)

If I could get away with it I would write with a quill pen the way Beyle did when he wrote one of the greatest books of all time, Le Rouge et Le Noir, in seven weeks!!!

I do have a computer, named Beelzebub for the God of darkness, with whom --and various successors--I have been locked in mortal combat since Mary Lee bought one of the first ones in 1982 and we almost destroyed a glorious winter vacation on Martha's Vineyard learning to use it.

However, I have resigned myself to the telephone....

Purpose of this is to convey endless thanks. The guy you recommended called Caroline the next day and she is sending him her CV and will meet with him at his convenience. Right now she has an immense problem. Her eighty-year-old father is dying and the he is the "caregiver" for her paralyzed and wheelchair-ridden mother (he refuses to put her in a nursing home). She's going out to St. Louis this weekend in an effort to comfort her father and find a solution to her mother which probably means bringing her back here and putting her in a nursing home.

She's got a job at Georgetown until July but I'm gently nudging her to take whatever comes up. The Alternative is working in the trenches at an HMO and, while she loves dealing with patients, I doubt if she could handle doing this full time. It's both physically and emotionally draining, as you probably know.

She's insistent on my not "imposing" on you, and I told her that's what friends are for. I can only reciprocate by taking you and Stacy to the best restaurant in Florida--or Washington---if you're ever up here. "My house is yours" as the Arabs say. I have a two bedroom two bath condo with an indoor pool et cetera---nothing compared to what you offer, but what the hell.

I've been very lucky in the market. Had my stuff in conservative stocks brining in 12 percent a year---and lost nothing during the crash. Since then I've really lucked out, putting a bundle in J.P. Morgan when it went from 52 to 15 and is now up to 39 again!!! Plus which my condo has doubled in value over the last three years. I'm dazed at my

good luck and recently when it comes in my old age when it is meaningless.....

Anyway, when she can get away, (she's "on call" a lot of weekends delivering endless babies...) we'll come down for a couple of days.

I'm hoping to drag her across the ocean to Corsica for a week over spring break. I'll spend two weeks trying to get interviews with the "nationalists", both their legal "vitrine" and the "clandestins". the first should be easy---the second probably impossible. I spent three months there several years ago, and the mayor---a Bonaparte!!!--thinks I'm in the CIA--

The Corsicans, like everybody else, think they're the navel of the universe. I doubt if Bush could find it on the map or Tenet either----

Hals und Beinbruch,

et un abrazo muy fuerte para Stacy,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'EJ' or similar initials, located below the typed text.