

33 wells way

london SE5 OPX

19th Dec., '81.

Dear Dumile,

I must apologise for having taken so long in writing. I had reckoned that by the end of this year, I should have had the chance of coming over to the U.S.A. for a visit. So many things have prevented me from so doing.

It is not possible to hide from you that Tana and I have been engaged in a prolonged, full blown, overdue, Seven Years' Itch; so much so that for a long period we've been virtually strangers to each other, pulling in different directions. The only thing that has prevented a divorce is the fear of having the children taken away in care, after having struggled so long to keep together and the fear of sending them back to the hussles of life in South Africa. I even stopped painting and completely lost interest in art or anything pertaining to art, wishing I could sever all family and friendship ties and just go to Tibet or anywhere millions of miles away. This sort of made me withdraw to myself for a long, long while.

Your two letters and the snappy jacket you sent me really reminded me that in spite of all the adversities of life, there always