

October 19, 1972

Mr. M. Tabor
16 Collegiate Crescent
Sheffield, Yorkshire, England

Dear Mike:

It was wonderful hearing from you again. If I can read between the lines -- and with your letters, I generally try to -- you seem to be quite happy with your situation with, of course, one exception. I take it that the young lady in Israel and you have severed all relations. Worry not, my friend. I have always maintained that there is a special reason for the particular language used by the Sages when they said that *the Almighty*. The interpretation is a bit heretical, but I think there is an insight in it: even the Almighty, *He*, has to sit down for such an enormously complicated task of finding the right *words* for a person. And when He devotes so much attention to the matter, there is no reason for us mere mortals to be overly concerned.

In an interesting coincidence, your letter arrived at the same time that a letter from another young friend, currently with the U.S. Air Force in Thailand, came to my desk. He too wrote about discovering a re-emerging Jewish identity *at* a time when his whole society was non-Jewish. Of course, his case is much more severe than yours, but both seem to indicate that the *spark* sparkles in the darkness. To both of you go my wishes that now that you are aware of the power of that spark, that you will remain sufficiently -- convinced of its strength for the rest of your lives so that you can now afford plenty of light and joy in your environment.

I am delighted to hear that you are planning another trip to the States in the near future. Please give me advance notice and I very much look forward to meeting you again.

My wife and all my children join in their warmest regards to our Lub-ly English fiddler-friend.

Cordially,

RABBI NORMAN LAMM

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