

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Herefordshire [REDACTED].

29 July 1999

Dear Tristram,

I have been talking to [REDACTED] on the phone this morning. He had thought, for some reason, that I should be acquainted with your situation over there in Japan.

I am not proposing to take sides or to say whose version of events I find the most plausible. We have our own lives here with its attendant problems and we cannot afford to become involved in all the accusations and counter-accusations between you and [REDACTED]. However, I do feel terribly sad for [REDACTED] ^{the} wondering how she will grow up without a stable family background and whether she will become a victim of a tug-of-war between you. Also if it is true about your having borrowed a large sum of money from the [REDACTED] family, I do hope that you will make strenuous efforts to repay them as they would appear to have taken you in as one of their family and to have given you great support.

What does concern me more than the ups and downs of your private life are the consequences of your business dealings as [REDACTED] had little in the way of good news to relate. His assessment of your situation was quite bleak. He thinks that within a couple of months you will either be in prison or you will have had your legs broken. As your mother, I would not want either to happen to you. Of course, if you are completely blameless, you should have nothing at all to worry about. However, if there is any truth in what he says, you ought to be made aware of the situation so that you might be able to take some action to redeem the situation. But I have to remind you that I am absolutely powerless to help you.

I hope that I have made my position clear and that I do not have to be dragged any further into this mess.

[REDACTED]