

July 12, 1951
Bethesda

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Dear Aunty Piet,

Would you please start right now hunting around for a sitter or something like a sitter for the night of August first? We are going to go up to New York that day, and William has written for a reservation at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where we stayed last summer. The remarkable Miss Roddy has turned out to have an elderly aunt living in New York whom she would like to visit anyway, and will pay half her own way up there from Washington. She will be with us until we get on the ship. Mother will bring Laurence up to N.Y. on the second, because the car will be too full of babies and baggage to hold anything more than us. So the night of the First, a Wednesday, we will be free to enjoy your company if only you can make it. I suppose you'd have to spend the night, since it's such a trek out to Levittown. Do you think you can do it? It would be WONDERFUL if you could. Try.

I don't know the address of the Fifth Ave. Hotel, but it's near Washington Square. We'd be running around on errands and getting the babies taken care of until five or six, I imagine, but from then on we ought to be in line for festivities unless things get out of hand more than I think they will. Couldn't Uncle Albert come directly from his office, and you from wherever you have parked Billy and Michael? As I said before, please, please try. How fun to have dinner together and sit around bathed in tears of farewell over whiskey sodas! I can hardly wait.

Write and tell me whether you think it's possible.

Love,