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Sinclair Lewis Letters

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2-17-1933

### Letter, Sinclair Lewis to Virginia Lewis [February 17, 1933]

Sinclair Lewis

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "GEORGIADES, PICCY," LONDON.



GEORGIAN HOUSE,  
BURY STREET,  
ST JAMES', S.W.

17th February, 1933.

Darling Virginia,

I am writing from London, where I am staying for three or four weeks on my way back to America. We have spent the entire winter in Austria and Italy and we are all frightfully well.

Mickey is now an enormous young man of two and a half, who is beginning to talk quite fluently. He calls his mother Dorothy and me Mr. Lewis. We have so far been unable to find out exactly what the significance of this is. We have no doubt that within another few months he will turn round and call her Mrs. Lewis and me "Red" or "Hal" or anything you can think of.

We have had a house up in the Austrian mountains (3,000 feet up) and a very small flat in Vienna to which we have gone for two or three days a week.

It has been a nice winter, and I have been able to make a start on my new novel after 'Ann Vickers'!

GEORGIAN HOUSE

I am sure it was marvellous having Freeman home last summer. He is one of the most promising of all the young publishers in New York - quite aside from any prejudices that I might have as to his being my nephew.

No, I think your mother is mistaken in saying that I regard it as necessarily wrong to leave the University and use the same money in travelling. However, that is something which must be decided in each individual case. Personally, I don't think a great deal of Universities, but then, on the other hand, travel can be a complete waste. The idea that wandering from place to place is necessarily educative is wrong. Equally, the idea that sitting day after day in the University is necessarily educative is wrong. It has to be a choice which applies differently to different people. Certainly I do not think that it would be an error to drop out of the University for a year and see something of the pageant of life, and then perhaps go back. But I certainly do not want to intrude on this distinctively family problem of yours. I can only say that, as for myself, I have had infinitely more from travel than from University education.

All my love to you and to the family,  
Ever,  
*Sirhan Lewis*