

BIRTHDAY LETTERS AND OTHERS



encouraging next generations

dear Judith

2 june 2017

first of all congratulations with your 9^e birthday - at that age, I remember, I liked comics - very much !
- but alas, at that time teachers were not found on strips - by looking only to the pictures we were supposed not to learn reading correctly - especially my father thought as such - so he did not like to see me prisoned by the comics newspapers were filled with - the more while he did not allow me to open them as first - with each day a new episode I could not wait until the daily newspaper was delivered - once the comics red secretly, I folded the newspaper as new - helas, many times I failed - with an angry father as consequence I was not happy with - lucky for father as well as for me his fear was ungrounded - I learned reading well - so finally he gave up his comicresistance

from then on he allowed me to read the newspapers as first one - end good all good, isn't it ?



this brings me to you, dear Judith - admiring you (and your brothers) since you are doublelanguaged - reading and speaking in english as well in french language as you do - which one do you like most ? - in which one do you prefer comics ? - which are your favorite ones? - if reacting spontaneously, in which language do you respond ? - in which one do you think ? - assuming thinking as a form of speaking silently in yourself - in which one do you dream ? - or are you dreaming in pictures ? - in fact as comics are made from - or better: in moving ones, as in films - I myself I think the latter - although I am not sure - once awakened, answers ever escape - so I gave it up to know - it makes no difference - my dreams are working after all - even at my age - hope this will happen to be for you the same

by the way, I still fold newspapers after reading as brand new, especially lolkje is happy with

so I end now - totally yours - lolkje and grandfather anthony (ton)

ps

enclosed your birthday money - this letter turned out to be too long for writing at the back side of a postcard I used to do - hope you did enjoy

ps

at the center pluk van de petteflet, translated in arabic - enclosed also a copy of the film - the strips I did like the most are those from suske and wiske - ask dad for them - he owns the ones I bought from my first pocket money - once you draw an own little comic, with you as a jockey, please send

dear oscar

1 june 2017

first of all congratulations with your 11^e birthday - at that age, I remember, I liked to be outside all the time - living upstairs, in a small, noisy house in the center of the town, it was forbidden to play with my friends there loudly - the customers of the patisserie at the floor my mom served with sweets did not dare to hear we were there - and indeed we were not most of the time - although I was instructed to come after school directly home we often went to a little field - mom was busy in the shop, not really missing me - there we played football - forming teams we made our goalposts out of the coats we did take off of course - forgetting time it became later and later - all of sudden we realized it was time to stop, time to go home - so we did - but alas, in a hurry: I without coat

think you know I am talking about - having experiences as the like ? - please tell



next day I was lucky to have still another coat - so I didn't tell mom I had forgotten, probably even lost, the one of yesterday - after school we went again to the field, hoping to find the coat of the day before - alas, no coat - make a goalpost now, my friends yielded to me - so, just like the day before, I did take off my coat, laying down it at one side - my friends doing the same at the other side as well as opposite - so we started our match - it was around 1953, and I was abe lenstra, the most famous dutch footballplayer out of that time - my best friend, he was kees rijvers - ask dad, he surely will remember these names - forgetting time we realized again we had to stop, time to go home - in our hurry you imagine what happened - again I forgot my coat

next day I told mom - it was october and cold - before I buy a new one you have to freeze, she said

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as a special present I send the highlights of the dutch team at the world cup 2010 - with the famous trainer louis van gaal - they lost the final against spain - playing brutal, alas - see photo offense nigel de jong - according to johan cruyff he deserved red

dear vincent

14 januari 2017

first of all congratulations with your 13^e birthday - at that age, I remember, I collected stamps - uncles and aunties delivered letters and postcards - from them I scissored (does that verb exist?) the stamps - by laying them in water they came free - after drying I did put them in the album I bought - although I classified them by country it was a chaotic mess - so I limited collecting to one country only: my own - however new problems did arise: how to reach completeness? - the stamps I got were the most regular ones - exchanging double ones with friends did not help - they suffered the same - only a few nowadays series I successfully completed at that time - let it be series out of the past - for that I had to invest money - the money I did not have

think you know I am talking about - having experiences as the like ? - please tell



so I ended collecting stamps - beer mats (coasters) became now my favorites - I myself, too young for visiting pubs, again uncles and aunties delivered them - once received I pinned them on the walls of my room - classifying not needed! - once the walls were full, even the ceiling, motivation was gone - jumping in time now: at my forties I restarted collecting stamps for some years - as a cultural phenomenon, commenting history, important events, nature, art, science, sports etc., I still like stamps - the same goes for coins and notes - however never collected them, in 1994 I could not help, I bought the note I am offering you as a special present - editing the french fairy tale 'le petit prince'

did you read the book? - your mam, she did I am sure - your dad, I think too

so I end now - totally yours - lolkje and grandfather anthony (ton)

ps

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examining the note under ultraviolet light, the sheep (left under) colors green - holding the note before lamplight, please focus the little prince - turning the note you will see his clothes colored different - so, fraud was difficult

dear maxime

30 november 2016

first of all congratulations with your 15^e birthday - at that age, I remember, I tried at first to make a date - the young girl I liked, I knew where she lived - she at her turn did not know me - but as a pity I did not realize that at that time - since she went to the same school and lived in the neighborhood I thought she did - so, after long deliberating and not daring, I decided to locate myself for her house - with my bicycle - before school was starting - so, one day I did - there she came - "I like to accompany you to school" I said - without any introduction of myself - "why would you?" she asked - "because I visit the same school" I answered - "no reason enough for that" she replied - "my bicycle is elsewhere" - and gone she was

think you know why I failed - think you would do better - please tell



now about the stamps and cards I am offering you as a special present - stamps and cards honor the 100e birthday of fiep westendorp, a famous dutch illustrator of children-books - wellknown from her drawings of jip and janneke in the books for young children about these two - ask dad to show you where to find them in the bus at the stamp - if he can't, give him a looking glass - if he can't either, ask him about "pluk van de pettenflet" - that's another famous book illustrated by her - guess dad is able to point to that pluk in the bus - if there is a translation his name surely will be pluck - if there is I will send you - so you can tease dad with something out of his young years - maybe you read it too

if not than vincent - if not, than oscar - if not, than judith - if not, than mom - if not, dad again

totally yours - lolkje and grandfather anthony (ton)

ps

enclosed € 50,- considering 15 as an age, suitable for to change former present habits - once vincent, oscar and judith reach that age, it will be the same for them - as oldest one you goes ahead

ps

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