

Ans'd.  
28 May

May 16<sup>th</sup> 1970

Dear Mrs. Mitchell

Pardon me for my long silence. How are you? Did Shojyo-san from Antaiji visited you? How did you like him? He looks very stubborn but I think he is a good monk. He is supposed to go back to Japan in 6 or 7 monthes, but I think he should stay longer any way.

Now, I am reflecting upon my life in America when I just come here, like what I did to you or what I said to you and how kindly you helped me.

I shall never forget the soft puffy parcel post which you send me soon after I left your home, as well as beautiful shell, plants in it, a bird's nest from Cape Cord, and interesting books.

I opened the parcel very carefully so that I might not brack it. I do not know whether you remember it or not what it was. <sup>I hope not.</sup> Any way I was very much

embarrassed when I <sup>opened it and</sup> saw something in it. 2.  
It was something so important for me as  
to tie it always around my body, but  
for some one else it is worse than a hand-  
kerchief on a wayside bench.

Shojyo-san arrived at San Francisco  
on January 15<sup>th</sup>. and next day Tatsugami  
Roshi came. Tatsugami Roshi is a famous  
master for his strictness but our stu-  
dents at Tassajara liked him very much.  
he is coming for next training period again,  
which starts next October and ends in De-  
cember.

We had nice opening ceremony last  
25<sup>th</sup>. I enclosed the clipping of a Japanese  
newspaper.

Although I was always in San Francisco,  
this spring was very busy one for me.  
Now, Tatsugami Roshi went back to  
Japan and Yashida Roshi is coming to  
see Zen Center on 22<sup>nd</sup> of this month.  
She will stay here for 3 weeks just  
to see Tassajara and Page St. Zendo

This coming fall I must visit Japan with my wife. This time my trip may not be so busy one as before I hope, but it means that I cannot see you this year. I shall miss you very much. Please take good care of you and also your husband.

With gassho

Rev. Shunryu Suzuki

I have been in bed for 5 days. but Today I enjoyed nice sunbath in our sun-dack this year I am much stronger - I am realizing now how weak I was last year.