

St. Sinistra, 5 January  
Dimsford House, London

Honored Lady,

It pleases Me that You have the Wit and  
Gumption not to feel obliged to wait on your Father's  
Permission to reply to my Letters. Of course He  
could not refuse You the Opportunity of writing  
to Myself, his new Friend and Governor.

While I customarily describe the Beauty of  
my little Kingdom, this Time I have less than good  
News to impart. Your Father has been taken ill of  
a wasting tropical Disease. My own Surgeon has  
reviewed his Condition and predicts that without loving  
Encouragement, He may not survive more than a few Months.

Dimsford, too ill to write Himself, begged Me to  
inform You, his only Daughter, of his Situation. With due  
Respect, I suggest that You take ship to St. Sinistra  
by the first Opportunity. I am convinced that the  
Sight of your beloved Face will dissuade your Father  
from his Melancholia.

I have instructed Capt. Bartholomew Davis,  
of my Flagship *Safond Deux*, to deliver You to my  
grateful Charge; He should arrive in London directly  
after You receive this Missive. Pray accept this  
Banknote to defray the Cost of a new Wardrobe;  
any Guest of Mine must be suitably dressed.  
Trusting that your Voyage will be comfortable, I am,

Your most sovereign Lord,  
Governor of St. Sinistra,

Jean Lafond