Sabine, aged 12, in Berlin, shortly before immigrating in 1933.

Summer 1931 in Berlin. 18 months later we left for South Africa.

Children of Alex
Bina
Call in Early Morning
704-804
U.S.A.

Suzanne Hirst
7301 Normandy Drive
Richmond
Virginia 23229-6730

27-21-689-(4433)
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Please check in at the American Airlines Desk Boston at least one hour prior to flight departure. Please ensure that your passport is up to date and you have all the relevant visas for this trip. We can provide full comprehensive travel insurance. Thank you for booking with Western Air Travel. Have a pleasant trip.

Mary Ann Brock  
England  
11/44
30th April

Fairnhead Court
Cape Town
Telephone: 27-21-689-4433

Dear Susie,

it is always lovely to hear you on the phone. I think you are managing wonderfully well. I know how much you miss Frizzel, you looked after her so well and I know how much you loved each other. I'm glad you have good friends who help you not to feel too lonely.

Here's another photo of me, so that you don't forget your cousin! My S. African nephew Stephen (Wolf-Jürgens's son) took it in Kenya, which is on the Indian Ocean - we had a little holiday there and visited some lovely game parks and saw plenty of warthogs (see picture below) and even a family of elephants and lots of buck. Now I'm back in Cape Town till June 10th and then I'll be in Germany for 3 weeks and then in England.

But I'll let you know my address and telephone...
number two. My little home is rented out, so I’ll be staying with daughters and friends.

Next year, when I’m based in England again, I’ll try to come and visit you. I’ll be nearly 83 by then.

Lots and lots of love

from

X Bina X
Gabriele

Susie Hirsch
7301 Normandy Drive
Richmond
Virginia 23229 - 6730

U.S.A.
Bina Gibson

From the 1st of September 2001
my Address will be:

Sabine
FAIRMEAD COURT
6 COLLEGE ROAD
RONDEBOSCH 7700
CAPE TOWN
SOUTH AFRICA

Until August 2002
2nd August 01

43 Hunter Moon.

Dearest Susie,

I will ring you before I leave for South Africa on the 10th of August, but want you to have my new address. Perhaps I can visit you after I get home – I would love to see you – we are both lonely. It’s really hard to live alone when you have lived with someone and loved them for so long. You were such a wonderful sister to Gretel. I love you very much.

Your cousin

I’m 81 this year!

× Sabine or Birchen or Bina x
Dearest Suzie,

it was so nice that you rang me back the other day and you sounded well and strong. I know how much you miss Grell and how happy you were living together and looking after her. It is still the same for me, I still miss Dave's company, even though he died in 1993. But we adapt to it — we have no choice — and we are lucky to have friends who care about us. And cousins! You and I are part of each other's family.

I like being here in South Africa because I have total privacy in my room but always know that there are other people around in case...
I need them. For me it's also lonely not to have to stop for food or cook my meals—I'm lazy—and would always prefer to do other things like writing my "family book".

I think I told you that there is a big conference in Berlin in June for people—Americans, Jews & Germans, whose lives have been deeply affected by the Holocaust, so I'm going to take part in that. Then I'll spend 2 months in England to visit all my daughters & friends and then return here for another eight or nine months and then return "permanently" to England. Nothing's very permanent at our age—except love!

Then I'll come to visit you— for your beautiful fall in October 2003. So mind you keep well! It will be lovely to be together again—I love you & care about you—wish we lived in the same country!

Hugs & lots of love
x Bina x
29th October 1999

Dearest Grellie & Susie,

it will really be wonderful for me to get
this unexpected chance of seeing you again.
Please don't go to any trouble — I need
very, very little food or comfort or any luxury
please stick to all your habits as my friend
Ariadne always says before she comes to stay.

Much love & many thanks for saying you can
put me up - if by any chance it is not how convenient for you to have me, here are all the phone numbers where I will be.

Or I could go to a small hotel.

It will be my first (and most likely only) visit to the USA and I was expected to make it. Nor did I know that I would be leaving on Thanksgiving Day! Hope it all works out!

Lots of love from "Brenchen"
Ms. S. Hirsch
730 Normandy Drive
Richmond, VA 23229
U.S.A.

1/8/2003
Dear Susy,

Every year at Christmas my Mum, Erika Busing, in Ottawa, and I think about you, and wonder how you are. I know it is not Christmas for you, but I hope Mum and I would write to you just so we could keep in touch. Your sister, Gretel, was so much part of our family for many years. She came to visit us many times in Canada.

My Mum, who is now 90 yrs. old is doing pretty well. In Ottawa she still lives in her own home (b) and is near to my sister, Monica, and two brothers, Jack and Nicholas. She is very fortunate. I only see her once a year, but we talk every week, if not more. She is quite a lady. She enclosed letter will not mean a lot to you. It is just Vernon, BC
23 Dec. 2002
a way to say “hello”
and keep in touch.
We wonder how you are.

Helping Canadians living with cancer
Pour aider les Canadiens à vivre avec le cancer

Most sincerely,
Sabine (Bini) Davison

artist/artiste: Brooke Gibson
Saline Gibson (Bina)
August 2003

43 Hunters Moon
Dartington
Totnes
Devon TQ9 6JT

Telephone: 011 44 1803 864267
Dearest Grete & Susie,

I think it’s not long ago that I answered a lovely letter from Grete, but of course by now I have forgotten when it was and what news I gave you.

We are in our very pleasant "sheltered" (with aeward) winter flat (for the winter of our years?) — it is quite hard to adapt to living in a city again after 15 years in the depth of the country, but that we are only a few minutes from Clifton College, so it is very nice for David to meet with his old colleagues and he is very glad to be here. I probably told you that David had a stroke in May — our life together has changed a little since then — I can’t be quite so independent! He has a certain amount of disability with his words – can’t recall names or substitutes the wrong word — sometimes quite funny & muddling, but frustrating for him and he gets cross with me if I can’t quickly guess what he wants to say!

However, we are still quite mobile and in five days time we leave for South Africa where both of us have large families. First we go to my "little" sister Renate in Johannesburg, then to David’s sister & my brother in Cape Town. There are also many nephews & nieces and great-nephews & nieces, so we look forward to seeing them all, though...
I'm apprehensive about being in S. Africa.

I hope you'll be able to visit England next year again - I'd love to talk to you both - about your work and my work - cutting enclosed. I have not forgotten my Jewish roots and hope next year perhaps to get to Israel to stay with Anne & David Davis - we have a lively exchange of letters.

January from Duc De Berry's Book of Hours
Victoria and Albert Museum London

Much love to you both - I hope you will enjoy a rest together over the Christmas holidays.

Bina.
Dear Susie,

we just spoke on the phone when you had your friend with you helping you. Here is the latest photograph of me. I'm 83 now and, like you, I often have trouble remembering everything! I often lose or mislay letters and papers, but they always turn up again a little while later.

It is almost 10 years ago that my husband David died — you met him once when you and Gretl visited Tante Mieke and us in England. Mieke died in 1986. Since David died I have lived alone and I don't like it at all. But like you, I have good friends and nice neighbours and many things to do. I have four daughters - the youngest is a foster-
daughter, but none of them live near me and they all have very busy lives. I phone them all nearly every week.

I would like to live in a community or in a Retirement Hotel as it's a lot of work cooking after the house and garden, shopping, cooking and all the things one has to do. But Retirement Hotels are very expensive here, so I just stay on!

I rang you on your 90th birthday and we had a good long chat. I'm glad you are still well - you are quite remarkable! You are my only cousin and I love you very much and hope to visit you next year if I can manage. I came to visit you while Gislle was still alive and loved seeing you both.

I'll put my address and phone number on the photo - pin it on your notice board in your kitchen.

hugs & lots of love & good wishes

from Sabrine. (Here I'm called Bina)
Song of the Angels
Design by Jody Richards
Words by Howard Thurman
Reproduced with permission of the FoR USA

Proceeds from this card go to the peace work of:
 Anglican Pacifist Fellowship, St. Mary's Church House, Bayswater Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 9EY. The APF repudiates modern war and works for the construction of Christian peace in the world.
 Christian CND, 22-24 Underwood Street, London N1 7JG, a section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament that works with the churches and Christian communities.
 Fellowship of Reconciliation, 40-46 Harleyford Road, London SE11 5AY, an ecumenical organisation working for peace and non-violent change in society.
 Pax Christi, Christian Peace Education Centre, 9 Henry Road, London N4 2LH, the international Catholic movement for peace.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

When the song of the Angels is stilled
When the star in the sky is gone
When the Kings and princes are home
When the Shepherds are back with their Flocks
Dearest Gute & Susie,

just reading my love & good wishes to you both - I meant to write a proper letter, but as so often I've left it too late! We are still here at the little cottage where you once visited - I hope perhaps you'll do it again in 1973.

David & I are both reasonably well & grateful for it and the eldest grandchildren are now 18 and soon leaving school and the youngest is 10. All our daughters work so very hard, we get anxious about them sometimes. I'm still very involved with peace groups - it has been such a sad & terrible year for the world. But lovely things in it, too! I hope all goes well

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS:

TO FIND THE LOST +
TO HEAL THE BROKEN +
TO FEED THE HUNGRY +
TO RELEASE THE PRISONER +
TO REBUILD THE NATIONS +
TO BRING PEACE AMONG PEOPLE +
TO MAKE MUSIC IN THE HEART +

with you both

and send my love & greetings

Bina.
By air mail
Par avion

Sabine

Margaret & Susan Hirsh
7301 Normandy Drive
Richmond
Virginia 23229

6 Gibson

U.S.A.

1992
S. Gilmour, 43 Humber Moon, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6GH

8/17/03

8/18/03

8/18/03

8/17/2003

8/17/03

8/18/03
Sam 12
Khal 2-2447
70 70 70
Dearest Grete & Susie,

I wish you could come & visit or I could come to you! Why is our old age so busy? I've never been to the States but my visit to Israel in June was wonderful.

Probably in February I'll go to South Africa again to visit Renate (Pützi) and Jürgen who is not at all well and Dave's sister Molly who will be 90.

This is a "Standing Invitation" to Buckley Cottage with love and blessings and loads of good wishes for a lovely Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

From - "The Occupier"

× Bina ×

[Signature]

+31 1-3-97 6 740

Tefehone
next April.
Then in March I will go to Berlin to do some work with a
strong group called "One By One", children of Jews + children of Nazis
doing Holocaust work together
giving talks to schools + colleges —
I think it is helpful work. I'm
also still with a group of people
trying to form an "intentional
community" rather like "Colonizing" in the States. Slow, "uphill" work!

Please ring up one day, or better
still, come and visit!
love to you both, Bine /a!
3rd September 01

Fairmead Court,
South Africa

My dearest Susie,

it was lovely to speak to you last night - you sounded lovely & near.

I should only have arrived here in Cape Town & Fairmead Court, but something sad happened: My sister-in-law, Molly, who lived in this place in the "fairly car wing" (I am in the comparatively well one) died at the end of July. So I changed my ticket to three weeks earlier so that I could be with her children & family for her funeral on 14th August. It was all a terrible rush, packing up my household belongings and all my luggage for a whole year. One of my daughters, Philippa, the youngest, helped me. I have a tenant in my house in Dartington, England and he rent she pays me, pays for my rent here which includes all meals. But I miss Molly very much as I had loved her & she me for 55 years.
She was 93. I know just how you feel living without Grete— you were so good to her. It’s aweful not to have someone you love to talk to.

I have a lovely bed-sitting room with my own bathrooms. There are about 80 people here mostly old people ladies in the 80′s & 90′s— only about 6 or 7 men. I only really see them at mealtimes or when we get taken to the shops in a minibus. I want to write our family history while I’m here till next August. Then perhaps I’ll be able to come and visit you in the fall— so keep well and keep in touch. See if you can phone me here, just to make sure it works.

It feels very strange not to have a car— I’ve never been without one since the war! But I don’t want to drive here in a strange place with fast traffic.

Sure, you’re my only cousin and I love you & think about you often. I’m glad you’ve got good friends— I have, too, but I wish we lived in the same country.

Lots of love from Binax (Sabine)
Susie Hirsh
7301 Normandy Drive
Richmond
Virginia 23229-6730

U.S.A.

Sabine

From
15th April 2003

Fairmead Court
Rondebosch 7700
Cape Town

Dearest Susie,

Last greeting from South Africa! From 1st May I will be back in my little home in Devon and I am writing the address and phone number overleaf. When I get home, I will phone you. I also don't like living alone. But it's lovely to have a cousin.

With lots of love & good wishes

x Bina x

Big hug
Bina Gibson
43 Hunters Moon
Dartington
Totnes
Devon TQ9 6JT

Phone: Code for England followed by 00 49 2
1803 8642 67
Bine
6 Gibson
7301 Normandy Brin
Richmond, Virginia 23229-6730
U.S.A.

Susie Hirsh
To England

5/5/2003
Without Sharing - No Justice
Without Justice - No Peace
Without Peace - No Future