

KAHLIL GIBRAN
51 WEST 10th. STREET
NEW YORK, CITY

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My Dear Miss Bryan,

It is so good of you to ask after my health, and I am indeed grateful to you. My health is infinitely better now. Living out of doors has done a great deal for me physically. And besides I have not been allowed to do any work. But I have come to the conclusion, however, that here is a place where no one is allowed to work.

I agree with you that some wives are inquisitive, and also some husbands. But I have not the one nor am I the other. So you see, my life is much simpler than the other person's life. To be sure, my secretary takes care of my impersonal letters, and he does his work quite well.

Yes, I am interested in languages, and of course I have always known French. And

Though I am not a linguist,
philology has been, and is now,
one of the most interesting subjects
to me. I think that the history
of words is the history of the
human mind.

I did visit Rockport more
than once, but I did not have
the pleasure of meeting your friends
there. My memory for names
is poor, but not for faces.

You ask, "Why I am interested
in you and in your letters. As
an answer I would say: Why
did I write "The Prophet", the
little book which you said you
like? Is there really a
difference between writing a
poem and a letter - that is
if the writer does not know
the difference?

In a day or two I am going
to New Hampshire. Most of the
time I shall be alone in the
forest. Write to me, if you

should care to do so. Your letters are always welcome.

Truly yours
Ralph Waldo Emerson