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ABBAY OF GETHSEMANI
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

July 11, 1966

Dear Viçtor

I am returning "The Road to Shu is hard" after too long a delay. Forgive me. I have been behind with my mail and trying to catch up.

To my mind this reads well, my only criticism would be that often the word chosen is the weaker of alternatives. In line 12 for instance perhaps "bends" is a more usual and vivid word than "turns" for bends in a river. In 37 perhaps one should do more than just avoid tigers and snakes. I don't know of course what would exactly fit the Chinese original, but "watch out for" is a little more definite and concrete. Perhaps the whole text could be studied in the light of this, and the vocabulary could be tightened up, for the sake of the English reader. Reader of English I mean.

Everything is going all right with me, do not worry about me, except for details like bursitis and now a sprained ankle, I imagine I will survive and go on to other follies, and I am not disturbed.

When do you suppose you will be able to come back this way again? Should we plan something for August? It is a bit hot now, though we had a fine wild storm here last night.

Best wishes always to you both, and God bless you

Tom

Carolyn, thanks for the books. I would like to look at the two books you do have of Jean Grenier since he is important for Camus.