

Letter from Rupert Brooke to St John Lucas, dated 7 March 1907.
King's College, Cambridge. The Papers of Rupert Chawner Brooke. RCB/L/2/47

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My dear St John

Were we subject to the laws of ordinary politeness I should owe you an apology. It is several years since I rushed up to London to see you and Pan, and I have not written since. Fancy going to the cities to find Pan! But it was a grand day, and London was very beautiful by contrast with this Cambridge. Ever since that wild day I have gone about as one in a dream, quoting to myself all the gorgeous fragments of Peter Pan that I can remember, - “To die will be an awfully big adventure,” “Who will fetch me out that doodle-doo?” “I’m only nibs and no-body thinks anything of me, ...” – etc. As I stroll through Cambridge, Trinity Street fades and I find myself walking by the shore of the Mermaid’s Lagoon. King’s Chapel often shrinks before my eyes, and rises, and is suddenly the House in the Tree-tops. _ _

Will you be in London between Tuesday March 19th – and Friday March 22? I shall probably come up then + stay for a few days with the decadent Coles: before proceeding to Rugby.

I think our family attack on Paris next month is now certain. It is to be during part of the first three weeks in April. I should rather prefer Italy ; yet I am pleased. Monna Lisa awaits me; + others whom I worship will be there, The Slave, St John, Antinous, + many. Have you seen this month’s Independent? It contains Lowes Dickinson’s new poet. Rather a wonderful effort of a person who has great thought + can write metre or even, perhaps, poetry.

I am reading Aristotle voraciously!

Yours ever

Rupert’