

JOEL SPITZ  
30 WEST MONROE ST.  
CHICAGO 3, ILL.  
U.S.A.

80,000 L.

Monday

Woke up & found fog! Very helpful for coolness but at 7:30 it is already lifting. And after a fog its hotter! Menna did not come & the nuns have left, thank goodness. So worked on parchment until noon & then to the Ex to see if there might be a wire from Lois. No, but three letters & 3 packages! Oraganic from cottage Bookshop and papers & plastic bags from Flo & Mother. Menna asked me to translate letter from Am.

Tuesday

Menna still sick will probably be out all week. But can keep busy. The letter that Signora Menganelli had was from the Am. who's book is being restored. I was dying to know who he was but could think of no way of finding out. He wrote asking if his book was finished & if it was a friend would pick it up. So she will write a reply & I will translate it for her. Only had a glance at name <sup>Joel</sup> SPITZ, <sup>30 West</sup> on Monroe St. Chicago 3, Ill. Joel Spitz, 30 W. Monroe

Wednesday

Still no Mamma. So worked with Signora D'Innocente on my own hole filling, + parchment skiving + watched her while she repaired a steel engraving damaged by wormholes + a parchment diploma that had been burnt around the edges. Went to Forum armed with Elizabeth Bowen's book <sup>a time</sup> on Rome than home. Caught a flea somewhere legs all flea bitten. Pitched up pattern. Hope it works, also bought "Wonders of Italy". 6000L. always wanted ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday

No Mamma, sent her a get well note. Wrote to Milano for reservation, called Cf. His car is in garage needs repair after only 4 months. Card from Aliceia on board Cristoforo Colombo. Letter from Mrs Muller 6 weeks old was filed under Petri. feeling low so had dinner in front of Fountain of Tevere 900L. It sets me up. Letter from Mrs Vera Jones Bright who is in a hospital in Germany. That is why I haven't heard from her.

~~Thursday~~ Friday

Had a while with Piero, the book binder. He showed me some of the books he had bound, & then painted designs on leathers. Binding ordinary painting not bad, but on a book! Also a very simple design done in gold. He uses gold that has the adhesive on it & it seems much easier. Made some Japanese Origami as Signora Manganelli again mentioned having me to her house & as I would to give the books to her children I would to be able to make some of them & show them how to do. Signora Tamara called today & I'm to go there Monday. Letters from Bessie, Grandma & -  
harping about the boys not going. I sick & tired of his demanding & I will go back when I'm good & ready!

Saturday

Substitute - Piero showed me where paper is made. Very small machine & only one mold. He says sometimes they make paper to match <sup>an</sup> but very seldom.



Piero is 25 year old blue eyes  
blond hair & is always singing in  
a minor key. Has been binding  
for 10 years. Says he started at  
the institute as a sweeper. Must  
have been about 15 yrs old. Works  
very fast & very sure of himself.  
Dislikes the finish binding, sort  
of mass production. He doesn't  
do the sewing, the young girls do  
that. Left early as I wanted  
to buy some gold leaf, ready to  
use. found the place & then wandered  
thru a market set up in Victoria  
piazzza. Veg, cheese, fruit, meats,  
shoes dress goods, fur, flowers.  
much competition. Bought a  
mesh shopping bag & figs. Stayed  
in this afternoon & had boiled onion  
& potato soup with cube. Knitted, read  
over Peter's note on London &  
Paris. Sounds interesting. Turkish  
girl is back for few days. I'm  
getting a polio belly. Will go on  
dick when I get back to S.F.

Sunday-

It was cloudy last night & rained a little

and also all day - ~~threatened~~ to rain but  
really didn't until 5 o'clock. Was afraid  
to go to Country & get caught so went looking  
for Am. Academy in Rome - found it. Wonderful  
peaceful place. Then to National  
Museum, was a different entrance & didn't  
realize I had seen it before. Picked  
up some food at a Rotisserie & came  
back had good meal of little string  
beans, tomato & some turkey in aspic.  
Then out again to Museum of Modern  
Art but it closes at 2:30 during  
summer. so back here. Read all  
my notes on book binding - wrote  
to Grandma. Have decided not to  
mention or argue with her about  
the boys not seeing her. It's hopeless.  
Have also decided not to be pressured  
either about coming back soon or not  
coming back too soon. I'm getting  
real anxious to do some book binding.  
Realize that when I do get back I must  
work & work & work at it so that I am  
sure of my self. Must take some  
lessons in Paris. I'm sort of tired  
of being holey & sticky unless I just sit!

Monday - Great day! Letter from <sup>Pam</sup>

Prof. Longo show me & explained at great length the Museum at the Istituto. See book notes. Then at 5 o'clock I had an appointment with Mrs. Tommasi - very pleasant, charming woman has a piano agency. Her daughter works at Bulgari, the famous jeweler & her grand daughter what a beauty who is studying at an interpreters school was there. Such a sweet, beautiful 21 year old. Then to USIS to read New Yorker - on way home saw Eff. So this has been a record day. Also a nice letter from Pres. Harnack! Bought Billie book of poems in Italian.

Tuesday

Did some more mending on shirts & then on parchment. Sig. M. phoned that she would send the keys over so that I could my smocks & dictionaries. She really sounded quite awful, thanked me for card I had sent. At 6 o'clock



decided to go to St. Peter & see where  
would be the best spot <sup>for</sup> to-morrow.  
Had just gone in when suddenly  
all the lights went on - a very  
beautiful sight & then a procession  
started from side altar nearest door  
& in came the Pope in his chair  
of course & ostrich plum fans. I  
don't know the reason. I'd rehearse  
for to-morrow? Some American women  
back of me said they had to get a letter  
from their Archbishop to get in - and  
I just walked in! Lunch. Had  
a wonderful mushroom pizza &  
wine 2.50 L.

### Sunday

Left at 8:30 for Saint Peter's & by chance  
got a seat where the Diplomatic Corps is  
usually seated, next to an Italian priest that had  
been in California. The Pope was not there but  
Cardinal, his Secretary of State, The Officer of the  
day. Then a high mass with Sistine Chapel  
singing - very beautiful & elaborately staged  
with Master of Ceremony directing everyone  
3 hrs long. Home, the Turkish girl came  
& then we went to see Miss Menha who is  
much better but has lost a bit of weight

I had ice cream for the girls +  
when we went to Miss Minna we  
had Vermont, ice cream + cookies  
+ coffee - quite a feast.

Forgot to say that the Black  
States of St. Peter had a brocaded  
cloak, jeweled cap + jewels on hands  
also the gown was all decorated  
with garland of flowers + bouquets.  
After leaving Miss Minna went to  
Castel Sant Angelo. Home + read  
Time. Expected to see St Peter's  
lit up but was only flood-lighted.

Monday

To-day Signora Mangonelli + her  
husband took me home to have lunch with  
them. He works for the Ministry of Budget  
+ recently was sent on a month's trip  
to Am. + was 1 week in S.F. which he loves  
very much. So I made his mother a little  
by 3 yr - girl 5 yr. One of the modern  
apartments built on the outskirts of Rome  
Parma province (they are from Parma) with  
peeled figs + slices of cantaloupe, delicious  
cold meat + green salad + tomato. Plums +  
peaches, <sup>after lunch</sup> we picked up the little  
at the nursery school, a little Am.



girl who lives next door came in. I  
gave them the oragmia book & they  
the children were very pleased. Then  
when Sig. Mangamelli returned to  
work is his chauffeur driven car  
looked to be dropped at the Am. Ex.  
both he & chauffeur dropped out of  
doors. I gave him my hand to  
shake but it was raised as if  
to kiss, but just a gesture, very  
elegant. So now within 4 days  
I have seen the interior of three  
homes. Tommasi, Menna &  
Mangamelli, three different  
phases of Italian life. Wonder  
full haul of letters to-day - (5)  
Grandemere (who am I coming back)  
Hannah, Elizabeth, Howard & Anna.

July 1st.

Eff. has left - I had gone when he phoned  
this morning but left my book downstairs  
with postman & a little note. Also a letter  
from Howard that Annie & Suzanne are unhappy  
so they are going back to San Cesario  
So I went to Innsbruck. Inquired  
about trains to Milano. Told Mrs. Buzzi  
that I am leaving on the 11th. Will

Also Miss Aida in Baths of Cascella  
as that is on the 14<sup>th</sup>. I really  
want to see some dancing not her  
singing!

Sat.

Letter from Howard Letter from  
Trudi, Hannah, Flo & Alicia. Very  
warm, in fact too much, feel  
dull. Rained this morning but  
cleared by time I had arrived at  
Istituto. Bought shampoo & will wash  
my hair to-morrow afternoon. Will  
go to country if it doesn't rain. Have  
a book - History of Instituto with  
a large bibliography. Have copied  
titles that are in English & that  
I think I can use.

Sunday July 3

Left early this morning & went to Rocca di Papa  
alt. 690m. Wonderful old city perched on the steep  
sides of hill. The bus only goes to the lower  
central piazza then by foot or local bus.  
Fine breeze blowing & after I had reached  
the piazza where the market was in  
full swing. Little plum tomatoes. Big  
green figs - Egg plants, peppers & everything  
after walking around a bend