

Dear A [REDACTED]

It is interesting how, in last week's letter, you introduce me to your nuclear family. This makes good sense to an English person, who really does think in nuclear family terms.

I suspect, though, that it is not fully true for a V [REDACTED] for whom the extended family could be a major support structure. Or has everything changed since those fargone days when I had the joy and frustration of living in Greece?

Let me ask you some simple probing questions:

When your kids were little who baby-sat them?

How many times a week does some one from within the two families but beyond the foursome either drop by or phone?

How many extended family events have you been to over the last nine months?

I sense that you are an excellent primary teacher- I'd like you to teach my brat!

What is your secret? What is the structure of your magic? How are you different as a teacher from L [REDACTED] and E [REDACTED]?

Mario.

Ps: to know the structure of your own magic is quite hard, as nobody can see themselves from outside.