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Dear David

In addition to my letter sent recently to you through a messenger. Dear The other day I read your "Drumgirl", published by Vagrus in a beautiful translation. The second part done by Tatyana Kudryavzeva is the top and here simply we see a different author after "Russia House". How much depends on translation! Your book is a masterpiece (I haven't read it before), by the end my hand were wet as if I were giving a suitcase to the professor like Charlie. Formerly I thought Forsythe's "Shackal" was the best in terrorism (of all a few things I read), now the laurels are completely yours and I'm eager to see the films. The fact that in the beginning everything is very vague (sometimes it even exasperates that Joseph gives her such a detailed rehearsal, what for?) makes the rest a very tense reading. Though I don't like Arabs (particularly after I saw the Christian Part of Jerusalem who they trade!) I found you very explicit in explaining their case and you managed as a true writer to be above the fight. No doubt you got criticism from both sides. Besides the book is very sexual meaning vigorous. Helga with big grey eyes (the latter is reminiscent of ~~one~~ one lady) was also

attractive. Alas, this book didn't inspire me, vice versa it made me feeling a 'worm which will never reach the real level of writing. By the way when in 1990 I mentioned some details of preparing a bomb in my novel, they were deleted: no clues to the 'terrorists'. So I'm depressed and only playing can save me. Yesterday "Englishman abroad" was shown over our TV (Alan Bennett's), a very good film which proves again that talent knows better than anybody about a real life. Burgess's life here was very similar to Philby's. Your "Drammer girl" is more interesting than any ^{activities} ~~reports~~ of our ~~main~~ terrorist organization, they kill now everyday just without any preparations a la Kurtz. I hope my article "The Bloody British" will be published in "DT" or "ST" soon (they promised), try to read it, it shows that I will never write a serious novel. As now I became an expert in your writing I hope to create sort of an essay for some of our thick journals. I plan to come to Britain in April and as soon as I get an exact date I'll fax you. Forget about the fax I mentioned in my last letter: now only a phone is left, ~~meanwhile~~ Meanwhile I'm trying to fax up my new two books in Moscow Pub houses. Sorry for no humorous letter, but Charlie's adventures and your talent exhausted me.

Yours Michael