

005 PHILIPPINE

My dearest friend and cousin,
Josephine, how I miss you here in
Paris! The work here - mostly
administrative - is far from my
deepest desire of becoming a
missionary. Every time I suggest
that we send sisters to the New
World, Mother Barat only says
"Patience, Philippine, patience,"
but how much longer must I wait.
I'm -

006 MOTHER BARAT (O.S.)

(calling)

Sister Philippine! Can you come
here, please?

PHILIPPINE SIGHS, PUTS AWAY HER LETTER

007 PHILIPPINE

Yes, Mother Barat. I'll be right
there...

6 INT. MOTHER BARAT'S OFFICE, SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART,
PARIS, CONTINUOUS

PHILIPPINE ENTERS THE ROOM

008 PHILIPPINE

Sorry, I was writing a letter to my
cousin.

START >>>

009 MOTHER BARAT

You are definitely a prolific
letter writer, Philippine.

010 PHILIPPINE

I like to stay in touch with
people.

011 MOTHER BARAT

That's why you make such a great
secretary. My administration has
never been in such good order. You
have a gift for organization!

SHE HANDS HER A LETTER

012 MOTHER BARAT (CONT'D)

Take a look at this letter.

PHILIPPINE TAKES IT, BEGINS READING

013 PHILIPPINE
Who's Bishop Louis Dubourg?

014 MOTHER BARAT
The newly appointed bishop of the entire territory of the Louisiana Purchase. He wants to visit us.

015 PHILIPPINE
Why?

016 MOTHER BARAT
He's inquiring if any of our sisters would like to go there.

017 PHILIPPINE
(heart beating fast)
To the New World?

018 MOTHER BARAT
I know how you feel, Sister Philippine. But I don't think the time is right for us to open a house in a whole new territory.

019 PHILIPPINE
But-

020 MOTHER BARAT
-However, I can't refuse him permission to pay us a visit. That would be rude. Please write back to Bishop Dubourg and tell him he's welcome here any time he's in Paris.

021 PHILIPPINE
(disappointed)
Of course, Mother.

SHE'S ABOUT TO LEAVE, BUT STOPS

022 PHILIPPINE (CONT'D)
Maybe I should tell you something that happened to me last week...

023 MOTHER BARAT
What's that?

024 PHILIPPINE
It was on Holy Thursday, during Eucharistic Adoration. I'm not sure if it was a dream or a vision...

SHE HESITATES

025 MOTHER BARAT

Go ahead, tell me.

026 PHILIPPINE

It was as if I spent the entire night in the New World...carrying the Blessed Sacrament to all parts of the land...

A pause.

027 PHILIPPINE (CONT'D)

(remembering)

It was so real, Mother. I was barefoot and under my feet I could feel the grass as I walked and walked through a wilderness of dense forests and open plains and riverbanks, all the while holding the monstrance close to my chest, sometimes shielding it from wind or rain. And as I walked, native people emerged silently from the trees, watching me with quiet awe - not frightened, but reverent. I felt such peace - deep peace - but I also sensed that I was not only carrying Christ in the sacrament, but bringing Him into hearts that had long awaited his presence...

028 MOTHER BARAT

Oh, Philippine, how beautiful, but-

029 PHILIPPINE

-Then, when I woke, my heart was burning - burning with a certainty that this was my calling: to bring the Eucharist - Christ Himself - to souls in a new land, to -

030 MOTHER BARAT

(breaking in, tenderly)

I know how much you want to be a missionary. And maybe one day it will happen -

031 PHILIPPINE

-One day?

032 MOTHER BARAT

Right now I need you here. With me.
Not in the New World. I'm sure
there will be an opportunity,
but... Just not now. Please
Philippine, your abilities - and
may I say your friendship - are too
precious.

<<< END

033 PHILIPPINE (CONT'D)

(disappointed, yet again)
Yes, Mother.

AND SHE LEAVES. MUSIC TRANSITION

7

**INT. MEETING ROOM, SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART, PARIS - DAY,
SEVERAL WEEKS LATER**

034 MOTHER BARAT

Sisters, may I introduce Bishop
Dubourg, who has travelled to us
all the way from Louisiana.

APPLAUSE FROM THE SISTERS

035 BISHOP DUBOURG

Thank you, Sisters. Serving the
Lord in the New World is truly an
experience I would not trade for
anything. I hope many of you in the
Society of the Sacred Heart will
join me in bringing the Good News
of God's love to the Indian
population. My fellow priests and I
cannot do it alone, Sisters. We
desperately need your help to teach
them about Jesus. Will some of you
make this sacrifice? Is this the
moment for the Society of the
Sacred Heart to set out for this
new frontier?

036 MOTHER BARAT

Bishop Dubourg, we certainly
applaud and support your mission.
One day I hope we'll be able to
send you the assistance you seek.
But, for now, with the
responsibilities we're carrying and
the teaching we're doing, all we
can offer you is our prayers. Those
you will have, I assure you, most
fervently.