

Tony Connor

Worship USA

Dear Elli,
Thank you for the card. My daughter, Rebecca (who is 14) & I are travelling to India in January, where I will be writer-in-residence at the University of Baroda for four months. On our return journey, we are going to stop off at Athens for about 10 days, & visit some of the Aegean islands. Maybe we will even get as far as Cyprus - it would be nice to meet you on your own ground!

If we do, indeed, find ourselves coming in your direction, I'll let you know. We reach Athens around April 23rd.

Best Wishes to you & yours
Tony (Connor.)

May the joy of
CHRISTMAS
be yours throughout
the year



I enclose a poem. It's nothing whatsoever to do with Christmas — it simply happens to be the most recent I've written.

MAIN STREET
MIDDLETOWN, CONN.



Dear Elli, Thanks for the
card. I'll send you my latest
book when I have a copy.

This isn't exactly a temple
(on the other side) but to me
it has been "home" for the past
6 years. Fortunately, the part
of town I live in is a great
deal prettier & more charming
than this nasty main street

Love
TONY



Post Card

Elli Peonidon

P.O. Box 544

LIMASSOL

CYPRUS

Tony Connor

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My Face.

Catching it in shop windows
I'm always mildly surprised
by the fixed, ferocious scowl
it gives me back: as though praise
were something to be refused
on any terms, any scale.

Arranged for its owner's view
it is more amenable
to compliments and kind thoughts.
The level look seems to say:
"I acknowledge I'm a fool,
but not the worst hereabouts."

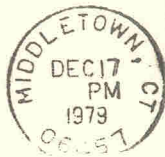
Then there's its passionate life--
which I'm sure I'll never know:
how it behaves in private
when I forget it in grief,
anger, terror, pity, joy,
or feeding an appetite.

Sometimes I awake to blind
lips puzzling its stubbled cheek,
fingers tracing its forehead;
as though it were neither owned
nor remembered in that dark
where all social selves are shed.

But mostly it's on display
in politic, daily guise,
to make a good impression.
Perhaps you've seen it, and know
its affable, worldly ways?
I've only you to go on.

Tony Conner

December 1979.



Elli Peonides,
P.O. Box 544,
14 M. Parides Street,
Limassol,
CYPRUS.

BY AIR MAIL.

from Tony Connor

44 Brainerd Ave.,

Middletown

Conn. 06457

U.S.A.

