

20 August, 1777

My Dearest Brother,

My thoughts turn to you these past few days since your departure. I am so pleased that you were able to find time to visit Versailles. I find myself smiling as I recall our pleasant days strolling the gardens and hearing your many wonderful ideas for replacing the arboretum with what will soon be my Hameau de la Reine as well as our evenings hosting galas together as we used to. Your companion Prince Charles de Linge was witty and delightful and you must bring him along on your next visit. My only complaint is that you stay away so long, but your time here is so short - you scarcely stayed two months! However, I will not become cross if you return swiftly and remain long enough for a proper visit.

Affectionately yours,

Marie Antoinette