

ALEX' 50th BIRTHDAY

July 1960

This was written to acknowledge birthday greetings from the late Carola and Ariel Bin Nun (originally Hecht,) which was written in German, in rhyme.

A formidable task the Hechts have set us
To thank them for the greetings they penned us,
For we're not used to writing in rhyme
And indeed it's taking us quite a long time.

And so we appreciate all the more
The thoughts they expressed when they left our door,
To convey to Sacha without delay
Their warmest friendship on his 50th birth day.

Best wishes too for a happy vacation
Which we're spending now at an Alpine location.
While you in Jerusalem complain of the heat
We're sitting in Engadine and I have cold feet.

For this mild mountain climate is summer they're sayin'
But it's filled with grey clouds, and even some ra'in.
Most of the time we're suffering chills
But when it is sunny we walk in the hills.

Or take the *seilbahn* right up to the tip
To admire the view, alpine flowers to pick.
Curative waters I drink night and day,
The taste is awful and yet one must pay.

Three weeks of this we'll be so healthy
Then pick up the kids, and down to Italy;
For we are heading to the Olympics in Rome,
The jewel in the crown, before we go home.

Esther Rafaeli