

Subject: Nobel Prize

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To: gortan.resinovic@UNI-LJ.SI

I'm very glad to hear that you've visited my aunts-- also that they are well. I've never seen the Pavletic graves, are they in that lovely cemetery on the hill at Herpelje?

Here in Los Angeles, on November 1, the Mexicans have a great celebration on "El Dia de los Muertos," the Day of the Dead where they have toys for the children such as little skulls and skeletons, and coffins where you can pull a string and a little skeleton pops up. That's Christianity, Aztec style!

So you really think you're too old-fashioned to get a much \$\$\$ job at one of the hi-tech places? You know that the kids don't really have "new" ideas, they just copy from American television-- don't start wondering where they get their inspiration for what looks new, it's because they have endless amounts of time to play! Anyhow, I sent Bostjan the information too. Prosperity doesn't hurt an evolved mind!

Meanwhile, the Nobel prizes are being given out. I'm so disappointed that I didn't get the one for literature, but you may have your chance when they give out the Economics prizes next week:

Jose Saramago Wins Literature Nobel

By JIM HEINTZ

.c The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) -- Portuguese novelist Jose Saramago, an outspoken nonconformist who has a soft spot for the common man, was named the winner today of the 1998 Nobel Literature Prize.

Saramago's exuberant imagination and playfulness have made him one of Portugal's most popular contemporary writers, and his works have been translated into more than 20 languages.

"I'm personally very happy," the writer said today in Frankfurt, Germany, where he was attending a bookfair. "I'm also happy for my country."

The Swedish Academy said it gave the award to Saramago for work that "with parables sustained by imagination, compassion and irony continually enables us to apprehend an elusive reality."

"He invokes tradition in a way that in the current state of things can be described as radical," the Academy said in the citation for the \$978,000 prize.

Saramago, 75, wrote his breakthrough novel in 1982, "Baltasar and Blimunda." Perhaps his best-known work is "The Stone Raft," in which the Iberian Peninsula breaks off from Europe for supernatural reasons and floats off into the Atlantic.

That device allows him to comment ironically "about the authorities and politicians, perhaps especially about the major players in power politics."

Saramago (pronounced sah-rah-MAH-go) is the fourth consecutive European to win the prestigious prize and the first laureate to write in Portuguese. Anxiety about the skewing of priorities in modern society is evident in all his works and also gives a clue to his resolute sympathy toward communists.

He had long been seen as one of the strongest potential candidates for the prize and the frequent media queries about his prospects contrasted with his