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Dear Prudence,

Any of the dates you mention is all right with me except Friday January 22 (and subsequent weekend) if..

If I am not in Spain from January 3rd through January 15th. I still do not know whether I will make the trip. It all depends upon whether I am given or not a (relatively) prestigious literary prize for my still unpublished novel *El juego de la verdad* (acceptable translation: *The Game of Truth*). If no prize, no trip.

I will know about this at the end of this week. If I do *not* write (or call) you by January 3rd or 4th it will mean that I will be away during the period mentioned above.

If I stay here, any date (except the already mentioned January 22) will be all right. In February, any Thursday or Friday (or, for that matter, Saturday or Sunday) will do. I certainly look forward to seeing you.

Just a few words *re* the (relatively prestigious) literary prize in Spain. (Cf. *supra*). In the last years I have published (in Spanish) two novels and a book of short stories. My literary she-agent in New York has made some thus far unsuccessful attempts to have one or more of these works published in English (I myself, with my wife's help, translated into English the first novel: *Claudia, my Claudia*). She (the agent) tells me that there are some hopes for the still unpublished *The Game of Truth*. I am now writing my fourth novel, *Regreso del infierno* (*Coming back from hell*). There seem to be many ways of doing philosophy --or, when writing philosophy books, many ways of writing fiction.

I truly enjoyed your piece (I like wit very much and yours is the genuine article). Judging from the printing, it was published in *The New Yorker*. Congratulations!

See you soon,

Ferrater