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Subject: Re: Are you back yet?

I am back & yes, Colorado is, as always, breathtaking. HOWEVER, the temps were nowhere near 50 degrees on the top of Peak 8 at Breckenridge. Try 16 with 25 mile an hour winds. Not to complain -- it was 50 in the towns of Summit County every day that we were there, dropping to about 25 at night. REALLY sunny the first two days, then the clouds rolled in on our third day of skiing. We do love it there. I always have, but I think Jon is surpassing me in his passion for the place each year that we return. He must have asked 1,000 times -- "When are we moving here?" We had to walk past every SINGLE real estate office and gaze at the pictures in the window, etc. . . So maybe we'll join you in the Western U.S. sooner than I had thought! So -- that is terrible that you missed spring. I hate it when I do that. :-) Esp. for running purposes -- cold, cold, cold, then HOT, with no break in between. Of course -- you missed the cold, cold, cold part. Speaking of spring -- when we returned from CO, it seemed like everything had bloomed all of a sudden. Did I just not notice it before or did it happen really fast? Mr. Hosty & his donation were ostensibly the work of David and Jeremy. During a break in the 3 day Hosty interview, they invited Mr. and Mrs. Hosty into David's office to ask them if they would be interested in donating the papers to the Collection. Of course, it was the easiest work they had ever done here, because Mr. and Mrs. Hosty had already decided to donate the papers to the Archives. After having had several years of pleasant dealings with Steve Tilley, they felt that it was a good thing to do. As for Brian -- I haven't seen him much since you left. I'm not sure what is going on with him -- but I suspect depression, loneliness, paranoia that people want him to fill your shoes, etc. . . . How was your trip home? Did the cats do okay without you? And Carolyn, too? How much longer is Oscar in town before his annual trek to Israel? Any news on the puppy? Would you say that the trip back to work was generally successful? Have you and Jeremy planned another trip for you to return? Oh -- quick report on a new book -- Anne Rice's Taltos. Now, as a disclaimer, I have to say that I read The Vampire Lestat in college & loved it. Then, I read Interview with the Vampire & thought it was terrible, and thereafter abandoned Anne Rice. But! While we were in Denver, our friend Darcy had a bunch of her books & he recommended Taltos as another epic about good and evil in the Lestat tradition. You might like it -- parts of it remind of Mists of Avalon because the tale of the Taltos (a non-human, semi-immortal superbeing that can only be born of two very powerful witches) originates on Glastonbury Tor. Anne Rice weaves in the stories of the Druid kings being overcome by the Christian intruders, though unlike Marion Bradley Zimmer, she sees the Christian conquerors as good (at least so far -- I'm not quite finished). Her superpowerful Taltos who is the main character of the book is a very old being who was king of his people and then converted to Christianity. Also -- lots of gratuitous New Orleans

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