

LETTER, JONATHAN HARKER TO MINA MURRAY

Exeter

10 April

Dear Mina,

I know you will be glad to hear that I have passed my final law examinations. I am a real lawyer now, so we can be married in the summer!

Before then, Mr Hawkins has an important job for me in Transylvania. He had intended to go there himself, but he has hurt his leg and cannot travel. I am a little nervous, but very excited. Mr Hawkins says that if I do well, it could lead to even bigger things!

Let me tell you about the job. There is a client of ours in Transylvania called Count Dracula. Mr Hawkins has been his lawyer for years although they have never met. Recently, the Count asked us to buy a house for him in London as he wants to make his home in this country. I have done most of the work on this myself, anyway. I found the right kind of house and checked it all carefully. Everything is now in order and ready for us to complete the business. But of course, the Count wants to hear all about his new property before he signs the final papers. So Mr Hawkins is sending me to give him the information.

I am leaving at the end of the month, but I will be back in two or three weeks. I will write to you as often as I can, but I have also decided to keep a diary for you to read later.

I hope you and Lucy have a good holiday at the seaside.

With all my love,
Jonathan

LETTER, MINA MURRAY TO JONATHAN HARKER

Saint Winifred's Ladies' College, York

15 April

Dear Jonathan,

Congratulations on your success. I am looking forward very much to being the wife of a brilliant lawyer!

I hope you enjoy your visit to Transylvania. It sounds very interesting. I wonder if the Count lives in a castle. I shall want to hear all the details. I like your idea of keeping a diary. I think I will keep one myself while you are away.

School ends on 23 July. Then I shall join Lucy and her mother by the sea at Whitby. I had a long letter from her last week. I suspect she is in love! She often mentions a young man, Arthur Holmwood, whose father is a big landowner near London. There are also two friends of his whom she sees regularly. One of them, Dr John Seward, is in charge of a mental hospital at Purfleet, near her home. Apparently, he is very clever and very serious! The other is an American called Quincey Morris. He is travelling around the world and is a great hunter of wild animals. I suspect that all three men are in love with