

DON. Dear Dr. Franklin.

DON. My advisor, Simon Dewhurst, recommended I contact you since I'm considering doing the final stage of my doctoral research on the chemical makeup of coal molecules. You are, according to him, the world's expert on the subject. I gather you combine a theoretical and applied approach and this is precisely what I am hoping to do. So, I would be delighted ... no ... grateful if you would send me some of your scholarship on coal. X-ray images and published articles would be most appreciated.

ROSALIND. Dear Mr. Caspar: Thank you for your letter. Published articles are published and therefore you can access them just as well as I can. It might be possible, however, to send X-ray images so long as you assure me you know how to read them. I would prefer to avoid misinterpretations of my work cropping up all over New Haven. I should like to maintain the reputation your Dr. Dewhurst so kindly attributes to me.

DON. Dear Dr. Franklin, I never received the images in the mail, even though I assured you I understood how to read them. Could you please re-send? It's been over a month and I'm anxious to finalize this section of my dissertation. (*Beat.*) Dear Dr. Franklin, I'm so sorry to write again, but I still haven't received the images. I'm afraid I've become a pest. Please forgive me. It would kill me to think you might think badly of me, as I'm such an admirer of your work.

ROSALIND. Dear Mr. Caspar, I trust you have now received the images?

DON. Dear Dr. Franklin, I have indeed received the images. And I can't thank you enough. They've opened up for me ... I mean, you've opened up for me a whole new ... What I mean is, I've never seen anything like them. I could stare at them for hours and they still wouldn't reveal all of their secrets. Not that that means I can't read them. I can read them. I just mean that they're beautiful — these shapes within shapes, shapes overlapping, shapes that mean more than what they seem at first glance but are also beautiful

simply for what they are. I think one sees something new each time one looks at truly beautiful things.

ROSALIND. Thank you, Mr. Caspar. I'm pleased you received the images.