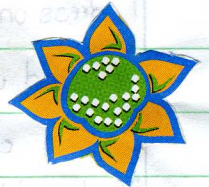


St. Theresa Of The Child Jesus Secondary School,

P. O BOX 16811,

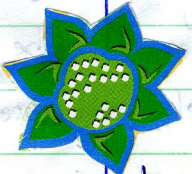
Arusha.

10th September, 2008.



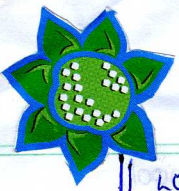
Hi Kevin Liebson,

I was glad to receive your letter and wrote to you. My name is Melissa. I am at St. Theresa Of Child Jesus Secondary School in Arusha. Arusha is a region in northern Tanzania. It's a girls' boarding school, so I am far away from my home. Sometimes it's fun studying in a boarding school. You get to know more about other places other than your home surroundings but it's also sometimes disadvantageous. I sometimes miss home so much. I'm in form one which is equivalent to the eighth grade. Our school has just been opened this year so it's new. We stay at school for six months and then have a short vacation of one month. In Tanzania, we call that period of time we stay at school a term so we have two terms per year. Our school offers nine subjects. These include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Computer, Civics, History, Geography and Language. In Language, we are offered English and Kiswahili for a moment but maybe in future, we may have French and other languages. Kiswahili is a language mostly spoken in Tanzania. If a person says "Mambo" to you, it means "Hi" and "Poa" is the reply you give also means "Hi."



Well, let me tell you about myself. I'm a girl from the Hoyo tribe. My nickname is Fozzy Nina but my pals are used to calling me Mely. I am 13. My birthday is on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1995. I have a dark brown complexion, black eyes and short black hair. I'm medium sized and also have a medium height of about 156cm. My hobbies are swimming, reading novels, painting and drawing, playing different games, writing stories, dancing and singing. The kinds of music I love are gospels, country and RNB. What I love watch on TV are cartoons, movies, series and music. I also love playing volleyball, netball and 'rede'. Do you really know what 'rede' is? It's a kind of local game mostly played by girls in our country. I also LOVE nature. Nature includes physical features in general, animals, birds, insects and vegetation. I love tulip flowers. They are my best. I also love paper hand work.

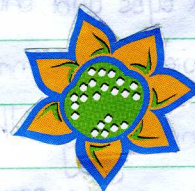




I LOVE animals. I wish I had a pet but I haven't got one. At home, I don't have many friends like at school. My outfits are as follows: During a walk, I may dress on pants, short skirts, short dresses, blouses and flat shoes. At the beach, I may dress on a halter, a sunhat, a blouse, flipflops and sunglasses. During dinner I dress on short dresses with shoes having high flat soles. I also LOVE traditional clothes. They are designed using khangas. (A khangas is a piece of cloth usually worn by most women in Tanzania.) My favourite colour is pink. I love it because it's girlish and it's also a colour for Barbie dolls, and I love Barbie dolls. The kinds of food we eat here in Tanzania traditionally are Ndizi, (the Haya's staple food), makande, ugali, mtori, dogoo, bamia, pilau and others. Other kinds of food we eat are eggs, sausage, macaroni, french fries, chicken, beef, fruits, vegetables and other kinds. We also have some snacks like pringles, biscuits, chocolate, crisps and others.



Let me also tell you about my country. Tanzania is the most peaceful country in East Africa. It is blessed with natural beauty. It's natural beauty includes the cool climate, beautiful scenery and all that. Tanzania has many national parks and reserves. Some of them are Serengeti (the largest), Ngorongoro, Manyara and Mikumi. There are also a variety of animals in the parks like elephants, lions, zebras, antelopes, giraffes (Tanzania's national emblem), gorillas, wild beests and others. There are also different birds, insects and vegetation. At Ngorongoro, there is a large crater called the Ngorongoro crater, the eighth wonder of the world. There are also high mountains like Kilimanjaro (the highest in Africa), Mt Oldonya le Ngai, Rungwe, Uluguru, Usambara and others. At Manyara, there is a hot spring. There are also a variety of waterbodies and then the Indian Ocean, which our country borders in the east. May one day, you will come to Tanzania and see all the things I'm talking about and you are welcome. Please send me your snap. I will send you mine after your reply. Reply me soon and tell me more about yourself and your country.



Your friend,  
Melissa Sweetbert.