

AD Emails:

RAzef -Sirko-ADubrovin

CC:ed to **ADubrovin@gmail.com**

November 4, 2008

Sasha,

It is always a pleasure to speak with you, regardless of the circumstances. It's has been a long time since we watched that certain plane take off from Khodynka and let the enjoyment of our cigars obscure the bite of the winter.

When my advisors advocated opening this position, I—even from the description they issued to me—thought of you for it. I wish there was a reason other than recent events to explain why you were fresh in my mind, but there is no need for us to dwell on such matters. I recall the story of Sirko and the wolf—one cousin looks out for another. And that story ends with both singing and drinking vodka.

My office received a copy of your paperwork for the visa. Seeing your signature felt like a handshake from an old friend. Piotr will take care of the logistics. Bring your zagranpassport to the embassy in a few days. He's secured you an apartment in Brighton Beach. Shashlik on every corner and close to the airport. You will like New York, I think. I hope you have not been dreaming of Montana.

A matter of business: (I'm not sure if this is the correct phrase in English, but I'm using your appointment as an excuse to practice.) The central office will allow you access to files relevant to your new position via the online database. The system is easy to use and you will find a copy of this message waiting for you there. You will be given an international phone with US number and your assistant will be in contact shortly. I have no doubt that you're up to the task and look forward to your first report.

A final, small thing: who was the composer you used to listen to in your office whom I would ask you about? I don't remember the name, but many years later that melody still haunts me.

Yours sincerely,

RA

ADubrovin to RAzef

Satie's Gnossiennes. Your favorite was the third. It somehow captures winter in Russia, but Satie could not have been more French. I look forward to seeing you again. You know you have my gratitude.

Ivangrossman@gmail.com – Here to Help – ADubrovin@gmail.com

Date: November 25, 2008

Dear Mr. Dubrovin,

First, I just wanted to say that I really, really appreciate the opportunity. As you probably already saw from my resume, I have had some experience in offices and I am very confident I can handle anything you need. Setting up meetings, help with computer programs, you name it. I understand you just moved to the neighborhood—if you want recommendations on restaurants or get lost or anything, please don't hesitate to ask. I know I should use the communicator system, but I'm not at home and wanted to drop you a line to welcome you, so I'm using my phone. Do they have an app for the communicator program yet? I looked in the store for "Alfa-Tsentr" but couldn't find one.

Anyway, Mr. Piotr gave me this address as an alternate way to reach you. I'm sure it is weird to come to a new country during a holiday that you don't have at home. (Get ready for the day after Thanksgiving, as that's when everyone does their Christmas shopping.)

Also, I wanted to mention something—I'm not sure if you spoke with my old boss or anything, but I can assure you that I'm going to be focused on being very attentive to details and punctual. My old boss and I had a few communication problems, so I want to get off to a good start with you. Again I'm really excited about this opportunity.

Finally, Piotr told me that you will travel a lot. I don't mean to pry, but will that apply to me as well? I would love to travel, but it might be hard for me in the near term because my mom's been having some issues with fainting and I'm not comfortable leaving her alone for too long. Let me know if you would like to get together over the weekend for coffee or drink. Otherwise, I will see you on Monday. I know some great places around the neighborhood and it would be really interesting to speak to someone with your world experience. Just let me know.

Take care,

Ivan

ADubrovin – Professionalism – IGrossman

11/29/2008

Mr. Grossman:

To be clear, you will not email my personal account again. In addition, you will not conduct any official business, no matter how small it may seem, from your personal e-mail account unless otherwise instructed.

A. Dubrovin

IGrossman to ADubrovin

11/29/2008

I really hope things haven't gotten off to a bad start. I only meant to welcome you to the neighborhood. Again, I'm really looking forward to this opportunity and will approach it professionally. If you still want to grab a coffee, just let me know. I can also point you to the better Russian stores and restaurants. Again, I am sorry if I said something wrong.

Sincerely,

Ivan Grossman

IGrossman -- Czargrad Trip Details -- ADubrovin

12/2/08

Dear Mr. Dubrovin:

I just received a partial itinerary and details for your upcoming trip. For some reason, they're keeping a lot of the itinerary from me, but I'm supposed to "relay" to you that it's going to be a long trip and that you should pack accordingly. Mr. Piotr, who I guess is a very busy guy, implied that you'd know what that means...

You'll find out the entire schedule once you arrive in Moscow. If you have any houseplants, I can water them – just make me a copy of the key, or give me your key and I'll get it copied when you take lunch.

Ivan Grossman

PS: Itinerary Below

Ticket number(s): 0017126059890 Confirmation code: GA9EIG Traveler name: Alexander Dubrovin

Traveling to Moscow

Sun 5-Dec-08

New York (JFK) Depart 14:20 pm Terminal 5 to Moscow (SVO) Arrive 07:45 am +1 day Terminal
24,661 mi (7,501 km)

Duration: 9hr 25mn

Flight: SU1013 Economy/Coach Class (Seat assignments upon check-in), Breakfast, Airbus A330-300,
80% on time

ADubrovin to IGrossman

12/3/08

In the future, do not forward me complete itineraries via communicator. Just a printed ticket will suffice. I wish I could say that I saw this trip coming so soon. I will have no choice but to trust you to maintain the office in my absence.

IGrossman to ADubrovin

12/03/08

Mr. Dubrovin, you can totally trust me. I can finish setting everything up in here while you're gone. It won't be so noisy anymore (you'll be able to open your door comfortably if you want to). Then again, I'll have to stop taking to myself. Bon voyage!

ADubrovin to larisa_dubrovin@mail.ru

12/04/08

Dear Лариса:

My employer has scheduled me to return to Moscow on the 7th until the 14th. I can make some time if you and Виктор would like to have dinner. My most recent email to him bounced back. Please let me know at your earliest convenience.

Yours,

А. Дубрoвин

Дорогая моя Лариса,

Мой босс отправляет меня обратно в Москву с 7 по 14. Я могу найти время, чтобы поужинать с тобой и Виктором, если есть желание. Мое последнее электронное письмо ему вернулось мне на почту. Пожалуйста, напиши мне, сразу, как появится возможность.

Твой А.

IGrossman to ADubrovin

12/08/08

Mr. Dubrovin: Hope the trip is going well. Meanwhile, our office is stocked! I went ahead and ordered the scanner and fax machine—though I don't think people really use fax machines so much anymore. But you want it, you got it! I sprung for a higher quality paper than you suggested and splurged on a few reams of acid-free environmental stuff. I hope that's okay. I read an article the other day about how Japanese offices increase efficiency by having lots of plants, so I got some as well. A nice mix, and don't worry—they're all low light and I'll be in charge of watering them. I also bought an aloe plant. My mom keeps tons of them, and they can really come in handy.

That's all for now. I'll get to work on the security code lock thing, the camera, and the other office stuff soon. Will keep you posted.

Ivan Grossman

ADubrovin to IGrossman

12/09/09

In general and especially while I'm traveling, please employ greater discretion regarding the need for communication. Your work is appreciated, but no further office supply updates are necessary. I trust you to handle your assigned tasks adequately. Unless my trust is misplaced, there is no need to confirm that the tasks I have assigned you have been completed.

HLauren -- Berlin Hospitality – Adubrovin

2/20/2008

Mr. Dubrovin:

It was a pleasure to meet you and my congratulations on the new position. I hope you enjoyed your visit with us. I must as well thank you for the introduction to your Siberian vodka and the stories of the lakes from which it is made. I do not know if your claims of minerals from space meteors are true, but whatever is in the Omskaya Oblasts -- I told you I would remember the name -- must be doing something, as I awoke feeling only mildly out of sorts. It is quite ingenious that the liquor of one's country would suit the habits of its populace. Now I have something even further to contemplate as I go to enjoy my lager.

Sincerely,

Hans Lauren

ADubrovin to HLauren

12/21/2008

What purpose does lager serve to the Germans, Mr. Lauren? Perhaps to maintain the strength to defend yourself against German women?

ADubrovin -- Berlin Report -- PAdamshin

12/23

Dear Mr. Adamshin:

As requested, I've encrypted my Berlin report and dropped it at the appropriate location. My flight leaves in an hour, but I am available until then should our superior need clarification. I doubt this will be necessary.

Yours,

A. Dubrovin

PAdamshin to ADubrovin

12/24

Dear Mr. Dubrovin:

I've forwarded your report. However, I am noting several inconsistencies in your analysis, and for our purposes, the information you've delivered is insufficient. In the future, please follow the template provided, making special note of the "atmosfera" category, which should address the general "vibe" of the house in addition to personality breakdowns of major clientele, curators, outflow. It is not necessary at this time to resubmit the Berlin report. We will make due.

P. Adamshin

ADubrovin to PAdamshin

12/25

I will adhere to the template provided going forward. Judging from your reply, I would venture a guess that, unlike both myself and our superior, you were not in the service. I will light the tree and consider the nature of these reports. However, without some sense of how these reports will be used, I am largely operating in the dark.