

0009. LEOPOLD MOZART<sup>1</sup> TO JOHANN JAKOB LOTTER,<sup>2</sup> AUGSBURG

*Franco*<sup>3</sup> / *Monsieur* / *Monsieur* Lotter mon / *tres cher amy!* / *Augsburg* /  
next to the Little White Horse,<sup>4</sup> / in Lotter's Bookshop. / To be delivered

*Monsieur mon tres cher amy*

[Salzburg, the 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1755]

I hastily inform you that I will come to Augsburg [5] with the next available *ritorno*.<sup>5</sup> You should therefore not give anything to your esteemed brother for me, for it could yet happen that I encounter him on the way. My wife will certainly collect the books<sup>6</sup> from your<sup>7</sup> esteemed brother. I must make yet one more request of you.\* I have in mind to stay with my mother<sup>8</sup>.\* Only who knows: perhaps I can no longer stay\* [10] because in the meantime not only my two brothers but also my two sisters have married. There will thus certainly not be a single bed left except the one she has for herself and possibly a maid. Perhaps you will find a good friend who could take me into his house, for I would not cause any inconvenience at the table, I know what is expected in such cases. [15] I could also lodge in the monastery at St. Ulrich,<sup>9</sup> only I do not wish to. There are reasons for this. Farewell, until I have\* the pleasure of seeing you again. *Addio*. I am

Your most obedient

Leop: Mozart

[20] Salz: the 11<sup>th</sup> Sept., 1755

Do not say much now before my arrival, it has something to do with my siblings, they might otherwise spoil the business with my mother for me.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Leopold Mozart (1719-1787), born in Augsburg as son of a bookbinder. Started studies in law and philosophy in Salzburg, but neglected these and became a professional musician. Married Maria Anna Pertl in 1747. Only two of their seven children survived infancy. From 1763 until his death, he was *Vizekapellmeister* [deputy director of music] at the Prince-Archbishop's court in Salzburg.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Jakob Lotter (the Younger, 1726-1804), son of the eponymous founder of the firm (c. 1683-1738), printer and bookseller in Augsburg. Under his management, the business grew, especially the music side. He printed Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756), of which there were three impressions. He also printed Leopold's collection of keyboard music *Der Morgen und der Abend...* (1759), containing works by Leopold, Eberlin and Eberl.

<sup>3</sup> = postage paid.

<sup>4</sup> BD: "*Nebst dem weissen Rössl*" in the Maximilianstrasse in Augsburg. Cf. No. 0006/1-3.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Return coach trip, cf. No. 0009/4-5.

<sup>6</sup> BD VII: The books ordered by Leopold for third persons, cf. No. 0008/56 ffs.

<sup>7</sup> \* On the left side of the page, six to seven letters in each of four lines have been destroyed. The missing text was made up editorially in BD I.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0006/8, 12.

<sup>9</sup> BD: The Benedictine school here was the first one Leopold attended.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0006/6 ff.