**Stenenbrug 5**

**Léonard Salomon**

**Letter**

Maastricht, 3 May 1943

Dear Emile and Jakie

It’s now Monday evening. I can’t sleep, because at seven o’ clock tomorrow the train leaves with the goods trucks. There are 65 people to a truck. We’ll just be sitting on the floor. What has your Dad done that he’s torn away from you so cruelly. It will hurt not to be able to see you anymore and not hear from you again. It’s sad that I have to write all this to you. After months here, now it’s my turn to leave too. I’ve seen thousands of people go. Youngsters, old men, all sorts. But we all carry on bravely, whatever happens. One day, I’ll be with you again. I love you two so much, and I hope to return to you, my dear ones, and will fight to do so. I also hope that you Emiel will be good to Jakie, and advise him in everything and take good care of your little brother. You’ve all been so good to me. The parcels you sent came in very useful, because they were really necessary here. Now it’s all over and I’m going to an unknown world where I’ll get no more news of you. Once again, my boys, be brave. Your father is healthy and strong, he will stand up to everything and one day he will come back to you and raise you. It’s sad that things like this can exist in these modern times. Thank my mother Ivon for everything she’s done for you. I’ll hold my head up high, as you told me to do in your last letter. We Jews will leave as heroes, and never forget that. Be so good as to not send any more parcels, because then you’ll lose the contents, as everything will be confiscated. Tomorrow, 1800 people are leaving, including me. But all I can write to you once more is to be brave. Once again my dear boys Emiel and Jakie 100000000 kisses from your Dad and see you soon. Give dear Grandma a big kiss from me as well and say hello to everyone. So, tomorrow at 7 o’ clock, I’ll be leaving with the ghost train. Your loving father. Till we meet again.

**Postcard**

Dear children Jakie and Emiel

I’m now on the train on my way to somewhere else. I wish you all the best. I’ll be brave and I’ll always be thinking of you. Your father is always in your hearts. I’ll keep hoping that we’ll see each other again soon. We haven’t seen each other for months and now I’m being transported. My dears, take care and hold your heads up high and remember that I’ll be back as soon as possible and will be able to work for you children again.

Say hello from me to mother and everyone else. Dear boys, be brave and don’t send me anything else, because I’m being transported with many others to Germany. Take care, see you again soon and 10000000 kisses. Until later maybe. Leo

*Please post this postcard.*