

April 2005 Penthouse First Night

Hi ,

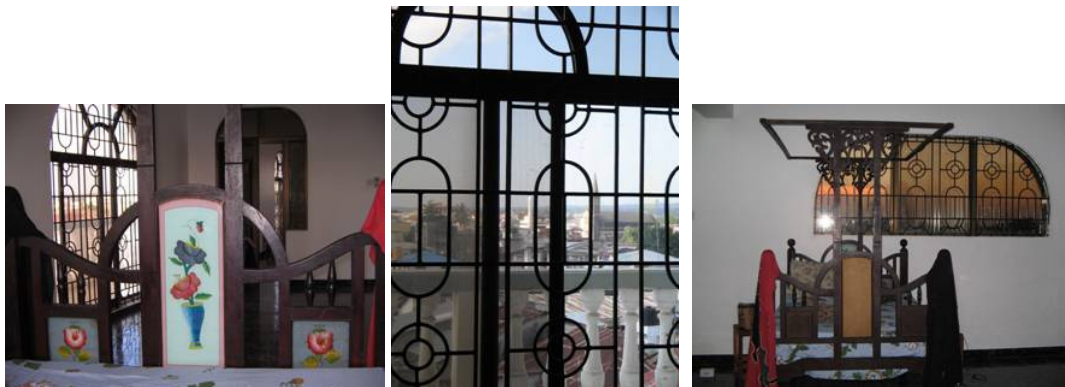
This is my first official email being sent from my new penthouse – oh my god this is sooo incredible!!! I am SOOO happy to be here and to be here alone. I'm sitting quietly in my bedroom listening to calming music on my iPod (I have it over speakers) and I'm going to have a quick dinner and go up to watch the sunset (I can see out my window behind my bed) and I don't miss Trevor at all. (He is in Ireland and will return to the States next week) Actually I'm very relieved that he isn't here because if he was I would be paying attention to him rather than what is going on with me. A friend just called and asked if I wanted her to come over for my first sunset and I said "no" – I really want to be here alone tonight. It just feels so wonderful.

Of course I have almost no furniture but this place is absolutely beautiful. I spent the day sorting out the kitchen and tomorrow I'm going to buy a stove, dishes etc and pots and pans. I had my "open" closet installed – it's gorgeous!!! It's made out of coconut wood and I'm going to have my dining room table made out of that also. The closet is open because everything gets moldy if it's enclosed – but I will put a curtain in front of it to hide it.

I am the most fortunate woman in the world – I'm living in a beautiful penthouse in the most exotic locale in the world. I have new friends, people respect me and I will get work soon. There is a Dutch doctor coming here to help with the ARVs and Heidi (the project manager for the Clinton Foundation) asked if he could rent my guest room. If he does that will pay for a few months rent which will be great. I'm so looking forward to having interesting people here in my flat. And I heard that Bill Clinton is coming to Dar in May and plans to come here to Zanzibar to check out the ARV situation – maybe he will have lunch in my penthouse – you never know!!!!

Well, I'm going to go have some food – I haven't eaten at all today and I definitely need to. I will send you my photos later after the sunset.

I just downloaded my first photos – this place is incredible!!! Here they are.



Here I am lying in bed – this is the bed that will go in the small guest room but mine isn't ready yet so I had Amour put this in my room for now. And there's the view from bed to the left – it overlooks the rooftops and the Anglican Church. And there's my bed with the sunset behind it – Amour is going to have a guy paint the glass and insert it on the outside – it will look much nicer. I didn't get my mosquito net in time but the windows have great screens and I haven't seen a mosquito yet.



Here is my first sunset from my penthouse – isn't it just amazing!!! And here is the view again that I have from me bed – this was taken from the upper roof.



Here is a shot of Victoria Gardens – the British did that obviously. And then here are the men building the private hospital next door – it's too bad because they're going up one more floor and it's going to obstruct my view some. And then there are the lights at night – that's a view looking into my sitting area under the overhang. Isn't life just wonderful!!!! It's 7:30 and I'm going to sleep so I can wake up and take photos of the sunrise.

Love you lots
Kathryn