Dearest, most treasured sister!

Vienna, 16th June, 1787.

I did not find it remarkable that you did not inform me yourself of the sad and, for me, completely unexpected demise of our dearest father, as I could easily guess the reason. – May God receive him! – [5] Rest assured, my dear, that if you wish to have a good brother who loves and protects you, you will certainly find him in me on every occasion. – My dearest, most valued sister! If you were not already provided for, all this would not be necessary. As I have already thought and said a thousand times, I would have the greatest pleasure in leaving everything to you; [10] but now, since all of this is, so to speak, of no use to you, but on the contrary is of great advantage to me, I consider it my obligation to consider my wife and child.

¹ BD: Original unknown. Edition NissenB.

² BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg.