**Story of Juliet Thompson asking ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to come to America**

[Juliet Thompson said:] May we all be in just such a gathering with you in New York!

[‘Abdu’l-Bahá said:] I have made a pact with the American friends. If they keep the pact I will come.

[Juliet Thompson said:] The believers are much better friends than they were.

[‘Abdu’l-Bahá said:] I shall have to know that! Bahá’u’lláh was bound with chains no longer than the distance from here to that post. He could scarcely move. Then he was exiled to Baghdad, to Adrianople, to Constantinople, to Akká! He bore all these hardships that unity might be established among you. But if, among themselves, the believers cannot unite, how can they hope to unite the world? . . .

[‘Abdu’l-Bahá said:] if I come to America, Juliet, will you invite me to see such waterfalls!

[Juliet Thompson said:] I will invite you to Niagara Falls if you will come to America! But surely, my Lord, your coming doesn't depend on my invitation.

[‘Abdu’l-Bahá said:] My invitation to America will be the unity of the believers.

[Juliet Thompson said:] Louise Stapfer asked me to give you her love and beg you to come and unite us. Otherwise, she said, we will never be united.

[‘Abdu’l-Bahá said:] No, you must do that yourselves. See in what perfect harmony we are now! You are not complaining of one another. But if I should go to America, and they complain of one another, I would fly away!

Earl Redman, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Their Midst, p. 20, 22