

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Klaus

o.O., 1944-08-10

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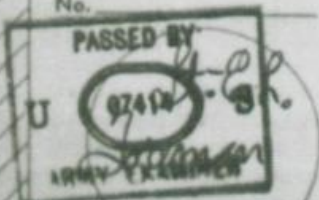
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No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To

Mrs. Thomas MANN,
1550 San Remo Drive,
Pacific Palisades,
California,
U.S.A.

From
Sgt. Klaus Mann, 32697270

(Sender's name)

P.W.B., HQ 5th Army,

(Sender's address)

APO 464, c/o Postmaster,
New York, NY

(Date)

Italy, 10 August, 1944

DEAR LITTLE MAMAN:

It was so nice to receive your message of July 19 -- the 32nd one, already! What you say about the "attempt" and the beginning of the Twilight of the Gods remains true, even if they go on hanging more field marshals. But who is the Little Bird who has such fallacious ideas about the Third Reich? Good old Alfred Neumann? Is he writing a novel about that obsolete phenomenon? Why? And why Eva, the gem, have to undergo a discreet operation? Is that what the ghosts do to her? ... I am fine -- a little more active, for a change, but not yet active enough. As for my transfer, I am skeptical: it rather looks as if it couldn't be managed (although Capt. H. tried his very best to arrange things for me, in London). But I don't care so very much, anymore. What I am mostly interested in, at this point, is the change of my status into that of a civilian attached to P.W.B. I have already made a formal application, which is indorsed by my Commanding Officer and recommended by various high-ranking uncles. If that doesn't work, we may have to approach Elmer in person. ... The main event in my personal life, since I wrote you last, was another visit to Rome, where I spent a few days on leave. It was rather pleasant, I saw the Sistine Chapel (which is indeed amazingly beautiful), many other churches, "Rigoletto" in a fairly good production, many Little Birds both Austrian and German, publisher Bompiani (who is interested in THE TURNING POINT and also feels that Dad should change from Mondadori to his firm, as M. was the official publisher of Fascism), two Italian princesses, Lt. Rudolf von Ripper (a rather fabulous figure in this theater of war), and Sgt. Hans Busch, who reminded me again of the late Lanyi and who wants to be remembered to you. He insisted on speaking German with me in a restaurant (which I usually avoid to do) -- whereupon an American lieutenant, at a neighbouring table, suspected us to be spies and got us almost arrested. But otherwise Busch is a nice enough fellow and seems to do a good job. ... Speaking of him makes me think, of course, of Tutt and Gott; the latter wrote me recently a letter in which he said that JOSEPH has actually been sold to the movies. Is that correct? If so, my congratulations. Now you may buy yourself that funny gold hat you've always wanted so badly; also, I hope to find a nice little swimming pool in our garden when I come home, as a weather-beaten old veteran. ... Sister E. too, wrote me at last -- sounding rather cheerful and enterprising. Let's hope she won't be too reckless and foolhardy, while "covering" the French campaign! ... When you see age-old Vicky Baum, tell her, with my compliments, that I enjoy reading her novel, "Hotel Berlin," in the Algerian magazine, PARIS, where it appears in installments.

Page is full, so is my
heart -- of love!
Old K.

V...-MAIL

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