

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Erika

o.O., 1950-03-25

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Erika Mann

March 25, 1950

Mr. Frederick Warburg
Martin Secker & Warburg Ltd.
7 John Street
Bloomsbury
London W.C.1.
England

Dear Freddie:

Thanks for your note of March 7th.
Unfortunately, however, and as a matter of principle,
my father has made it a habit never to repay any
advances received by his children, and personally
I don't see why on earth he should be held responsible -
even morally, [for that there is no legal responsibility
I need hardly mention] - in any such case.

I am, of course, very sorry about those
£ 75., but wish to assure you that you're mistaken when
you say that I "have not yet found the time" to write
the book in question. As you know, what was originally
agreed upon was a journalistic book of a type which I *for one can't*
~~personally~~ do any longer. You will also recall that
I had found time to write about half the book which I
then had to throw away because events had been moving too
fast for my manuscript to keep up with them.

But then you made me that advance not
because you figured somebody would repay you in case I
failed to deliver, but because you felt that as a writer
I would sooner or later produce something worth having.
I shall, too. In fact, I am right now pondering a novel,
and while I am too burned a child as to discuss the thing
prematurely, I sincerely hope to be able to acquaint you
with the project when we pass through London early in
August.

If I had the money, I'd return the advance.
As it is, all I can do is to assure you that you'll get
the best book I am capable of producing within the shortest
possible period of time.

As ever yours very sincerely

Erika Mann.