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Mann, Erika

Pacific Palisades, 1950-03-13

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Erika Mann

1550 San Remo Drive
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

March 13, 1950

Dear Bill:

Querido Publishers in Amsterdam are about to publish a volume in memoriam Klaus Mann. He died on May 21st, 1949, and we are anxious to get the book out in time for the anniversary. There are about 30 contributions, and there would be a whole lot more, had not our friend Landshoff, the publisher, fallen ill in the midst of it all. Consequently a great many invitations failed to be sent, and many people, particularly important to me, never heard of the project. Of course, it was perfectly idiotic on my part not to mention the matter when you were here. But I need hardly tell you that a piece by you, however short, would mean a very great deal to all of us. Even though you may not be intimately familiar with K.'s writings, you knew him well enough, personally, to honor his memory by writing a few nice lines. Would you do this? If so, I'd ask you to send your paper directly to Dr. Rudolf Hirsch, Querido Publishers, 262 Singel, Amsterdam, Holland. If you would let me have a copy, I should be all the more grateful.

I know you are busy, and hate to disturb you. But then Klaus has always been treated with little justice and this memorial testimony is likely to correct many an error about him. And if you were among the contributors, the effect would be vastly strengthened.

Please forgive me for this intrusion, and take all my and our best wishes.

Yours as ever cordially

Erika Mann.