

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

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November 24th 1963

Dearest Agnes, -

I was so happy about your letter and so busy going through THE FRAGMENTS and - never mind my illness - so glad to be back home again. Now, all of a sudden things seem to have changed in a most sinister and terrifying way. The Kennedy tragedy overshadows each and everything, - one is talking and thinking of hardly anything else, and matters that appeared to be of some importance before hardly count at present.

So let me just thank you most cordially for your moving lines. Of all the letters and criticisms that will soon be pouring in your reaction is the one for which I have been waiting most impatiently and which means the most to me.

As for THE FRAGMENTS, I feel more and more convinced that their possession by the Archives would indeed be desirable. Thus far I've "only" read the chapters on "Lübeck als geistige Lebensform" and on Tolstoi a part from having leaved through much of the loose material. What an enormous task you had set yourself there, and how clearly one perceives - even from being in touch with your notes - that you would have written far and wide the best, most universal book on T. M. Alas, it was "une mer à boire" at a time when you had to devote so much of your time and energy to the duties of war and peace. Even so the scholars working at the Archives will find your manuscript a veritable gold-mine which is why I should be most grateful if you'd send all you have.

Having started to beg I go right on. You are probably right in saying that an extra-volume containing all of T. M.'s letters to you plus your letters to him inasfar as they can be found might turn out to be an anti-climax. But considering the great importance of that entire correspondence, it would be a grave pity if some part of it - small as it may be - would not be represented at the Archives. Owing to all our wanderings this house still contains things which we hadn't known to be here, - boxes or old trunks thought to be empty, and so there is always a possibility that new material might turn up. I am sending you today a most beautiful letter of yours dated June 1, 1940 which I thought you might be glad to have. On the other hand would you not please have all of your letters to T. M. photostated for the Archives ?! Although you rightly say that in writing to each other the way you did you and T.M. "made literary history" I am afraid you are still to modest regarding your part in the thing. Many of his letters to you become twice as interesting if and when your "opposite numbers" are available.

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PA

How I should love to talk to you - or rather to have you talk to me on what the world may come to now that the President is dead. Is there any possibility that Bob Kennedy might have a chance at the democratic convention ? I suppose not. Well, it is no good to speculate and all one can say is that no greater tragedy could have struck ~~the~~ ~~undamaged~~ little planet at this particular time.

My mother sends her love, Golo asks to be remembered to you, and I am always

yours affectionately,

