

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Erika

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March 30, 1961

Miss Kay Brown
MCA Artists, Ltd. Agency
598 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N. Y.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Kay Brown:

Now really!

Even so, thanks very much for shattering cable and soothing letter. But what is one to say? There it was, all ready to be signed, when Mr. Sherman turned up with yet another "clause" which I don't honestly think "Filmaufbau" could have been made to sign and which gave me the creepy feeling that Mr. Bloomgarden was now set on blowing the whole thing to blazes. Nevertheless, I had just prepared the papers (as ever and ever in English and German) and written a long explanatory letter to Herr Abich (though, actually, there was no valid explanation), when your cable came crashing down upon me.

I think you are quite right, and Mr. Bloomgarden won't pay except on a moral basis and provided we reimburse him, should we succeed in getting another producer within the time period of his option. Naturally, I am leaving it to him to make these suggestions but want you to know that they'd be acceptable to us.

It's a maddening mess all round, - with your helpful attitude and Tony Perkins' continued interest the sole consolations.

I'll be staying here for some time to come. So, kindly write me under the above address and don't let yourself be misled by the Swiss stamps on this envelope. Being without a typewriter I've been scribbling these letters and am now sending them on to my secretary.

Finally but not least: please don't think that I am unaware of the staggering amount of work you invested in this (so far) abortive deal. In point of fact, it makes me sick to review our combined efforts. And as I am sick already ...

Thanks and regards,

yours cordially,

ERIKA MANN

March 30, 1961

Miss Kay Brown
MCA Artists, Ltd. Agency
598 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N. Y.

Re: FELIX KRULL

Dear Miss Brown:

I have both your cable and your letter of March 22nd. Many thanks. While I am still stunned by Mr. Bloomgarden's sudden withdrawal, I am glad to note that Mr. Bloomgarden does recognize certain moral obligations.

Now, to begin with, "Kermit Bloomgarden Productions" have been keeping the property off the market for a very long time. I am at present undergoing a cure in Vienna and am hence minus my files. Yet it must have been at least a year and a half since negotiations started. Meanwhile we've had several queries and one apparently serious request concerning a "Krull"-musical in New York, the latter having been forwarded and warmly recommended to us by Mr. Koshland, right hand man of Alfred A. Knopf. The production in question at the time was Mr. Hugh Martin. Needless to say we firmly declined even to discuss the thing.

Apart from all this, however, our legal expenses have been very high, - not to speak of the innumerable long-distance calls it took to get "Filmaufbau" to sign whatever additional document Mr. Rubinstein requested just as soon as I'd managed to meet his latest requirement.

All this considered, I cannot but ask for a minimum compensation of \$ 5 000 (fivethousand). Needless to add this amount will barely cover our actual expenses, while completely ignoring any losses incurred by the prolonged "freezing" of the property, let alone my own untiring efforts. But then, this is to be a settlement on a moral rather than a business bases. Which is why I feel confident that Mr. Bloomgarden will find it acceptable.

Kindly see to it that every piece of paper signed in this context by "Filmaufbau" is speedily returned to said firm.

With best regards

yours sincerely,

ERIKA MANN