



To:
 Mrs. Gabriele Mistral
 Consular Representative of Chile
 Los Angeles, Cal., U.S.A.

From:
 Prof. Riccardo Selvi
 Via Belsiana, 35
 Rome, Italy.

Dear Lady,

Rome, December 12, 1948.

Some time ago you were here in Rome and held speeches I think, but unfortunately I was not present. I was informed too late, also I knew nothing about you, except that you are a poetess awarded by the Nobel prize. In such things, anyhow, I am not too much interested, nor would there have just occasional personal contact, smile or appearance meant anything for me. - Thereafter I had read in a review a rather interesting article, and found there your above address. - The particular motive for which I am writing you lies in the fact that you are living in Los Angeles, which name means the Angels, and in the fact moreover that, to the alarm of the organizer of your Rome speeches, as I learned it afterwards, you spoke about Archangels as patrons of languages and nations, and thirdly your christian name is that of a glorious Archangel too, like the whole name of the representative of Italian poetry, Gabriele D'Annunzio. So it appears in fact that Gabriel is the Archangel of the Latins, whereas Michael is that of the Germans. - Now the name of Gabriel has a particular meaning in my present individual life: this name, absolutely very rare in Italy and I think also in general, is born by two gentle Ladies, the only ones with whom in this particular moment and since few weeks, I am in a spiritual contact here: Mrs. Gaby (Gabriella) Polony, a Hungarian, and Mrs. Gabriella Battista (!) an Italian editor. - Moreover Angels are the background of all my life, of all my lives. I believe in them, I am fond of them, I am a worshipper of the Olympian Gods, in whom I see the identity with the Gnostic Hierarchy of Angels etc. Should in the plot of human intercourse actually there be any higher sense of angelic purity, goodness and wisdom, it is under the sacred auspices of your glorious Synonym in Heaven that I am applying to you - from Rome, source and centre of Latinity, HQ of Gabriel: I am writing you for help, in behalf of the above Hungarian refugee, Mrs. Gaby Polony, a nice and learned young lady, in order that she might emigrate from here, with her husband, a young well-doer too, since all aliens are being confined here in concentration camps, deprived of any working permit, and emigration overseas is extremely difficult. Would you provide them with an affidavit, for the USA or for Chile? They have no relatives there. Their passage costs etc. would be covered by the I.R.O. (International Refugees Organization), Rome. Their personal data will you please find here on the back. - In my turn I shall try to convince Mrs. Gabriella Battista to have translated into Italian your works, through me, and to publish them here, and I shall write a hymn to you! - No doubt you shall be an Angel too? Please do so! - Will you please, at your earliest convenience, reply in Spanish, if you prefer, in verse! Since I know such beautiful language. And I shall believe in you, and love you. And a merry Christmas!

Yours very sincerely -

Riccardo Selvi
 Ph.D.

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