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HARRY E. MAULE, EDITOR

May 21, 1946

Senora Gabriella Mistral
 Republic of Chile Embassy
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Senora Mistral:

I was sorry that you did not manage to get into the office last Thursday because, aside from the pleasure of showing you some of the Random House books I should have liked to show you around this imposing mansion into which we have just moved. Since you were not able to come in I am sending you a few examples of some of the types of books which we have done, together with a copy of our current catalogue. I think you will be interested in the general format and presentation of *MEDEA* by Robinson Jeffers. I am also sending you *THE COLLECTED POETRY OF W. H. AUDEN* and a couple of samples of the Modern Library which is, as you will see, mostly made up of reprints of modern classical books, with an adequate representation of the standard classics. You will find a complete list of the Modern Library titles in the catalogue. An entirely different type of book is *NAMES ON THE LAND* by George R. Stewart and *THE CITY OF TREMBLING LEAVES* by Walter Van Tilburg Clark. The range of our list is so great that I hardly know where to begin and where to stop in sending you samples. However, I think these books, with our catalogue, may give you some idea.

It would be impossible at this point to say just what physical format we would give your book because each book is studied carefully with regard to its text, its potential audience, etc. and the format is made to fit the nature of the book. I hope you will have the opportunity to inquire of someone who knows the standing of the Random House list about our reputation in the field of book making. I think I can say without fear of contradiction that Random House stands at the top among publishers making handsome and appropriate books for the general trade.

To confirm our conversation, we would be interested in publishing a collection of your poetry, and if you so desired, to add to it some prose stories. Naturally, it seems to us that the selection should be made by yourself and we should like to have your suggestions as to how big a book you would like to have done. Obviously, a collection of poetry and prose would be bigger than one of poetry alone. Whenever you are ready to discuss the details of the contract I should be very glad to submit proposals in detail. I trust it is not necessary to repeat what I told you in our conversation, namely, that we would not like to encroach upon another publisher if you had any commitment, but as I understood you to say, you did not have such a commitment. I will add that we think it would be much better to publish a book for adults first, and to consider the book of poems for children later on.

*Contesto
 Junio 4*
 (X)

[Carta] 1946 May 21, New York, [EE.UU.] [a] Gabriella [i.e. Gabriela] Mistral, Republic of Chile Embassy, Washington D.C., [EE.UU.] [manuscrito] Harry E. Maule.

AUTORÍA

Maule, Harry E.

FORMATO

Manuscrito

DATOS DE PUBLICACIÓN

[Carta] 1946 May 21, New York, [EE.UU.] [a] Gabriella [i.e. Gabriela] Mistral, Republic of Chile Embassy, Washington D.C., [EE.UU.] [manuscrito] Harry E. Maule. 2 h. ; 27 cm.

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