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# STORY and THE STORY PRESS

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EDITOR.



WHITT BURNETT

September 3, 1947

HALLIE BURNETT

Associate Editors

ELEANOR GILCHRIST

Dear Miss Mistral:

In connection with the balloting on the new anthology I am doing to be entitled *THE WORLD'S BEST*, I am happy to report that your name is among the leading ones voted upon for inclusion in this book. I think I sent you a ballot some time ago, and I would deeply appreciate your recording your own vote for 100 of your contemporaries you would like to see in this book.

Your rating on the combined polls leads me to the next step in this book, which is to request your kind cooperation in personally selecting something of your own for the volume. I am hoping to have from each contributor some unified, self-contained fragment of his work, not exceeding 6000 or 7000 words, which in his own estimation best represents him, and with each selection I am requesting a sentence or two from the author on why he selected it. If possible, I would like a selection that is already in an English translation of which you approve.

*THE WORLD'S BEST*, from a publishing business standpoint, will be similar to a previous volume of mine, *THIS IS MY BEST*, and will be a profit-sharing undertaking in which all the contributors will share 50% of the royalties of the book.

I have already begun to receive selections from a number of the world's leading writers as chosen by the combined ballotings, ballots having gone to critics, editors, librarians, college presidents, subscribers of *THE SATURDAY REVIEW OF LITERATURE*, members of the P.E.N. in this country and abroad, and others.

I shall be most grateful for your cooperation.

Cordially,

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Avenida Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 651, Santiago, Región Metropolitana, Chile

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