

Feb. 5, 1957

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Dear Doris:

I intended to enclose a note explaining the tape I sent you...and I can't put it off any longer (although it's 1 A.M. now) because I'm sure you're puzzled about the 3rd part with Marta.

I had just come back from Calliezon and had stopped in to say good-bye.

It was when Pisifó's Siamese kittens were just beginning to walk, their legs were not quite sea-worthy. Their temporary lodging was a basket in the bottom of your side of the closet and as the incident you hear takes place they had all been tucked away for the night but decided to climb over the top and investigate this new world that surrounded them. Marta enters at this moment and decides to "help" Pisifó and as they climb over the top and start on the second leg of the journey she "shooes" them back, saying "camine adentro". What caused my hysterics was the expression on the face of those kittens, a real human expression. In a sweet daze, with their little blue eyes just beginning really to "work" they start out, and before they advance very far they see Marta's face, they stop suddenly, shudder a very civilized shudder and go back. Marta is kneeling next to your closet and Gabriela, in bed during all this can't understand what's going on. I can't explain to her what's so funny because Marta's there, and even if Marta weren't, one simply had to see the expression of the kittens to understand. Gabriela is laughing sleepily because I am.

little
white
clouds

I received your letter the day after I phoned you in which you suggest that I check my speed. I would like nothing better since I'm still submerged and practically drowning. At M. Thompson's house I mentioned the microfilming to you. You thought it would be a good idea. But from what Douglass and the others suggested I thought you would begin immediately on the papers etc. and it occurred to me, when I got to Washington, that you would be so flooded with work that you might just pile everything in a box and send it off and I became panic-stricken thinking of what the dear challenge would do to that POEMA DE CHILE etc.

There is going to be a homenaje a la memoria de Gabriela this Friday night at the Pan American Union organized by Juan Marín. Arciniegas was supposed to speak but for some reason he couldn't come and I was asked but had to refuse. I don't know who will speak in place of Arciniegas; nor do I know why he can't come. Juan Marín will speak, Randall Jarrell the present poetry consultant of the Library of Congress. In the musical part of the program Jeanette Gardián, a Belgian singer married to a Costa Rican, both very nice, will sing some of the Rondas and Jugaretas that she has set to music (of Gabriela). At the home that Mrs. Burke's group gave to Gabriela last April I suggested that they invite Jeanette to sing the rondas, they did (Mrs. Burke played the accompaniment, she is an excellent pianist) and it was the thing that Gabriela enjoyed the most. After the affair we invited Jeanette and her husband to come up for a drink. This is all preliminary to the point, which is: I am trying to get the Voice of America to record these songs (a soprano voice and piano it too difficult for me) and I shall send you a copy. If not, Jeanette will sing them here for me as she did "La golondrina".

[Carta] 1957 Feb. 5, [Estados Unidos] [a] Dear Doris
[manuscrito] Margaret Bates.

AUTORÍA

Autor secundario:Mistral, Gabriela, 1889-1957Autor secundario:Dana, Doris, 1920-2006

FORMATO

Manuscrito

DATOS DE PUBLICACIÓN

[Carta] 1957 Feb. 5, [Estados Unidos] [a] Dear Doris [manuscrito] Margaret Bates. [2] h. ; 28 cm. + Anexos (Programa + sobre)

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