



October 27, 1981

Dear Gaston:

Like yours, my letter is also being written in great haste. I feel badly that I did not write you immediately when I received your letter, but then it took you three and a half months before you put pen to paper, (or rather, machine to paper, as I am doing)...so I cannot blame myself too much.

I hope by now that you are fully recuperated from all your ailments -- and what an array of them you had to suffer! And thank God that the automobile accident was not worse. Please let me know how you are now, as of course I worry about you.

Please don't be discouraged about the delay in the Germany Fellowship. You know all too well, as do I, how long those matters take. But I am so happy that you did get a job teaching, and were evidently able to do the work in spite of all your physical troubles.

For myself, I am still working hard on the Gabriela project. Needless to say, without funds. As you know the grant stopped long ago. However, it has to be done, and done as well as possible. All the letters had to be gone through again -- too many errors. Things like 5 letters from Luis Nicolau D'Oliver among the General Correspondence files of Chile; with a minimum of research "Raul de Andrade" turned out to be "Raul de Azevedo" more letters from Pedro Aguirre Corda among the General Correspondence files of Chile; etc. etc.

Working from our "charts" that we did so carefully in Florida in respect to the 19 rolls of microfilm that I had had filmed in 1958, it has been fascinating to find how many more steps are needed before one can arrive at an INDEX. This has been long and hard work -- but quite wonderful. Like bringing order out of chaos. And the work you and I did together was the first gigantic step! I wish you had been here to share with me all the later work. You would have been fascinated. However, I don't think you would have enjoyed the detailed research that has been necessary.

I am longing to be off to creative work again. But, in the meantime, I feel happy that this work is coming to a successful close.

Thank you, and your mother, for prayers for my sister. She is doing very well. She had a small operation on her tongue to get rid of a painful result of the radiation. Then, later, that proved to be infected. It took months before she was rid of the pain and could eat again. But now, thank God, she is in great shape, eating well, no pain, and about to be in a play called Kismet -- off-Broadway. My sister lives through all these things with such courage. I am so sorry, dear Gaston, that you did not meet her. Gabriela loved her very much.

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