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Ms. Doris Dana
Box 6784 Hildreth Lane
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Dear Ms. Dana,

I am a Mexican historian working on a biography of Palma Guillén that is to be published on a series called, "*Vidas para leerlas*" -- a pun on Plutarch's *Parallel Lives* -- edited by the Consejo Nacional de la Cultura y las Artes. In my view, a rich life such as Palma's, can be of great interest to younger generation of Mexicans.

My book is based on official documents, personal letters and recollections. I have done extensive research, however --let me stress this -- this biography is not meant to be an exhaustive chronicle that lingers on unnecessary details, but an exciting and readable account of the making of a modern woman such as Palma, who lived through most of the twentieth century.

Although the main focus of the biography is Palma Guillén's public career as a diplomat and university teacher, her long friendship with Gabriela Mistral is necessarily central in my book as it was in Palma's life. A chapter is devoted to Mistral's first visit to Mexico, when she and Palma met; I recount to the years they spend in Europe in the twenties and dwell on the friends, they shared José Vasconcelos, Alfonso Reyes and Daniel Cosío Villegas, among the Mexicans.

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