

MARMION ABBEY
BUTTERFIELD ROAD
AURORA, ILLINOIS

December 18, 1964

Dr. José F. Mora
Bryn Mawr College
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Sir,

Let me introduce myself. I am Frater Roger Kucienski, O.S.B. As the initials at the end of my name indicate I am a Benedictine monk. I am a member of Marmion Abbey in Aurora, Illinois. My particular occupation now is studying philosophy with the eventual hope of gaining my bachelor's degree from St. Procopius College, Lisle, Illinois. This then will help explain this letter.

Miguel de Unamuno's philosophy has fascinated me. He has succeeded in giving hope to mankind where others have found only doom and despair. This paradox in Unamuno has induced me to select his philosophical "tragedy," or as he also calls it, "his agony," as the subject of my thesis.

I write to ask your assistance. I have had much difficulty in finding books, articles, etc. in ENGLISH about Unamuno. I am afraid my Spanish is null and therefore I must rely solely on English works. Can you help me in this regard? Your own book Unamuno, a Philosophy of Tragedy has been a great aid to my paper. I would be most indebted to you for a short bibliography of English works about Unamuno.

What I would like to do in this thesis is examine the Unamunian concept of what man is. To present an understanding of "How," as you wrote, "reason and faith, essence and existence, heart and head, and even peace and conflict, harmonized and struggled with each other" in Unamuno's Philosophy. Or as another author has written of Unamuno that he "was a thinker who taught how to turn conflict, contradiction and despair into a source of strength."

Any ideas, therefore, that you might have in relationship to this will be greater appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Cordially,

Roger Kucienski, O.S.B.
(Frater) Roger Kucienski, O.S.B.

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