

7/17/59

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ferrater,
I would surely have written far sooner, had it not been as you guessed. I misplaced your address almost immediately, and rediscovered it only after I had decided that - vive gauche or no - vive gauche - I was entitled to fresh linen at my hotel. The maid found your address neatly filed under my pillow. Although I have no idea how it got there, I am very glad to have found you.

Paris has been cool and wonderful, and, until two days ago, very much alive. The inhabitants of St. Germain des Pres seem to have slept not at all between the twentieth and the fourteenth of July. Uninterrupted singing, energetic dancing, and thunderous salutes of fire-

works possessed the quarter²⁾
for four solid days. The
high point of the celebration
was the appearance of a
leashed duck in front of the
Café Flore. On Tuesday
night the duck was repeat-
edly doused from the sixth
floor of a neighboring build-
ing, but since it is quite
difficult accurately to aim
nine successive bucketfuls
of water at a small and
very active animal upon
the sidewalk, most specta-
tors were nearly drowned,
and I - caught up in the
duck-sympathizing spirit
of the occasion - have, still,
a slight cold.

Nonetheless, the holiday
in Paris was wonderful.
On Monday a group of
friends and I will drive
to Madrid to spend, if
it is terribly hot, two weeks

3)
somewhere on the coast, or
if it is tolerably cool, two
weeks just driving around.
Since we shall surely dis-
agree about whether it is
hot or cool, the group of
four will probably split
as soon as we reach Spain.
What I shall do then de-
pends on who escapes with
the car.

I should like to thank you
so very much for having
been so kind to me in Bar-
in. If I do appear in Bar-
celona, please feel free to tell
me that you are very busy,
or that you have left for
the country, or something
like that, since I am so very
tempted to impose upon your
hospitality again. I shall
write Cynthia tonight to
propose Jaime for member-
ship in the Noble Book Club,

to which his father already⁴⁾
belongs, and of which Cy-
thia Lovelace is founder-
president. Thank you again
for a most lovely time.

Very sincerely,
Berata

10-VIII-59.