

CHILDREN'S BOOK GUILD

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 16, 1947

Hilda, my dear:-

All I know is what I read -- in this case in Mrs. Miller's letter. But since she says you are in Holland, it must be so. Family? Does that mean all the children including Elizabeth? At any rate, I think you may like to have this letter come to you there. So I send it forthwith.

We think of you. We speak of you. We miss you mightily. After you come back, can't you come to Washington, say in book fair week, the third week in October?

We meet now at a very ritzy place, the American Association of University Women. We have an excellent room. The food is good, and it is easier to get to.

I am struggling with the darndest book to write. I would think once in a while I might pick an easy subject, but I don't seem to have the knack or something. And my community jobs continued to grab me. But somebody has to do them. In the last Harpers a man says everyone should give at least 2%, so I'm going to start figuring close on the Lord! After all writing should be given some time. Or shouldn't it?

Give my love to Holland. I can just see, and hear, your mother rejoicing mightily and catching up years of conversation. I don't think that even your oldest son will have a chance!

And will you get a book on the run? I'll wager you will. Well bless you all, and come back to America. The continent can't get along without you.

Always

Catherine

We went out early this morning to look upon some sprays of showy orchids. And besides these we saw two scarlet tanagers -- males at the same time. Since one scarlet tanager is always the Holy Ghost to me, my theology is just now slightly confused. For two... I always expect the whole woods to burst into flame. Perhaps with the world as it is the Holy Ghost has to divide himself! Atomize shall we say? Might be the only solution. Don't blame me -- I have been looking at Russia's 1946 books for children this past week. It is the German pattern all over. Perhaps worse. Put Holland in your pocket, and bring it over here!

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