

March 13 40

Dear People,

Here's a letter that never got sent. As you see, that crisis is over.<sup>1</sup> We are still in our super apartment, cozy as can be.

I wrote to Mary Barry.

A week or so ago I met M. and Mme. Scherer, my old French prof. and wife, on the rue de Vaugirard. He was on permission after a slight illness. I had them up to lunch, and a few days later they took me to see The Blue Angel (circa 1929)<sup>2</sup> which was still an excellent movie, and to tea chez leurs parents. There they played me the records they bought in Mexico, making me very happy. M. Scherer is wangling for a job as a liaison officer, but hasn't got it yet. M. Wencelius, my other prof., has succeeded in getting one of these sinecures, I'm glad to say.

Well, it's nice one war is over, at least. They were sort of looking for a cabinet crisis here in France<sup>3</sup> when the peace terms came out, but the thing didn't come.

No startling news, you see. The thing that is worrying us now is the amazing lack of mail from home. Nobody has written us for weeks. It begins to look sinister.

Love & write me.

Me

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<sup>1</sup> On March 12, 1940, the day before this letter was written, Finland signed a peace treaty with the Soviet Union after the latter invaded Finland, capturing Viipuri, Finland's second largest city. The Finns were compelled to give up significant territory.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_World\\_War\\_II\\_%281940%29#February\\_1940](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_World_War_II_%281940%29#February_1940) accessed 2015-09-20)

<sup>2</sup> *The Blue Angel*, 1930, starring Emil Janning, Marlene Dietrich, and Kurt Gerron. "The Blue Angel is a sleazy bar and the local boys go there to see Lola who is the dancer. The teacher goes there to confront his students only to fall for the dancer." ([http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3565328/?ref=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_6](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3565328/?ref=fn_al_tt_6) accessed 2015-09-20)

<sup>3</sup> French Prime Minister Daladier resigned one week after this letter was written.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_World\\_War\\_II\\_%281940%29#February\\_1940](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_World_War_II_%281940%29#February_1940) accessed 2015-09-20)

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