

April 5, 1933.

Dear Mr. Bless:-

For weeks and months I was expecting to learn that our agreement regarding Falling Star would be settled any day. I haven't heard anything from my lawyers or Doubledays for a long time and my requests to Ullstein finally to come to a settlement, for some unknown reason remained without results. Yesterday Mr. Lert arrived here and gave me a little report about some conference he had with Ullstein before his departure. As it seems, Ullstein are worried about their rights to sell the Continental copyrights of the novel. I cannot quite understand how this happened - maybe some misunderstanding in the correspondence of my lawyers may have caused it. Anyway - as you and I have agreed upon all the points of the proposed contracts and as I assured Ullsteins again today, all European Continental rights - with the exception of the English and American rights - are theirs, I hope this contract will be finally signed by all parties.

It would be nice for a poor writer to see a little money after such a long time since all the payments were stopped. Now here comes my request, dear Mr. Bless: You know the present conditions in Germany and that no money which comes to Germany would ever return into my hands. Therefore may I remind you to handle the payments as you did it before and to send my share of the royalties not to Ullstein but directly to me. My address is: Vicki Baum, c/o Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studio, Culver City, Calif.

Now here comes another matter: Ullsteins owe me a very considerable amount of money too and will most probably not get the permit to send money out of Germany. Therefore I asked Ullstein to carry over their share of the English American royalties to me as a part of the money they owe me up to now. I hope very much that Ullsteins will agree with this suggestion. The reasons of writing you this is that I ask you kindly to keep back the money including Ullsteins share, until Ullstein receive my request and can give me and you their ideas about the matter. The point is that money as soon as it reaches Germany can never be brought out again. You will understand - I am sure - that after fixing my belt on the last notch for such a long time I am anxious at last and at least to get the money and not to have it attested in Germany.

I hope you and your family are well - will you please give my best regards to all of them. Did you publish any interesting books recently and would you be kind enough to present me with some



of them? Maybe I could write some little book reports too.  
I am very anxious to hear your personal opinion about this  
money matter.

With many thanks and best regards.

Sincerely yours,