

July 20, 1985

Dear B

We have always spoken about the unique combination of worker and intellectual but it was two different people, wasn't it? Well how about thinking of yourself as doing it all in one person? That is the truth as it's involved in my proposal that you be the one to combine with Anne in this trip to Mexico on the ~~XXXXXX~~ relation of the new Spanish edition of RLWLKM to the expansion of outright new international relations in Mexico as well as with the Latino work right here.

I know all the complications and problems -- well, almost all -- that you would encounter in planning for something that new and unusual for you. I'm also quite confident about your ability to ~~xx~~ achieve this leap, which is so crucial both for Marxist-Humanism as a whole and for your own self-development. The more barriers one encounters in attempting a leap, the more creative one must be. Anne will surely help you in every respect and I know that she looks forward to your collaboration, which is by no means restricted to your mastery of the Spanish language like a native, but then you were always great with languages, even when you were naive enough to think of yourself as a mystic.

The only thing that I fear -- and for this too ask Mary to tell you what it is that I had to encounter when Marta set up a meeting for me and I saw it being taken over by her ~~ffi~~ friend, the Stalinist -- is that if Anne and you do get invitations to speak to some groups that there'll be great ~~xx~~ pressure for you to speak as an American worker with so many "workerist" questions asked of you that no time will be left to explain that you're a Marxist-Humanist. You should never allow them to separate the two subjects by insisting that yes, you are working in such and such a shop, but you are a Marxist-Humanist and act that way also at work. (Just one thing on the question of separating Marxist-Humanism from asking you to speak as only worker. I had brought a present for the WL group -- the WL painting we had that Paul had made on Woman as Reason in which the main outstanding portrait was of a Black woman. And the Stalinist dared to say that Mexican women do not identify with that, it would have to be Mexican!)

If you can find time to write me before the Plenum, I would like to hear from you on your trip with Anne to Mexico.

Yours,

Ray
*No one taught me how
to spell my name Ray*

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