

February 12, 1955

Dear Herbert Marcuse:

Another tour had been in the offing for me when I received your letter of last month, but that has been called off for the time being. Perhaps you know that complications with the authorities arose. If you do not, then in good time you will. I still think it will be possible for me to get to New York in a month or so and if so, please tell me how often you get to New York and how easy it would be to contact you. Please note my change of address:

Raya Danayevskaya, c/o J. Dwyer, 4995-28th Street, Detroit, 10, Mich/

This, then, is mere acknowledgment of your letter, not a dispute with points we definitely disagree on--relationship of worker and intellectual--or those we might find greater agreement with. I was looking forward especially to meet and talk with you precisely on that question of dialectics for I had been working for quite some time on the Absolute Idea, Absolute Knowledge, Absolute Mind which, to me, is "to be free" rather than merely "to have freedom" and answers the question of the man on the street who wants to know whether in this totalitarian age: can man be free? We have indeed reached the age of absolutes that are not in heaven but concretely in life when the question that bothers philosophers is the same that the ordinary worker asks in his everyday workaday world.

Forgive the hurried and unclear nature of this but when you have a paper and the daily routine of administration there is no time for careful phrasing.

Yours sincerely,

*Raya Danayevskaya*

12036