Translated by Kristin Jacobsen and Maiken Boysen, 13 November 2017.

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| Lindevangen 10. 6 Mars 1931.  Kære Poul.  Tusind Tak for Dit Brev, - og undskyld mig at jeg først nu svarer derpaa; men Affairen med Bogen havde taget saa stærk[[1]](#footnote-1) paa mig at jeg blev syg, derpaa kom Gerda hjem, og jeg har haft saa meget at gøre med Udstillingen.  Da jeg mærkede, hvor daarligt Resultatet truede med at blive, trak jeg Bogen helt tilbage.  Hasselbalch gav som en af de vægtige Grunde til ikke at udgive Bogen den: at en Smædeskriver i sit Blad havde skrevet noget om mig, som jeg iøvrigt aldrig har læst.  Jeg har levet her i København som i en Gifttaage af fæl og ondsindet Sladder. Du kan tro, det har været slemt for en stakkels syg og svag Pige. Jeg ønskede bare at dø. Men nu har Bladet vendt sig. Folk bevidner mig deres Medfølelse – jeg havde gerne undværet begge Dele, baade: at de var onde paa mig og at de nu har ondt af mig.  Flere Forlæggere har nu henvendt sig til mig, og jeg er klar over, at jeg kan faa min Bog ud, naar jeg vil – ogsaa fra Udlandet er der sket Henvendelser.  Du viste Dig atter som min gode Ven, da Du skrev til mig! Det er meget muligt, jeg om kort Tid henvender mig til Dig, men ikke igennem Forlægger.[[2]](#footnote-3)  De allerhjærteligste Hilsner fra Din Lili  Jeg længes saa meget efter Vibeke. Hils hende fra mig og sig hende at jeg finder hendes Portrait et af Gerdas bedste Billeder.[[3]](#footnote-4) | Lindevangen 10. 6 March 1931.  Dear Poul.  Thousand thanks for your letter, – and I’m sorry that I am just now answering; but the affair with the book had drained me so much that I became ill, then Gerda came home, and I have had so much to do with the exhibition.  When I realized how bad the result threatened to become, I withdrew the book altogether.  Hasselbach gave as one of his weightiest reasons not to publish the book: that a libeler in his newspaper had written something about me, which incidentally I have never read.  I have lived here in Copenhagen in a poison fog of ugly and malicious gossip. Believe me, it has been bad for a poor sick and weak girl. I just wanted to die. But now the table has turned. People express to me their sympathy – I would have preferred to do without both parts, first: that they were mean to me as well as that they now feel sorry for me.  Several publishers have now approached me and I am aware that I can get my book out when I want – there have also been approaches from abroad.  You showed yourself again as my good friend, when you wrote to me! It is very possible I will approach you shortly, but not through a publisher.  Very heartfelt greetings from your Lili  I long so much for Vibeke. Greet her from me and tell her that I find her portrait one of Gerda’s best pictures. |

1. Should be stærkt. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lili could also have meant “the publisher” but left out the word. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Written along left edge of letter. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)