



Little Rock, Ark.
April 3rd 1941

Dear Swami Nikhilananda —

I think I've been leaving you under a false impression for some time. Since writing you last I have read the "Life of Vivekananda". I read it in stages during long train rides. Twice I broke down and wept. The picture of his triumphant return to India was overwhelming. One of the greatest triumphs I believe, that a human being has ever known. (To be followed unfortunately by the bitter realization of its illusory nature!)

The long quotation which Rolland gives about the "unknown Buddhas" was equally momentous and accorded deeply with my own intuitions. I intend to cite this passage in its entirety somewhere in my book, when I come to speak of Vivekananda, which I feel compelled to

Ramakrishna appeals to me tremendously — because he was the incarnation of joyousness, of wisdom, of tolerance, and above all because he found God everywhere, because he raised man beyond belief and devotion to a realization of his own divinity, his own

Henry Miller Letters to Swami Nikhilananda

Henry Valentine Miller (1891–1980). His most famous work is “Tropic of Cancer” (1934). Reflecting on Swami Vivekananda in his letter of April 3, 1941 he writes: “Twice I broke down and wept. the picture of his triumphant return to India was overwhelming. One of the greatest triumphs, I believe, that a human being has ever known.”