

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies  
USHMM, RG-10.086/5 of 13; a fully commented edition is available in VEJ2/1  
The Germans and the Holocaust - Coping Strategies of the German Jews  
Translation: *B01 Letter from Amelie to her son*

Handwritten letter by Amalie Malsch, Düsseldorf, to Wilhelm Malsch, Long Island (New York), dated 1.1.1938

My Dear Child!

On Boxing Day we wrote you a long letter, you've most certainly already received it by now. The telegram, 'at home dad', was also reason to rejoice. You were definitely in very good spirits.

Hopefully you've also told Uncle Eugen. Now we are waiting agonizingly for Stuttgart, surely it has to arrive soon. Here we heard that the ships are booked out months in advance, we want to find out in the next few days if this is really the case, hopefully not. We'll send you news as soon as we know something. Today we received a letter from Alfred, he's moved to London permanently with his wife and wants to get his mother etc. to join them later. He said that you'd also written to him that we'd be able to depart soon to join you, oh may the dear Lord make it happen. He is a dear boy, very warm, we like him a lot. Has Franklin answered yet? Artur has also written to him. I'd like to know myself just how much the second surety bond is? You even mention a third. Of course, we have to do our utmost *now* to make sure we can join you *soon*. We're living with the Steinhardts, in one room, that's quite enough until we can emigrate. St are very nice to us, as you can well imagine, most of the time we're with them in the flat, the old friendship has stood the test of time, you know them as well and were here in their flat as you said your goodbyes, we've got the room that's straight ahead when you come up the stairs. My dear child, I'm just so happy that Paula is with me again. She looks – thank God – really well, likes to eat well and sleep a lot. We also got a letter today from Uncle Ernst, he is very pleased with his now job. How's the uncle there? I'm so worried about how you're going to make a living. Why don't you write about that in more detail? Are you living *together* with Marta?

Where do you eat? Have you already meet friends there? If only [we] were with you, *this is our greatest worry at the moment* and the only thing we think about. Ernst can be glad if his wife even goes to him, I can't really see it happening myself. We're expecting mail from you in the coming days, we're very curious to read your first letter. For just once, things must turn out alright and fall into place, I pray for it every single day, and just once the Dear Lord has to answer. My dear child, how are you managing with your washing and clothes? Keep warm, that's the main thing, to stay healthy. You've bought yourself some underwear I hope. We haven't heard anything from Irma for ages, nor from Ilse in M. Gladbach. Is Irma and her husband heading there soon? M. Gladbach would probably want go there aswell?

Martin wanted to take over the surety bond for them maybe, they showed us the letter he wrote. My dear child, do all you can to stay healthy, hopefully our reunion is no longer far off. A thousand greetings + kisses from your Mother who loves you so much.

*translated by Paul Bowman*