

[From Lydia Saegenschnitter
to Bertha and Paul Zwar.
Translated by Chris Greenthaner, Croydon 2006.]

Laura 16 October
1907

Greetings of grace and peace,

At last I must write you a few lines as I haven't written in a long time. I don't know myself how long ago it was.

Dear Bertha, how are you? Things don't want to go right with me any more. I've had such pain in my neck and head since June that from time to time I hardly know what to do with myself. I've been doctoring myself already for a long time but it doesn't seem to want to help. Tomorrow I'm going to the doctor again. He wants to test [?] my eyes. He thinks that perhaps I need glasses. At times I am so weak in the head that I forget everything. Otherwise I feel quite well.

The children and Gustav are well, thank God. Yesterday we began to make hay. Otherwise everything is alright.

We haven't had any heavy rain for a long time. Only a light shower. That was a few weeks ago - we sometimes [illegible word] had more.

But now everything is looking good. We won't have a big harvest though - but we might have an average one.

Darling [liebe] Bertha, have you heard something from the Winters lately? We last heard in September when Anna and nine children were at the Laura show. She visited strangers but had no time for all of us relatives. She still has a big head. Well let her go. One can't pity her. She gave everything to Heinrich. She knew him and how he handled money, so let her work and learn how hard it is to earn money. They are all well. Only poor Rudolph. I still won't give her anything because I believe the more one gives to them the more one will have to give and one receives no thanks. She just proved that again. I believe that if they come, they will come back to Laura one day.

Dear Sister and Brother, otherwise I have no news. Hopefully you will come and visit us some time. I'd like to write more but I have a lot of pain and I must stop now. Please write again soon and please forgive me that I kept you waiting so long. I can not remain like this for much longer, the way I used to. Hopefully I'll soon be better. I have Hulda home at the moment. She still has to go to lessons for a year. Now I must close with many heartfelt greetings from us all to you all.

I remain with love
Your sister and sister-in-law

Lydia Saegenschnitter.

