

Translated letters and Hilberg

Daniela Grabher's Letter to Kathi Lampert 2013

Hello Kathi

May I say Kathi to you? I am Daniela Grabher, born in 1971 and you were born 1913. We both are not so different. I'm a woman with LD and you too. I am so sorry that you had to suffer all that. It hurts me in my heart, that you had to suffer like that. If you were born as me in 1971, then you would have survived.

We would have met at People First Group and you would have worked with us and surely be engaged for people with LD.

We both would have been certainly good friends and have done together many things. It's too bad and makes me sad that I could not get to know you and that you had to die in such a cruel way.

Kathi, if you could write back... You certainly could talk much about your life. And me too. Oh Kathi, I believe, you will not come back, even if I would like that. You will not respond to my letter and will not write back to me.

I miss you very much.

Best regards

Daniela

Wilhelm Bruners: Apokalypse

Ihr sagt: Wir bringen Freiheit und Sicherheit.

Ich aber sehe Menschen sterben.

Ihr sagt: Wir verteilen die Güter der Welt.

Ich aber sehe Menschen verhungern.

Ihr sagt: Wir bringen Frieden.

Ich aber sehe Menschen Krieg führen.

Ihr sagt: Wir werden siegen.

Ich aber frage nach dem Opfer.

You say, we bring freedom and security.

But I see people die.

You say: We distribute the goods of the world.

But I see people starve.

You say, we bring peace.

but I see people wage war.

You say, we will win.

But my eye turns to the victims.

Raoul Hilberg

Raoul Hilberg, the austrian-american historian and holocaust expert once said: "In Austria and Germany the holocaust is part of every family's history."

This quote leads to the notion, that we all should be aware that in one way or another a part of our family was affected by the holocaust. It can't be put aside of us, we cannot separate ourselves from this history as if it happened somewhere else far

away from us. If the holocaust is a part of our family's history, we should be even more interested in memorizing it. Perhaps it is a chance to get this important issue away from political correctness which nobody helps at all. Being aware of a personal affection this issue gets the part in our memory it deserves. The process of finding a victim of the holocaust, Kathi-Lampert, the practice of memorizing it again and again by visiting Schloss Hartheim with our students, by memorizing her in the lessons, at conferences, in talks with visitors of our school, we keep contact with our own history, with our own guilt and obligation to never forget it. Forgetting means being endangered of doing these things again.

Christoph Schindegger, Kathi-Lampert-School, Götzis/Austria