

Aberdeen, Wash.
June 22nd 1949

Dear Mr. Haan:

Thank you for Mrs. Stephens Filigno's address. I do not know anything about the Morrison case because that evening Miss Christine Larson and I were seeing a play in a Salt Lake theater. She and I lived next door to each other, I at 1229 East South Temple in Salt Lake, but I will tell you about Otto Applequist, Joe Hill and myself.

I was engaged to marry Otto. All the neighbors knew that, because my little brother August had told them that. A week before Joe was wounded I told Otto that I had changed my mind that I was not marrying any body. He got very angry and told me "I liked Joe better than him." I said no. I heard Joe tease Otto once that he was going to take me away from him.

Please do not misunderstand me. Otto and Joe were perfect gentlemen. They treated me with the utmost respect because they thought so much of our whole family. Joe was wounded on the same night as the Morrison case. I came home from Salt Lake the following Sunday afternoon. I saw Joe in my grandmother's parlor. He was lying on her old fashioned iron cot that folds up at each side for a bed. I asked him what was the matter. He said "nothing much." But I was not satisfied with the answer, so he finally told me that Otto shot him in a fit of anger. He was sorry right after and carried him to Dr. McHugh's office at old 14th South and State Street.

When I heard this about Otto I was very angry myself, than I knew that Otto went away because Joe may die. But when I heard about the Morrison case, I was burdened and did not know what to think. I saw Joe every Sunday afternoon in the Salt Lake jail. I would speak English to him, but he would talk Swedish to me in a low voice and tell me not to say a word because he was innocent of the Morrison case, therefore the State of Utah could not prove him guilty. I have had two letters from Herbert Wright in Murray, Utah, he says that Sven Erickson made the same statement to him that he did to you. My uncle could not have made such a statement because he knew that Joe was innocent of the Morrison case.

Dear Mr. Haan I hope that my letter will help you with your novel.

Yours for the O.B.U.
Mrs. Hilda Erickson

Redden. Wash.

June 22nd 1949

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