The Robert Graves Diary

Stephen Miller
AAC / ÖAW
Texts & Files WS 2005/06
Universität Wien

Robert Graves (1895-1985)

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Diary 1935–39

- Diary contains not only entries but also enclosures
- So what is the “entry”?
  - Enclosures relegated to a footnote
  - Summarised, rarely, if ever, reproduced
  - http://web.uvic.ca/hrd/graves/gravdiary2.htm

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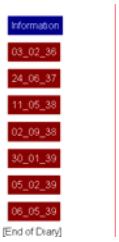
Diary Menu



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Names mentioned

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Diary Entry 3 February 1936

Feb 3 Monday

[Deya, Majorca 1936] Catherine's birthday

Cold wind. Gelat sprinkling nitrate on garden. Enclosed letter from Mitchell. [End]

Replied through Karl that no necessity for letter & that since the situation had been thus complicated I would stabilize it at non-recognition

Going over Stealing homily with Laura

To Posada where paths now finished and lemon & apricot planted.

Karl decided to take holiday in Palma.

Finished going over Stealing late.

Have had canary in my work room for the last few days.

Freezias & wild anemones at their best.

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Facsimile of entry

Enclosure

Enclosure

3rd January, 1936.
Robert Graves, ESQ.,
Deya. Majorca.
Dear Mr Graves,

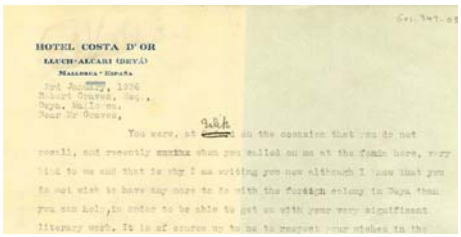
You were, at Oxford [illegible] on the occasion that you do not recall, and recently [illegible] when you called on me at the Fonda here, very kind to me and that is why I am writing you now although I know that you do not wish to have any more to do with the Foreign colony in Deya than you can help, in order to be able to get on with your very significant literary work. It is of course up to me to respect your wishes in the matter [illegible] by leaving you alone now that I have decided to live for some considerable time in Deya, but there is one thing which will be rather unfortunate for me unless I clear it up. Talked in the question of whether when we meet, as we are bound to do in such a small place and have done twice already, we are going to recognise each other. I am quite prepared to respect your wishes in the matter also. I just want to know, one way or the other, and I am afraid that you may already think I have deliberately ignored you, thus repaying with rudeness your kindness.

It's not twice since you came to see me at the Fonda, once in the little café opposite the post office and once, last night, at the café Aquiarius. The first time I thought that you deliberately did not notice me, and for that reason I did the same thing last night to you, but it has since occurred to me that perhaps you did not recognise me in the imperfect light of the little cafe, when I was too diffident to speak to you first and only tried to catch your eye.

I shall do whatever you wish in the matter. I think you are a genius, a and that you are quite right to put your work first, but I find the present uncertain position very embarrassing, and would like to end it.

Yours sincerely,
David M. Mitchell

Facsimile of enclosure



HOTEL COSTA D'OR
LLUCH-ALCARI (DEYÁ)
MALLORCA - ESPAÑA

3rd January, 1936
Robert Graves, Esq.,
Deya, Mallorca,
Dear Mr Graves,

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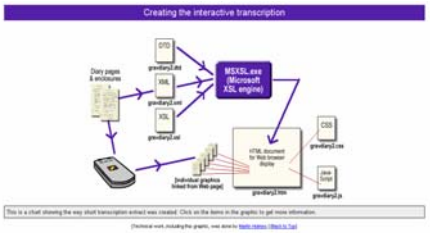
Editorial Comment

The Magic involved…