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13th September, 1965

Miss Raya Dunayevskaya
4482 - 26th St.
Detroit, Mich., 48210

Dear Raya,

This is just a note to thank you for your letter of September 8 and your quick answer to my inquiry about the Guggenheim Foundation, which is very helpful.

I am looking forward to reading soon your review on Sartre's autobiography. I personally believe that Sartre represents the quintessence of the mood of a decaying bourgeoisie, renouncing however all religious and idealistic ideology and claiming wrongly to be the philosophy of the future by making an alleged synthesis with Marxism. The essence of his philosophy is an extreme form of egocentric "individualism". It seems to me that Sartre is a parallel to Stirner. While the latter represented a bourgeoisie in its progressive stage, Sartre represents it in its decaying phase. The basic contrast to Marx lies in its profound hopelessness and despair about man, not to speak of his theory of absolute freedom. One must read the autobiography of Mme. de Beauvoir, and especially the third volume, to see the ~~little courage~~ ^{little courage} and the egocentric atmosphere which pervades the life of these people, ~~and about~~ ^{and about} Mme. de Beauvoir, a rather untalented and ~~same writer who~~ ^{same writer who}, is so much more frank than Sartre.

With all good personal wishes,

Cordially yours,

E.F.

Erich Fromm

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