20.1.39 [January 20, 1939]

My dears!

I’ll ask you to please not laugh at my Yiddish. But I don’t know how to write any better. I read the letter from you, and it makes me very happy that it’s going well for you. Thank you very much for your good wishes. I’ve been married for 6 months now, and thank God, it’s been going well. My husband is an engineer, and he works in a Jewish factory in Zeri,[[1]](#footnote-1) where Hershl worked. In Zeri, I have a shoe business, so materially, it isn’t too bad, and we can save up a little too. But this is not everything. The political situation is really terrible, and no one knows what’s going on from one day to the next. Anyone who has the means to emigrate is leaving. I have a request for you. My husband is a professional [or skilled] worker and so am I. We have some money, and we also want to emigrate, because it’s not possible to live this way anymore. The way it is these days,

--Verso—

*Other side of the page*

one must help one another, and so one can ask. I also have a strong feeling that you will be able to help us out in some way, you or your sister. I think that you or Norbert should send me an affidavit for me and my husband so that I can emigrate. No doubt you already know how to do this, and if you don’t, you can go to a notary and inquire. The details and other particulars we will send soon if you agree to this. I believe that it will work because others have done the same thing, and we are in better circumstances because we have a profession [or trade] and some money and we won’t become a burden to anyone. I’m begging you to do this for us and please write to me if it’s possible, and I will provide you with what you need. Write a reply. Kisses to you and regards to yours,

Lola and her husband

P.S. I can’t ask you for everything because I understand that you might not be in the position to do this, but you can explain to [Meniek?] or Norbert. You know that I never ask

*New page*

-2-

anyone for anything if we don’t need to. I’m turning to you because you know me, and the other uncles don’t know me as well. You should explain to them that they don’t need to be afraid because my husband earns well and his diploma is valid everywhere in the world, and he is also very skilled and, most importantly, he can work and find a way to earn a living. I’m also not asking for anyone to bear any expense on our behalf.

 *Other side of the page*

We’ll pay everything back. Of course, you understand that money isn’t everything. But what good is money when the moral question is for us more important than anything else?

In any case, I ask you to please write. My mother, too, is writing a letter to you. Many regards to you and I ask you not to be angry at me because of my Yiddish.

Lola

1. There may be other possibilities but here are three places this might be: (1) Dabas, Hungary (also known as Sári), 25 miles SSE of Budapest; Żary, Poland, 253 miles W of Warszawa; Żory, Poland, 182 miles SSW of Warszawa. There is also Seirijai in Lithuania, but the nature of the Yiddish (which is very “German”) suggests that “Zeri” was located in a German-speaking area. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)