

3080 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
7 July 1987

Mr. Jon Matson  
Harvard University Press  
79 Garden Street  
Cambridge MA 02138

Dear Mr. Matson,

This morning I received a letter from Dr. Isaiah Gafni, who teaches Jewish History at the Hebrew University, requesting translation rights for a Russian-language edition of AGAINST THE APOCALYPSE (Harvard UP, 1984). So let me tell you a little about this outfit in Jerusalem and why Harvard should grant its request free of charge.

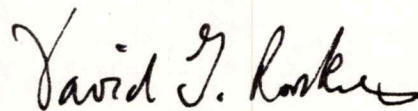
Since 1973, the Center for Research and Documentation of East European Jewry at the Hebrew University has published 131 volumes of what it calls The Aliyah Library. As you yourself can see from the copy of the catalogue that I've enclosed, most of these titles are translations of Jewish fiction, poetry and scholarship designed to acquaint Soviet Jews both outside the Soviet Union and, to a surprising extent, inside its borders, with their lost heritage. I would be rubbing shoulders with the likes of Gershom Scholem, I. B. Singer, Malamud, Bellow and Henry Roth (imagine -- they translated Call It Sleep!). The Academic Advisory Board includes the eminent historian Prof. Shmuel Ettinger. All the work is done by volunteers and the books are distributed on a subsidized basis (within the Soviet Union, the distribution is obviously done gratis).

It is a great honor both for me and for the Press that AGAINST THE APOCALYPSE was chosen for the series. I trust you will expedite the necessary paper work and will waive all the normal fees. Please address your correspondence to:

Prof. Isaiah Gafni  
22 Hatibbonim Street  
Jerusalem, Israel.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
David G. Roskies

cc. Prof. Isalah Gafni