But this morning I woke and thought it time for a letter. The breeze through the birch trees is that two degrees cooler, making thought feasible again. Last night's event celebrating *Dead Ladies* left my head swimming as to whom I'd choose – Annemarie Schwarzenbach, Madeleine L'Engle, Eileen Gray? Or indeed Anne Morrow Lindbergh, whose late letters I'm reading now.

How life slips into silence, in their and my and other lives. Only later do you realize this silence is worse than the imperfect – which, in the moment, seemed the worst thing of all.

Within the day's coolness is the thought of autumn. I remember discovering the old Irish calendar – May in the summer, November in the winter, August in the fall – in February, with its light glimmering behind the curtains when I woke and its viburnums blossoming pink in the courtyard, and thinking it was quite right to place the month in spring.

All best wishes and more soon,

Sylee ⁵

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^{1.} Swiss journalist and photographer who died in 1942 at the end of a remarkable-sounding life about which we very much hope someone writes us a letter and tells us more.

^{2.} American writer, best known for *A Wrinkle in Time*, who died in 2007.

³ Irish furniture designer and architect who died in 1976.

⁴ American author and aviator who died in 2001.

⁵ Sylee Gore is a food writer and photographer in Berlin, who blogs at berlinreified.com. She has not died.