

O'Alaive

August 12<sup>th</sup>

Solve, Alvdal, Norway

Dear Miss Montgomery

Thank you very much for  
sending us the copy of your  
manuscript which followed us  
up here and caught up with  
us at last. It was very  
kind of you to include us  
in your book which we are  
sure will be valuable and  
interesting. All our best wishes  
for good luck with it!

We are enjoying a cool  
August after a hot July  
above the Arctic Circle  
swimming and fishing in the  
says of the midnight sun



Soon these happy days full  
of anticipation will be over  
now when we fly back  
home on Labour Day.

With our best wishes  
yours

Erget Paris 177 ul ad  
Ingru Paris d'Aulaire



"Ola"

Published by Doubleday Doran Year 1932

Real name E. P. L'A Pen name Edgar <sup>Perry</sup> Aulairc

What do your family and friends call you? Edgar

A. YOUR BACKGROUND

(or no)

Date of birth Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 98 Place of birth Campo Blenio, Switzerland

Father's occupation Artist Number of Brothers X and sisters 1

Father's nationality Swiss Mother's nationality American

Kind of home during childhood (farm, small town, city apt. etc.) City

Munich, Paris Where Florence

Amount of schooling (high school, college, etc.) College - Art school

Economic status during childhood (poor, middle class, wealthy) Bohemian

Special interests as a child (sports, books, games, etc.) books

paintings

Childhood ambitions Art

When did you begin to write? wrote and drew from

Why? Surroundings early childhood

Who encouraged you? Surroundings

What and when was your first success or recognition? 1922 - illustrated

books for German publishers

How did you happen to write for children? Collaboration with

Muzii

Anything else about your background which has a bearing on your writing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



B. THE WRITING OF THIS BOOK

Where did you get the idea for the book? Through Norwegian  
Scenery and children

When? (Season as well as year) spring, summer 1931

Were the characters real people, or based on real people? no

Where were you living at the time? New York - Paris - Norway

What was your major occupation? Art

Names (also nicknames) and identities of members of your household at the time. (If children, give ages.) Inge

Did you talk the book idea over with any of them? yes

Did you discuss it with an editor? yes

Where and how did you get the material? (library research, travel, personal experience, etc.) all 3

When did you begin to write the book? summer 31

Where? Norway

How much had you had published when you began it? (Give names of books)

Several adult abroad, several ill. in N.Y. Magic Rug (picture books) in coll. with Inge

What was your purpose in writing this book? To present Norway to American children

How do you write? (typewriter, long-hand, dictate) long hand or dictate

Where? (study, office, etc.) study

Do you keep regular office hours? If so, what are they? whole day half night

Do you revise much? lots Write easily or laboriously? laboriously

Do you let your family or friends read your work, or try it out on children? yes



Who makes your final copies? (yourself, private secretary, public typist, etc.) Yuzie

Did you make an outline before writing the book? many

Did you decide on the title first or last? early

How long did it take you to write the book? 9 months

Did you work on it steadily? very

Did it go fairly smoothly or did you hit rough spots? (Details of any particular difficulty and its solution would be appreciated.)

many rough spots

Was your book accepted immediately by a publisher? yes

Was it immediately popular on publication? yes

Anything else about your writing that might be of interest, especially anything that concerns this book.

### C. ILLUSTRATIONS

How much did you have to do with the illustrations of your book?

all of it

If you did them yourself, which came first, the pictures or the text?

pictures

What medium did you work in? lithography

How much experience had you had in illustrating? 10 years



D. WHAT SORT OF PERSON YOU ARE

What did you look like when you wrote this book? Dark or fair? medium

Tall or short? medium Thin or plump? medium

Color of eyes? hazel Wore glasses? no

Color of hair? medium Kind of hair--long or short? medium

Curly or straight? medium How did you wear it? parted on one side

Any special features of your appearance (square jaw, dimples, stoop, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you quiet or talkative? quiet Friendly or reserved? reserved

Do you laugh a great deal or are you usually grave? grave

Are you quick-tempered or calm and placid? seemingly placid but quite

What sort of clothes do you wear most when writing? (sports, suits, slacks, etc.) any old things

Favorite occupations and hobbies? farming - music

What is your normal speech like? (Meticulously correct, colloquial, slangy, abrupt, rambling, etc.) slight accent in every language

What are some of your pet expressions and exclamations? \_\_\_\_\_

If strongly religious, give denomination. \_\_\_\_\_

Any other details about yourself, no matter how trivial, which might help me to picture you in my own mind. see folder

Can you direct me to any articles or books which have been written about you? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a photograph or snapshot of yourself of about the vintage of your book, I would appreciate it. Of course I would return it promptly.



"Ola"

Published by Double Day Doran Paris Year 1932

Real name Ingrid Mordern Parin Pen name Ingrid Aulair

What do your family and friends call you? Ingrid or Inga

A. YOUR BACKGROUND

Date of birth Dec 27<sup>th</sup> - 04 Place of birth Kongsberg, Norway

Father's occupation Director of Ray Number of Brothers 1 and sisters 3

Father's nationality Norwegian Mother's nationality Norwegian

Kind of home during childhood (farm, small town, city apt. etc.) House  
in different Norwegian towns (partly government owned)

Amount of schooling (high school, college, etc.) Junior college, 5 years

Economic status during childhood (poor, middle class, wealthy) wealthy

Special interests as a child (sports, books, games, etc.) norwegian standards

Childhood ambitions skating, hiking, fishing, art, music, books

When did you begin to write? 1929

Why? for fun

Who encouraged you? Edgar

What and when was your first success or recognition? Children's

portraits from 1927 on - Ola as writing

How did you happen to write for children? Niece general

interest in children's psychology as a painter

Anything else about your background which has a bearing on your writing.



B. THE WRITING OF THIS BOOK

Where did you get the idea for the book? Through Norwegian Scenery and Children

When? (Season as well as year) Spring - summer 1931

Were the characters real people, or based on real people? no

Where were you living at the time? New York, Paris, Norway

What was your major occupation? Painting

Names (also nicknames) and identities of members of your household at the time. (If children, give ages.) Edgar

Did you talk the book idea over with any of them? yes

Did you discuss it with an editor? yes

Where and how did you get the material? (library research, travel, personal experience, etc.) all 3

When did you begin to write the book? Summer 31

Where? Norway

How much had you had published when you began it? (Give names of books) Magic Ring

What was your purpose in writing this book? To present Norway to American children

How do you write? (typewriter, long-hand, dictate) \_\_\_\_\_

Where? (study, office, etc.) Studio

Do you keep regular office hours? If so, what are they? whole day half

Do you revise much? yes Write easily or laboriously? laboriously

Do you let your family or friends read your work, or try it out on children? yes



Who makes your final copies? (yourself, private secretary, public typist, etc.) yes

Did you make an outline before writing the book? yes

Did you decide on the title first or last? early

How long did it take you to write the book? 9 months

Did you work on it steadily? very

Did it go fairly smoothly or did you hit rough spots? (Details of any particular difficulty and its solution would be appreciated.) many

rough

Was your book accepted immediately by a publisher? yes

Was it immediately popular on publication? yes

Anything else about your writing that might be of interest, especially anything that concerns this book.

### C. ILLUSTRATIONS

How much did you have to do with the illustrations of your book? all of it

all of it

If you did them yourself, which came first, the pictures or the text?

pictures

What medium did you work in? lithography

How much experience had you had in illustrating? little

little



D. WHAT SORT OF PERSON YOU ARE

What did you look like when you wrote this book? Dark or fair? fair

Tall or short? tall Thin or plump? slim

Color of eyes? bluegrey Wore glasses? no

Color of hair? blond Kind of hair--long or short? short

Curly or straight? permanent How did you wear it? as everybody else

Any special features of your appearance (square jaw, dimples, stoop, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you quiet or talkative? talkative Friendly or reserved? friendly

Do you laugh a great deal or are you usually grave? laugh

Are you quick-tempered or calm and placid? quick temp.

What sort of clothes do you wear most when writing? (sports, suits, slacks, etc.) anything

Favorite occupations and hobbies? writing, reading, driving, etc.

What is your normal speech like? (Meticulously correct, colloquial, slangy, abrupt, rambling, etc.) very rapid, accent in English

What are some of your pet expressions and exclamations? \_\_\_\_\_

in the next future

If strongly religious, give denomination. \_\_\_\_\_

Any other details about yourself, no matter how trivial, which might help me to picture you in my own mind. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Can you direct me to any articles or books which have been written about you? folder enclosed

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If you have a photograph or snapshot of yourself of about the vintage of your book, I would appreciate it. Of course I would return it promptly.