## ANDRIS'S LETTERS FROM "ŽAGATAS" FARMSTEAD

Labdien mila mamin es esmu Lagatinas vet man Lagatinas ir gluži srešas. Rīgā mēs iebraucām 14 novembur 5 no vita, in no Krasnojarskas mes isbraucam 6 novembri 6 va-karā. Es Rīgā dabūja nodsivot 2 dienas un tad atbaata krustmate ar Opapiņu man nakal Mams Bigā no vita deva vienu skeli baltmaises apsmeretu ar sviestu un kakro, risas reises rarēja est cik grib jusdiene dera putraimu supu ar karpeliem vakarā skidru putraim supu ar 3 aboliem. Mēs tad aisbraucām ar trambaju pie krustmates un tad paedam, drusku paciemojamiem un tad braucām uz Cesim ar vilcienu. Esis mūsu ar Opapinu sagaidīja veltas tanta ar Jarsi. Mēs iebraucām Žagatinas 12 nakti. Vesamama bij irvarīsi vanā. Mānas marās masicas gar gūlēja un veltas tanta mani sauca skatīties. Dacite bij sataujus at ad Majina saka kad Suntis atbraušot kad dosot vinam. Mēs jar šodien apskattjām visas gramatas un bildites. Edgatiras it suns Duxsis lai vins mani Mexostic es vinu sodien barosa ar suesta maixi. Paldu es cik vien gribu un irgulos siltā mikstā gulta visi mani loti mīlo. Manas slēpes ir siten un vita mēs iesim visit visinaties es ar slepen un Dace ar Maju ar regavinam. Es no pirma decembera tešu skola gramatas visas man vušot. Mana liecība by palikusi ra lupa tu un visa saplesta Es no Lagatinas unstoniem vel ne ka nesu redzejis rita man Dacite visu paradis visas savas mantas paradija. Ozol tanta ar bija misu vagonā. Mamin brauc uz Lagatinam mes tevi visi gaidam.

My dear Mummy, I am at "Žagatiņas", but "Žagatiņas" has become quite strange to me. We arrived in Riga on 14 November in the morning and we left Krasnayorsk on 6 November at six o'clock in the evening. I had to stay in Riga for two days and then the godmother and grandpa came to get me. In Riga, in the morning we were given a slice of white bread spread with butter and cocoa. At each meal time we could eat as much as we wanted. For lunch we were given barley soup with potatoes. In the evening we got thin barley soup with three apples. We took the streetcar to godmother's place and ate there, visited a bit and then took the train to Cesis. In Cesis grandpa and I were met by the aunt Velta and Marsis. We arrived in "Žagatinas" at midnight. Grandma had made some farina porridge. My little cousins were already asleep and aunt Velta called me to come and see them. Dacīte had saved up some sweets, Maijiņa says that when Guntis will come she would also give sweets to him. Today we already looked at all the books and pictures. There is a dog called Duksis in "Žagatinas". I fed him bread and butter today so he wouldn't bite me. I eat as much as I want and sleep in a warm and cozy bed. My skis are here and tomorrow we will go out with them. I on the skis and Maija and Dace on the toboggan. I will start school on the 1st of December. I will have all the necessary books. My report card had worn to a rag, all torn up. I have not yet seen anything of the farm animals at "Žagatinas". The next morning Dacīte showed me everything, showed me all her possessions. Aunt Ozols was also in our wagon. Mummy, come to "Žagatinas", we all long for you very much.

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Es eju skolā in mašos lali. Sodien in svetdiena un uz mar jāut. Mēs visi ter rakstam vestuli, Vecaistētis, es un mazā Maijina ar Daūti. Tuntis atvakstīja kad mamma esot palikusi slima. Lai mu Dieviņs der palīdz izveseloties un atbraukt atvāk uz Žagatinām. Tad man būtu ter daudz vika ko rādit. Man jau šuj uzvalku un jaunus zābakus lēsis. Mamīt cik loti es esumu priecigs kad varu iet latiešu zkolā. Mums katru sezdenu dod bibloteku un tad var lasit. Man loti patīk skolā. Vakaros kad es atnāku rad Velās ranta un Vecaistētis mamaša mani rekinat

Mand mila mamina, šodien in netdiena Mama branc tak majā, meriens vel cietunra nar ielikts. Es teri loti gaidu, un branc kamer vel manda ir Vakaras mēs visi spēlējam Melno pēteri. Mēs saskab tijam vēsas 1964 rakstītās vēstules, bij 100 rēstules, 5 kartinas, un 5 telegrāmas. Man loti patīk skolā mācīties. Kuram tu paidesi manas slēpes, jel ir vel šuntīr nae mums liz vienu dienu sniegs, un vakarā va sera sataisījām manas slēpes, un no vēta jau liz mokusis. A Jumme.

Dear mummy, we all miss you very much. I go to school and am doing well. Today is Sunday and I don't have to go to school. All of us are writing a letter to you, grandpa I and little Maijiṇa with Dacīte. Guntis wrote that mother had fallen ill. May God help you get well soon and come to "Žagatinas". Then I would have so much to show you here. I am getting a new suit and boots made in Cesis. Mummy, how very happy I am that I can go to a Latvian school. The library is made available to us every Saturday and then we can read. I like very much to be in school. In the evenings when I come home, then aunt Velta and grandpa teach me arithmetic.

1 January, 1947. My dear mummy, today is Sunday. Do come home, mum, no one has been put in prison yet. I long for you very much and come while there still is money. In the evenings we all play Black Peter. We counted all the letters written in 1946: there were 100 letters, five post cards, five telegrams. I like studying in the school very much. To whom did you sell my skis or does Guntis still have them? We had snow one day and we made skis for me, but the snow had melted by the morning. My skis are ready. A.Eglite