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Letter, n.d., from Jester J. Hairston to Eva Jessye

Jester J. Hairston

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2959 La Salle Ave.
Los Angeles 62,

My dear Sis Geroge:

I thank so much for thinking about me, though you must be as busy as a bearded paper hanger. I had no idea you were to begin your new position so soon. Congratulations and may God bless everything you do there in that new field. With your background in both music and the theatre you should have the greatest organization in town in a year or so. I early hope those Church officials will give you free rein to put your own ideas to work. They have no idea how very much talent you possess. How very fortunate they are to have you away from Broadway.

All your ideas seem good ones, Darling. Your choir should do well among the colleges in that area. Will you have any time to compose and arrange also? I sure hope so. At present I am arranging like

mad. I'm writing a book, in collaboration with Dr. Harry S. Wilson, head of the Music Dept. at Teachers College, Columbia U. and that is keeping me on the jump. I'm happy to report also that God has blessed me wonderfully this year. All my songs are selling very well. And speaking of my songs: you can order Mary's Boy Child or any of my arrangements among the music stores there in down town Detroit. I do not have any copies on hand, but they will get them at once for you. The publisher is Bourne, Inc. Mary's Boy Child # 51024. Mary, Mary, Where is Your Baby, # 51003 is one of my most popular Christmas Compositions. And another is Wonderful Counselor # 51015. You have done my Christmas Gift, haven't you? I wrote two more Calypso songs for Leonard's male choir (2 males songs). You can hear them in his album called Calypso