

## **The sick body, the inhabited body**

My vocation is very often the vocation of sickness. The illnesses which shrink my life, halt my progress, are my own poverty and I love them as such. Indeed, I am not capable of renouncing my own self, and abandoning everything in order to follow what is counselled, but if the Good God, seeing that I am too weak for acts of great generosity, is pleased to take from me my superfluities little by little, I am absolutely content with this. He decides for me and I let myself be carried by Him like a child who does not know how to walk or does not dare to. I have put my perfection in His hands and I let Him do as He wills.

Source: Marie Noël to abbé Mugnier, 8 October 1910, NOËL Marie et MUGNIER Abbé, *J'ai bien souvent de la peine avec Dieu : correspondance*, éd. Xavier Galmiche, Paris, Cerf, 2017, p. 62.