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Thursday 3 May 1945

Good Evening Bunny My Darling;

You'll have to excuse the difference in shading in the writing but it seems that my little experiment of letting the pen after I had cleaned it off, was not as successful as I had hoped it would be. Still and all, it must be the ink because I am now using another pen and other ink. I just discovered that I had been using India ink and didn't realize it. It makes quite a difference doesn't it? See what I mean when I say I need you here. I'm not fooling I'm getting quite absent minded lately. You don't suppose I'll turn out to be an absent minded professor do you? I hope not. You'll just have to take me in hand when I get back to you.

Josh Darling, the war in Europe is just about over now. Today we got the news of the surrender of the German armies in northern Italy and western Austria, which were supposed to be the last stronghold of the Germans. Along with that came the announcement of Adolf Hitler's death, and the fall of Berlin. It seems impossible that the rest can keep up the fight much longer. Doenitz, the new Nazi leader has issued the "fight till death" order though, which brings up the "64 question. Where's Himmler? He didn't simply evaporate and yet, after the rumor of his having offered to surrender to the British and Americans, he ceased to be heard of. It's my guess that this peace offer was a last minute bid to stir dissension between the Western Allies and Russia. It was too little and too late though. I hope we can go to work out here now and finish this part of the war, so I can get home to you again. It's impossible to tell you just how much my love for you has grown Darling. I'll love you always, even more than now and shall be the best husband you could possibly have chosen, even as you are the only girl who

can fulfill everything I want in a wife because all I want in a wife is you and that is something no other girl could ever have, it is very exclusively yours.

I did quite a bit of work this morning. It was all lettering work on signs for the office. There's a slight rush on now and they are managing to keep all of our draftsmen - that is my official designation here although I do all the fit and hand work and only incidental drafting jobs - quite busy most of the time, comparatively busy that is. The work comes in in spurts and we'll have nothing to do for a few days, and then everyone wants something done at once and each job is a rush job. That's the way it goes though.

This afternoon was my afternoon off but I'd rather not mention it because it was a very trying time. Kowalchuk wanted to order some travel books in Australia to send home but he had to work and the orders were only being accepted from 1 to 4 this afternoon. He asked me if I'd go down to put in the order for him. Very naively, I agreed. When I got there there were only eight fellows in line so I sat down to wait. To make a long story very short, Over an hour and a half later, I managed to put in the order. It seems that each application must be made out in triplicate and each sheet signed by some fellow there. Each fellow in line had orders for about a dozen other fellows. I really was about to blow my top after that. It wasn't Kowalchuk's fault because he didn't know just how it would be and I had promised I'd order them, so I just sweated out the whole time. I can assure you that I was in anything but a pleasant and forgiving mood at the time though.

What got my goat most was the fact that I had a lot of work planned and wasn't able to do anything

Except make another one of the envelopes in that Island series. It's taking me a long time to do them I know Honey, but I think you'll find them well worth the waiting for. I want to make a regular lining for the envelopes too, so they'll look very nice. Nothing but the best for you my Sweet.

I gave the mail clerk the money for a money order this morning. I am sending you \$5 for the furniture. Since I will probably not get the money order till late tomorrow I will not enclose it in this letter. If it should come before I mail the letter, I'll enclose it right in here.

This evening I played a little more volleyball and also played some ping pong. I want to keep up the exercise because I need it. The both games were very fast ~~and~~ and I fell quite worn out. The game of volleyball doesn't look very strenuous but I think it is as hard as any game can be. It certainly keeps the players on their toes and develops coordination and team ~~play~~ work. I like it very much. I broke even in ping pong, won 4 lost 4, and was lucky to get out of it that well because the other fellow was quite good.

I gave up on a very lucky man Darling. I received two letters from you and one from my Aunt Blanche today. She didn't have an awful lot to say except about the baby she is expecting about May 1st. She's there I told you I was so surprised over. She's been married about fifteen years now and this is her first child. I don't know whether it was a case of snatching at her last chance to have a baby or whether it was a mistake. I hope it's a girl because they wouldn't know how to bring up a boy. They are very nice really, but if they ever had a boy they'd want to keep him wrapped in cotton batting all the time and to

would have to be an ideal child. ⁴ So I hope it's a girl. She amused me in one part of ~~her~~ her letter where she says about the heir apparent "I sure will be glad when it is all over, it's so tiresome". She invited us to visit her and her husband when I get back. They are wonderful hosts, a little too good really because they just force stuff on people in their effort to treat them well.

Now we get to your letters. They are numbers 43 and 44, the last having been mailed the 25th of April. Eight days service isn't bad although I have gotten them faster. If they all came in that length of time I'd be well satisfied though. Particularly if I got one every day. They're so very nice my Darling, and I do so look forward to receiving them.

It certainly was nice that you were able to get the reduction in rates on that silverware, or rather have Cardie's pay half the tax. Of course I don't imagine they are losing money because of that, but it is certainly saving some money. If we have \$16 left after paying for that, with the \$25 I'm sending you we will have a fund of \$41 for the furniture. That is a very good start even if I do say so myself. I may be able to send that much every month if I keep on getting orders for envelopes. I have many more orders than I can handle right away but I give the fellows to understand that I'd make them when I could and give them (the envelopes), to them (the orderers) as I finished them. This is a pretty good arrangement.

That book of Upton Sinclair's which you are reading - "Boston" - is a new one on me. I have yet to read one of Upton Sinclair's books, or a book in the Sacco-Vanzetti case. I have heard an awful lot about it but have never read about the case. I believe they were labor leaders, or anarchists, or some such kind of people

who were not very much beloved of ^{or by} the powers that be in the fair state of Massachusetts and particularly in the city of Boston, so these same powers found a convenient murder rap to pin on the boys and, with bought testimony and juries, managed to have these two gentlemen eradicated despite nationwide criticism, lack of proof, and the censure of powerful elements of the press. It was a very smelly affair but hardly cause enough for the condemnation of all police forces, including a world force. I am not an advocate of a police force as most people think of one. A lot of people have an idea that any world organization will just be something used ~~the~~ club nations into submission to the will of the big powers. The Dumbarton Oaks Plan of world organization is one which I believe should work out quite well. I don't know if you have had a chance to study its' proposed make up but I have a copy around here somewhere which I shall send to you. It would be an organization, not unlike our own government, in which the nations of the world would hold positions corresponding to those of the states in our union. We have large and small states, national laws to which they must all conform, a national police force which is not obnoxious or ~~oppressive~~ unduly oppressive, and we have checks and measures to protect the rights of all states. There are blocs of states which stand for the same thing, ~~opposed~~ to still other blocs of states which stand for other things (the solid South, the New England States, the mid west, etc), we have farming states, mining states, industrial states, there are all nationalities represented and yet these various states have united to form a quite cohesive national government. I think it is only sensible to try to organize a world

government along the same basic lines, as that is the only way we could insure the small nations of a protection against aggression. The Dumbarton Oaks Plan provides for a judicial, legislative, and executive branch as well as providing a council which shall consider and vote on all matters which are dangerous to the peace, even as our government has at its disposal the national guard furnished by each state, and the F.B.I. I believe that such a world organization is vitally needed and that it can be made to work if we will just see it over the rough spots it will inevitably have until it can be found just what changes are needed to make it function smoothly. We had a lot of internal trouble getting our government started, we even had a war, and yet we have managed to emerge with a good government and a strong one. It can be improved much more, and I believe it will within a short time, but it is still basically, as sound a government as there is in the world today. These are my views, stated rather briefly as to the question of world organization. I'd like to hear more from you about it to see what your ideas are. If you see anything in my argument which seems fallacious, or which you don't agree with, let me know. OK. Just as Dad does, I have a lot of respect for your ideas and would like to hear them and think them over, although I can't promise you that you shall sway my opinions if I think I'm right and you're wrong if there's any point we disagree on. It seems though that we have much the same outlook on just about most things and that any differences of opinion we have would not be on the major but ~~but~~ rather on the minor points. This only pertains to politics though because in all else I think we are as much in accord in our thoughts and ideas as two people could be. And, incidentally Sweet

Darling, I love you more than anyone has ever been loved. To quote Edgar Allan Poe who says it much more beautifully than I could ever hope to, "With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven coveted her and I." Remember that Sweetheart, and always love me as you do now.

I am getting along quite well with that book on house construction. It is darned good and enables me to see just how a house is ~~built~~ built from start to finish. As soon as I finish it I will supply some of my new found information to elaborate the plans I'm working on. In your letter you enclosed a sketch of the plan suggested by Eddie Rose. It is pretty good but I'm not quite satisfied with it. It's a nice plan and all but I think there were some mistakes made in it, for one thing the price you listed was off, it was too low, not much but enough to make quite a difference when every little bit counts. If you get any others send them along to me Darling because I'm quite interested in the subject now. ~~Maybe you~~ Incidentally, I think that plan I sent you from the 5th R Depot was a good one although you seemed to be undecided about it. I'll tell you one thing that I do like about the plan you sent me today and that is the extension on the right hand side of the plan. I think it is very handy for storage room and still looks quite nice from the outside, it breaks the monotony of that side which would be very bare otherwise. You could try to incorporate that into any other plans you do in which there is that same problem of a ~~to~~ wide, bare space to be broken up. Keep them coming Darling, it's nice to get your ideas on the subject because then they help me in my plans I draw up.

Darling, the way you talk!! Naturally I'm marrying you because of your prowess at the cook stove.

Why else? You do me a great injustice when you say that you suspect me of having an ulterior motive which you can't figure out. The only two other reasons why I would marry you would be to have someone to soap my back in the shower and to warm the bed before I get into it on cold nights, and you couldn't call those very ulterior motives could you now?

I'll say goodbye now Sweet Darling but, as always, I'll be thinking of you every minute of the day every day and I shall be sending you all my love

Always

Freddie