

Sweetheart;

I love you! Are you surprised? That is the best way I can think of to start a letter because I do love you and just want to tell you so over and over to impress it on you as strongly as possible. I love you!

My day off has vanished into thin air. I don't know where it all went. I did accomplish something though; I lettered a fellow's name on his bag and drew rough sketches of designs for two birthday cards, one for Hoppy to send his wife and one for another fellow to send his three year old daughter. I'll do the cards up tomorrow. Oh, yes, I also drew a cartoon for the bulletin board. It was based on an idea suggested to me by one of the fellows here. It shows that first sergeant calling roll by lantern light at reveille. The moon and stars are all out. An officer is leaning out the window of a building nearby shouting, "Let's call that roll a little more softly sergeant, there are [scratched out word] some officers trying to get some sleep in here." Incidentally, the officer is [scratched out words] dressed in a nightgown with a nightcap on and his majors leaf on the front of the nightcap. Everyone volunteers ideas for cartoons now. This was one of the few good ones.

Guard wasn't bad last night. I did catch the devil for not being in or around the guard tent all during my relief but a few words never hurt anyone. I was towering all the posts battling the breeze with the guards on duty.

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I had a very charming conversation with one fellow who was explaining to me why it was alright for a fellow to "knock off a piece" whenever [scratched out word] he felt like it but not alright for his wife to do the same thing. The old arguments that are always given were rehashed. – "It's what people think and say of a woman who does that – When a man gets a woman it's a conquest and he is a sort of conqueror but with a woman, well she just makes herself look cheap – if I screw a woman over here there's no danger that she'd ever get home and tell my wife, my friends, or my folks about it while, if my wife did it, the people could find out – When a man does it there's no after effect like in the case of a woman who can have a kid (they never do include venereal diseases which are an after effect that all too many men come away with) – You have to live according to what society says and [scratched out word] it says it's all right for a man but not for a women." – All the trite phrases that have ever been used were known to this fellow. I almost forgot another reason he included: "A man has to have a piece now and then, he just needs it, but with a woman it's different, she doesn't have to have it." (These are the same guys who figure that intercourse is a one way affair, that the man is the only one who needs to be satisfied and that the woman is just along for the ride. They don't realize that a normal woman is just as desirous of intercourse as a man and needs it as much if not more.)

Another topic he spoke on was [scratched out word] the necessity of the wife's being a virgin. He explained that it would

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never do for a man to marry a woman who had previously had intercourse because if she had had it before marriage she'd want to try it with someone else after she was married. Once women had more than one man they'd never be content with only one. I told him that, as far as that was concerned, if I found the right woman for me it would make no difference to me if she had had intercourse before I

met her and that I certainly would never ask a woman I loved if she'd had previous intercourse. All that matters is that she is the woman I love and want for my wife. He told me that never worked though, he said that you could always tell on the wedding night if the girl "had been screwed," even if the hymen was gone through an accident, because of the way a woman without previous experience would scream from the pain of the intercourse. Now, I am not an expert at the art of love but I can assure you that I shall not assault you so brutally on our wedding night that you scream, just to satisfy myself that you are a virgin. Anyone who would do that is a sadist. I want [scratched out word] to go very slowly and make every moment of our first night a pleasure. I want to thrill you, not to hurt you. I want you to get every bit as much pleasure and thrill on our first night as I know I shall. People like this fellow get me so damned sick. I don't give a damn whether society sanctions the "conquests of men over women" and censures the succumbing of women to men, to my mind they are both identical and I don't give a damn what society says, I have to live

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With myself and if I think a thing is wrong then it is wrong regardless of what society says. Catering to public opinion is a poor substitute for following the dictates of conscience. Yet these damned hypocritical people keep on trying to kid themselves along.

Don't worry though Darling, I am behaving myself and am being a good boy. All I want is you. I want no substitutes who would only make me realize how much more wonderful you are and make me need you just that much more. God knows, my Darling, that I need you so badly now that it seems I just must have you or bust.

We have a sprayer filled with DDT in each barracks. It is remarkable stuff. Usually I sit here fully clothed of a night and insects eat the devil out of me. I sprayed around my bunk quite thoroughly and there is not a single one around.

Darling, would you insert a couple of soft lead pencils in one of your letters. A 413 and a 613 would be fine. I am running out of good soft pencils. You could tape them to the inside of the envelopes so they don't slide around inside. I can't seem to get any anywhere around.

I'm "in" artistically. My friend Gilman has started praising my work, particularly my pencil work. I am making some masks for the decorations at the club for Halloween. The pencil sketches turned out very well and so did the poster color masks. I'll send you copies of the faces, the pencil sketches that is, so you can see

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How you like them. I was pleasantly surprised to find that I can use a brush with poster colors quite well. I was sure I could get nowhere with it but it was not bad at all. I just can't get over Gilham Complimenting me because that is something he just never did. My work is improving bit by bit though. I'm sending you the cartoon I just took down off the board. These things don't take long to do either and they are about the most effective work I've done yet.

Gosh Darling, I can't keep my eyes open any longer, I'll just have to say goodnight now and go to bed. Good night Sweetheart. Oh, Darling, how very much

I love you
Freddie