

Wednesday 11 April 45

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APO 322, Frisco

Good Evening Sweet Darling;

Here I am back to spend my daily time with you. I feel a lot closer to you when I'm writing you a letter like this. It's almost as if I were sitting having a nice chat with you. The big difference is that if I were really with you out conversation would only be the punctuation which spaces our love making. Scant punctuation there would be too. We could probably leave out the punctuation altogether – including caps and concentrate on the body of the composition (naturally you knew I was going to say the body of the composition didn't you? To what other body would I be referring, as if you didn't already possess it?) That little composition, collaborated [scratched out word] on by the two of us would be the greatest masterpiece of all time. There shall be many such works when I return to you Darling. Each a greater and more wonderful work than the preceding one. The only punctuation will come when – as I always will – I tell you [scratched out word] how very much I love you. Just to be with you again my Darling to make all these wonderful dreams of mine a reality. I have the knowledge that I will be with you some day in the not too distant future

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to start living once more.

The letter I received today was numbered 29 but [scratched out word] was really number 28. You're getting rather confused aren't you Sweetheart? 28 or 28 million though I love them all. Your letters are all very sweet Honey.

Tonight I went to see the show and there was a very good band concert before the show. They are planning on having at least one band concert a week now. They played some very nice number including "The One I Love", a Victor Herbert medley, and several marches. The band did quite a good job although they were handicapped by having no string section in the band. It was very nice to hear music. When we're in Boston again we'll have to take in a Pops concert. They are very special. I guess you've probably heard of them. While the band is playing – pardon me I should have said orchestra, you can order wines, food, soft drinks, or anything your heart desires. You merely write your order on a piece of paper and signal a waiter. There is no talk to disturb the other people. You'll like it very much I know.

I have to leave you now Honey. The trumpet is sounding the prelude to bed and the lights will be going out. I'll leave you now to go to sleep with your face in my mind and your name on my lips ready for our dream date.

3.

Thursday Noon

Beautiful;

I'm back again just before I am led off to the slaughter by the medics who have ideas of puncturing me full of holes once more – in the name of science they say. Even overseas we must get out

annual shots. I don't think I'll feel right in civilian life unless once in a while I have someone shoot me with a hypo. Ah well, since the purpose behind it all is a good one I may as well let them do it. They'd do it anyway.

You and I are in agreement on what that fellow should have done. The one who married the girl Mary was telling you about. It's too damned bad that people are so damned narrow minded and hypocritical. They forced them into a marriage that will do no one any good and which will be no good for society. The only result will be a broken home or one in which there will be so much dissension that it would be better if it were broken up. The same people who wag fingers [scratched out word] and tongues at such things are the very people who have been guilty of the same thing but were a little luckier. Most people are so damned hypocritical that it just inks the devil out of me. They get a certain sadistic pleasure from such things. Their problem is not ours though because no matter when, where, or [scratched out word] whatever the circumstances may be ours will be a very happy marriage my sweet. Happier than every another could possibly be. Just because you're you and I do love

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you so much.

I remember very well how much I resented your mother and father making you go to your grandmothers on Easter. I still think it was very mean of them. I have since learned just how very bad it can be to be separated from you. It's over eight months now my Darling and seems much more like eight long wasted lifetimes. Your company does so many, and such indescribable things to me that nothing in the world could come close to comparing to your mere presence. If this be love then make the best of it.

So the book "Forever Amber" was a disappointment to you was it Honey? Was it banned in Boston? Boston is a wonderful place. The only city in the world which still believes in the stork. From your description of it I should say that it was nowhere near as raw as some of the items in F. Van Wyck Mason's books. Have you ever read "Stars on the Sea" or some of his others? I'm sure you'd enjoy them. Some day, soon I hope, you won't have to find pleasure vicariously, I'll be there to oblige.

Where are the words to the theme song of the submarine her cousin is on. You said you'd enclose them in the next days letter and I got that letter but no words to the song. Your memory is failing you my Sweet. You're a good sleuth but have a poor memory. Speaking of sleuthing, you never did find out anything about me the way you did about Eddie Rose. Are you slipping Darling?

5.

Thursday Night

I thought I'd just continue this as the same letter since I didn't mail it today. You'll have to excuse me if this isn't very long Darling but they gave me three shots today and my arms are as sore as the devil. I don't know just how long I'll hold out.

I did finish my job before I got the shots though. I did a few illustrations for a small handbook and also did a cover for the book. You will find one of the illustrations on this envelope. I'll put the other one the next one. They came out quite well but can't be reproduced on a stencil so I guess they'll have to be photoengraved. They'll look very well if photo engraved. I guess I'm not going to hold forth as a

clerk after all but will be a regular member of the drafting department. I'd like this a lot better than clerical work, although I intend keeping my hand in at typing so I'll be able to type when I start school.

The war in Europe seems to be just about its last stages – Today we got the sensational news that the 9th Army has broken through and is now only 57 miles from Berlin. That's a gain of about 70 miles in about a day and a half. I hope it does end soon so this one will be finished just that much sooner. And – the

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sooner the war ends the sooner I get back to you Honey. Sounds reasonable doesn't it?

While at the library yesterday I found a history of the far East put out by the US Armed Forces Institute. It looks very good and I think it will prove to be very interesting. I've got to keep up on my reading or I'll be stale when I go back to school.

I've got to call it quits now Honey. This arm is bothering me to beat the devil. I hope I can sleep all right. Goodnight now Beautiful. I love you tremendously.

Friday morning

This letter dragging through three days now. I'll be sure to mail it today so you can get it very soon.

I managed to get more sleep than I thought I would last night. The arm bothered me once or twice when I rolled over on that side but it wasn't bad at all. It is still quite sore though.

As you can probably hear, it is raining again. It seems that it must rain every night. Last night the stars were out all night long and just as I went to bed the heavens opened and a downpour of rain came down. That storm the night before was the worst I've been through yet. It rained so hard that the oft mentioned "Sheet of water" was a reality. There was no such thing

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as an individual drop. They were all fused into this one terrific downpour.

I'm going to cut a stencil for a V Mail Mother's Day Card. I'll have to do that today so they can be run off on the stencil right away. I'll send one to Mom Robson just to get in practice. [sic] I hope that next year at this time I'll have the legal right to do it. She'll be a very nice mother in law, much better than I had every hoped for, but then that's only to be expected since her daughter is so very much nicer than I had ever dreamed I would find any girl to be. I love every single thing about you, including your family. I think that in addition to the V Mail Card, which is mostly for you because I want you to see it, I will do up a regular card for your mother. One with a verse, of my own making, in it. Something light which she will like. I may send you the V Mail card after all because someday you will have earned one. Just to let you know how it feels to receive one. Think your mother and father would get a kick out of that?

There's a new Alan Ladd picture on tonight. I'll have to see it if it isn't raining. It is "And Now Tomorrow" starring Ladd and Loretta Young. I like both of them, so will probably enjoy the picture.

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Kowalchuk is on K Pagain this morning. He really hits that regularly now. I got a full canteen cup of iced apple juice from him this morning. I like it much better than I do GI coffee. Have you leaved to make coffee yet Honey? You realize don't you that I'm only marrying you because of your cooking and that you should brush up on it. Of course there may be a few other factors which enter into my selection of you to be my wife – such as the fact that

I love you more than you can ever

Know – and I shall

Always,

Freddie