

No. 33.

11342 Church Street

Chicago, Illinois

July 9, 1948

My darling, darling little girl,

For a pleasant change, Sweetheart, you'll be able to read one of my letters. I'd rather type than write any day. But I didn't bother to bring my typewriter out to school. Now that I'm home for the week-end, I can type off a letter to you. Mom, Dad, and Elaine have gone to the country and I am home all alone for a couple of days. I was supposed to go with them; but when I do go, I find too little time for my home-work. This noon I finished my week's classes at dear old Wheaton and hitch-hiked home. Rather I hitch-hiked to the factory and came home with Dad. Dad enjoys coming home with me and I with him. Before entering the service I worked for him for a couple of years. Then we used to come home together all the time. Say, I know what I can do in one of my letters; I'll tell my future wife my life's history. Would you like to hear it? You'd better!

I know how you feel about Bethel. In fact, that is the reason I mentioned it to you in that letter. I want you to think about it and pray about it. Will you? I won't say what we'll do as yet. We'll just have to wait for the Lord's leading. Perhaps the Lord will lead elsewhere. I am sure that you do love me. And I don't want to do anything that will hinder that love of yours for me, nor do I want to do anything that will cause any unhappiness in our home.

I know how you feel about nurse's training. It is a lot of work, and hard work. It was nice that your room mate has the chance

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to do what she and every other girl (and fellow - a-hem) prefers. As for you, Darling, I love you as you are and for what you are. If you want to continue training, it's alright with me. If you want to discontinue training, that's alright too. If I was sure it were the right thing and if I was sure you want to, I'd ask you to marry me tomorrow or any other day. But, as I see things now, I feel it will be best for you to continue training until the Lord brings us together. If we go into missionary work (and I am planning to go to China - with you), your nurse's training will come in handy. However, I DO NOT WANT YOU TO FINISH TRAINING IN SWEDEN, unless it is the Lord's will for you to do so. This Christmas, if I can come to Sweden, I am planning to place a ring on your finger. We'll go out together and buy Swedish rings as we have planned. Then after you have finished your second year of training, you'll come to the States, we'll be married on the East coast, take a short honey-moon and go to wherever I am to attend school. How does it sound? It sounds about perfect to me. Now, things may not come out that way. But we have until Christmas to pray about it. Yet, we must not beg the Lord for this. Rather, we must ask Him to bring us together as soon as it is His divine will to do so. Let us ask Him for the power to conform to that will.

Yes, Darling, you are goofy. Or maybe I should say you are in love (the same thing). I'm goofy too - goofy about my sweet little Swedish blonde - you. But don't break too many glasses or you will be out of a job sooner than you think. Say, that's a good idea. You'd better keep on breaking glasses - as many as you can. Kick a few of the doctors too; it might help.

Do I want you to wear my ring? Wow, do I! You bet I do. But when it arrives, please don't look at when I sent it. I would have sent it sooner, but didn't have time to look for a suitable box.

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But you must promise me to wear it ALL the time. When you go on a date (which I hope you don't), your friend won't be able to read it anyway. You MUST wear it all the time. Promise me? Promise me!!!!!!

Darling, I know it would be nice to have a big wedding. But when we decided to follow the Lord into full-time service, we gave up many, many things. This is one of those things we must give up for the glory of God. Is that alright with you? And really, there is little sense for us to have a big wedding. All your friends are in Sweden or China. The only ones there would be my friends. And I would rather have just you at my wedding (and the preacher, of course). I don't even think I'll tell my friends I'm getting married then; we'll surprise them all. What do you say? That would be a lot of fun, wouldn't it?

It's so very hard to go into Christian service some times. I've always liked to be independant. Now, I have to be humble and do many things I'd never think of doing otherwise. As every fellow, I've always wanted a nice home and a little wife. And I've always wanted to be able to support that wife well. If I wanted to I could get a very good job tomorrow, one that pays well. I'd never think of letting my wife work. But I'm afraid that I'll have to say, "Yes, Doris, you may work when you marry me." You can't imagine what this does to my pride. But most of the girls in the States work when they first marry now days. Yet, I always wanted my wife to be free. Do you suppose you'd mind doing nursing, Sweetheart? After I finish college you won't have to do it unless you wish to on the foreign field. What do you say? We'll delay the children until we are situated in China (and that will be sooner than you think). Do you mind using artificial means to prevent conception? Almost all the Christian leaders in the States say that the use of

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them is not contrary to Scripture. What do you think? If you have any doubts, I'd be glad to show you why I think their use is alright.

I know that I am going to love thunder storms, especially when I'll have you to "protect." Wow, I'll be praying for them every day of the week!

You get teased! Ha, you should be in my boots. Wherever I go there seems to be some one who knows about Doris Rinell. But, strangely, you know, I enjoy it. I wonder why - or do I? So, for tonight, good-bye, Darling; I love you and want you for my own.

Your loving husband,

Benjie

P.S. ~~At~~ 9:30 P.M. in Chicago on Friday,
and it's 4:30 A.M. in Stockholm. You're
sound asleep. You little sleepy-head.
In one hour I'll be in bed. already I
have my pajamas on. Soon I'll be
dreaming about you. Do you mind?