

No. 90.

Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois  
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My little Sweetheart,

Hello, Darling, how are you? Today there was no letter from you. But that was because your letters still are going to Chicago. Yesterday I was home and received a letter. Today's mail will come tomorrow.

It seems so strange to be back at school again. In the evenings I hardly know what to do with myself when I don't feel like studying. Tonight I went to prayer meeting and then to the class business meeting. Now it is almost nine o'clock and I am writing a letter to my Honey.

I don't suppose I'll hear an answer to your letter about coming to the States until Friday or Saturday. Wish it were then right now. Darling, I hope so much that your letter will be in the positive. Remember once before your answer was in the negative and it caused much hard-ship and heart-ache. Don't do the same thing to me again. I don't know what to expect from you. I am worried that your answer will be the worst. I hope not. If you do refuse me, Darling, I want to ask you if you don't think we should stop going steady. I really believe we should. In fact, already I have picked out a half a dozen girls I'll take out. Darling, honest, I want to go out only with one - you. Will you let me?

Sweetheart, it will be foolish to go steady for the next four

years, until we can be married. I believe we should continue writing though. I shall not date until I receive your letter, giving me permission to stop going steady. And if you say that you will marry me, then I'll not date until you come to the States, which will be very soon. Then I'll take out my little wife. How will that be?

If you do not come to the States as my bride, Darling, I am sure you should not come at all. I'll try to tell you why. If you come to the States, you will not be able to get here for a year and more (perhaps a year and a half). Then you will have to work yourself through college, which is possible, but very hard. Before you could enter college, you would be almost twenty-two. While working yourself through, you could not finish college for four or five years. By then you will be twenty-eight before you can return to China. You might get married. But that is not easy. There is as much a shortage of men in the States as in Sweden. But, if you stay in Sweden, you can start college or continue training right now. Then you will be able to return to China much sooner. If you come to the States, I can bet you never will return to China. Of course, if you stay in Sweden for the next few years in college, you probably still will be unable to return to China (because of the Russians).

Darling, unless you come immediately as my bride, everything looks hopeless. But if you come as my bride, you can be over here in less than six months and we can be married. Then you can start college or continue training if you wish and we can go to China together. Darling, there is no other solution. I don't know what your answer will be in the letters that will come before you receive this letter; but if you have said "no" before this letter and should

decide that you should come as my bride, then give me an "yes" when you answer this letter. Will you? If your answer is "no," then free me from going steady with you. Then, Darling, after receiving an answer to this letter, either I'll be free to date or I'll be an engaged man. The decision is yours. What will you answer me? In making your decision, Sweetheart, remember that I love you more than I ever have loved anyone and I want you for mine always.

I suppose you have noticed how much clearer my typewriter works. The other day I bought a new ribbon for it. Now, at least, you can see the print.

I don't expect to go <sup>to</sup> the the country any more this year. I like it out there though. A few weeks ago, Dad told me that he wants me to have the farm after he goes. I told him that I'll most likely be on the mission field. But he said that I'll use it more on furloughs than he has on just week-ends over the years. That way, Darling, we'll have a home of our own to go to when we need a rest. How does it sound?

A friend, Jim Patterson, just came into the room. He knew about my interests <sup>in</sup> ~~with~~ you and asked me about you. I told him much of our story and how I hope you would come to marry me. He also agreed that he thought there was nothing else to do, but marry me. Darling, will you?

Sincerely, your own

Bernie XXX