

October 4, 1948
11342 Church St.
Chicago, Ill.

My little sweetheart,

Tonight, Darling, I am home all alone with you. As I type this love letter to you, I have your beautiful picture before me. Hope you can read this type. I am using Mom's typewriter and a little clip for holding the tape has broken and as a result it doesn't type very well.

Suppose you are wondering why I am home this evening. Well it is this way: This morning Dad drove me to the station to catch the 5:54 train. Well, it so happened that they changed the time on the 5:54 and now it runs at 5:04. The next train would not leave till 6:04. If I caught it, I would not make connections down town and would arrive late for school. So I drove the car out this morning. Now I have to get up tomorrow morning for the 5:04. Oh hum, what a life!

Darling, am I ever a lucky boy; received three (3) letters from my sweetheart this morning. Thanks a million (tacks a micka). Forgive my Svenska; I'm just an ignorant gyrene. but I'm smart enough to fall in love with little Dodo. Right?

Yes, Honey, I sure wish you were here with me these days. but I find comfort in the hope of your coming to me in the near future. May the Lord hasten that day. As for Mom, I still can't figure it all out. Sometimes I just sit in the chair and try to make myself realize that she is gone. but I just can't seem to realize this. In my mind I know she is with us no more; but in my heart I just can't believe it. Yes, Darling we shall meet her again. If it were not for that fact, I don't know what I would do. Oh, how wonderful it is to have faith in Him.

Darling, I have not heard from your folks yet. I haven't even heard from their first letter I sent. The address I used was one that Mom gave to me while she was in the hospital the first time. She sent letters to them before by this address and they received that mail. The address I have used in both letters is as follows: Swedish Baptist Mission, Kiaohsien, Shantung Province, China. Boy, I

sure hope they receive those letters. Darling, will you write to them and ask them if they have received my letters? And if I do not hear from them in time, will you agree to say "yes" without hearing from them? As long as I have tried to ask them for your hand, what more can we do? Dad called the Swedish-American Lines today and they said that you will have to be aboard ship and sail by the middle of November to be able to arrive in the States in time. I guess there are no other ships after that. And you must be in the States by the 28th of December. They said that you should be able to get passage because it is an emergency. But they said you will need to be very persistent - to bother them till they give you passage. Perhaps, if by no other means, you could work as a nurse or something. Maybe they need nurses. But, Darling, you must bother them over and over again till you get passage. Remember, if you are not here by the 28th, you can not come at all - perhaps ever. I have done all I can and have sent you the papers. You must see the American Consul and do all the rest. And you must do it immediately.

Because you must leave Sweden long before the 1st of December, I shall have to telephone you at a much sooner date. Will you agree to marry me before hearing from your folks? If so, I'll telephone you soon after I receive your answer. I don't believe we can wait for your folks answer now. And as long as I have written and asked them and they have not replied, I am sure it will be alright.

About the nylons, I'll send them to you and give you the price; then you can pay me and you can apply the money on your rings or whatever you need. Is that alright? I'll have Elaine buy them as soon as possible.

La Verne came today to stay a few days with Dad. I am so glad that she could leave her children for a few days to stay with Pop. He does need encouragement. She brought her baby along. The baby's name is Arlene. If I remember it, I'll send a picture of Arlene along. Keep it and bring it with you to the States. Another thing, I have lost count of my letters. Counting this one, will you tell me what letter I am on?

Yes, Sweetheart, I want you to act toward Dad as though he really were your father (and he will be). He likes people to make over him. And you bet I want you to kiss him. There is nothing he would want more. He is a wonderful person.

When you get to the States, you will meet many Chinese who are studying here. Even out at Meaton there are many Chinese and missionary kids studying. Do you know of Leland Wang of China? He is a Chinese evangelist. All of his children either studied or are studied at Meaton.

Darling, about those rings. You know that I want you to have the ring you prefer, diamond or otherwise. Tell me the truth concerning what you want. I just thought that being you were coming to the States, it might look better for you to wear a diamond. But you ~~needn't do~~ needn't do this. But if you still ~~want~~ want to wear Mom's rings, I'll still have to have your size. Perhaps you can go to a store in Sweden and have them tell you your size. Ask them if it is metric system or what and if they have the same measurements in the States. Then tell me your size and I shall have the ring made to order. O.K.? I don't know whether or not I can have my name and our engagement date printed inside of it. But I'll see if I can.

Sav, I'd sure like to see that skirt. Maybe some day I'll help you put it on (wow).

Elaine said that she will write soon. Everyone says "hello." I just looked at the engagement ring and perhaps I can have my name put in it and the date. It is a real nice looking ring too. Well, must get to bed and get up at about 5:00; how I love to do that.?

All my love,

Bernie X X O