

Weetun Callege

Weetun, Illinois

October 7, 1948

Hi little Darling,

Reeceâved yur letter number 99 tooday. Thanks, Sweethart, for yur most wonderful letter. i'm sorry that i caused ~~my~~ sum tears too flow dawn yur very butiful cheeks. will yu forgiv me for it? i sur hope you will. i was so glad to heer that yu mannged to get passage abord a vesselar. Too tell yu the truth, i'v been pritty worreed that mabe yu woodn't bee able to (oops, i forgot) ^{get} a ship. But, Darling, don't deepend upon just wone (one) line. Bee sur to bother them all. i'm glad that yu didn't sta down in yur shoos (altho yur shoos are big enough to hide all of yu, ha, ha). Mabe thay could giv yu passage if yu go as a nurs. Hav yu tried this. About that Deecember 14th, if yu tak that ship, will yu get in the States befor Deecember 28th? Yu must bee sur to be here befor then. Bother everyone every day till you ar sur. Don't wait for 14 days, see them each day and ask them if they know for sur yet. If they say "no" 14 days from now, there will bee less chance of getting a ship. If necessary ask the American Consul to help you get passage. Maybe I'd better make sense in my typing for a while, huh? Let me explain why you must get into the States Before December 28th.

During the war many American military men (sailors, soldiers, and marines) were sent over seas. Many, many of these men fell in love with girls in England, France, and wherever they went (and China!). Many of these couples were engaged and the service men wanted to bring their girls to the States so that they could get married. But it took too long for their girls to get immigration papers and come

the ordinary way. So the government decided to help the men who served the country during the war. Consequently Congress passed a bill (a law) that said the girl-friends of the former service (military) men can come to the States and marry their boy friends. The only thing necessary was that the service man and the girl must be engaged and neither of them could formerly have been married. This way the girls did not have to wait until regular immigration papers were filled out. But the ~~government~~ said that the girls must be in the States on or before the 28th of December, 1948. If we were not engaged, you could not come to the States. And if I had not been in the military service, also you could not come to the States under this law. I sent you a lot of papers that I had filled out. On all the papers I said that I was engaged to you. Whenever you see the Consul, you must agree that you are engaged to me. And you are, although still unofficially. Now do you understand what the rules are for your coming to become my bride? Also the law said that we must marry within three months after you arrive in America. I know we will be glad to cooperate with this part of the law, won't we? If you have any trouble getting passage, ask the American Consul to help you. And still if you have trouble, write and tell me. If necessary, I'll see the Senator from Illinois about it. As you know, each State in the United States sends two Senators to Washington. These Senators make all the laws (96 of them altogether) with the House of Representatives. I believe there are about 500 representatives. One of the Senators from Illinois used to go to Wheaton and is a ~~cousin~~ ^{for} our dean here. If I have to, I'll bother the life out of him, if that will get you here on time.

I shall begin to send you ^{money} in each letter. Use whatever you need. If there is any left, save it till you get here. Roy wanted American

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money. So have him give you the value in Swedish money for the money I shall send you. In this letter I shall include \$5.00. Be sure to let me know if you receive it. When necessary, pay the Lines the Kr. 100 that they require. And pay whatever other expenses you may have. By the way, don't worry about asking me for money. We are almost man and wife and must not be afraid to tell each other our needs. I'm sorry that I did not send you money before this (except the last \$5.00). But I did not know of your need. Once I did ask you where your money came from and you told me not to worry; so I didn't. You little dope!

Nope, have not heard from Mom and Pop" Rinell. Guess they just don't want me for a son-in-law. But we'll fool them by getting married anyway. Always our folks want the best for us; but sometimes they don't know all our problems and so don't know what is best for us. Though we always like to do what they want us to do, often we must do things that they don't like us to do. But as time passes, they see that we too can be right. But to them we always are little kids and cannot know what is best for us. Folks never realize that little kids grow up and can decide important things themselves.

The fourth Saturday of October sounds wonderful for our getting engages "officially." Lets make that a date. Maybe I can even mail Mom's ring to you anyway. But I'll have to get it ready first and maybe I'll not get it ready by then. But I'll try. Be sure to tell me your size. Anyway, lets make that a date, huh? October 30, I believe. Let me know the telephone number of where you want me to call and the name of the people there.

Must close for now. Remember our words, "I LOVE YOU!!!!!!."

Your own, Bernie XX O