

11342 S. Church Street
Chicago 43, Illinois
October 17, 1948

My little Darling,

This is Sunday evening and in a little while I'll be leaving for Wheaton, the Lord willing. My aunt went out early this afternoon and Dad and Elaine went to a Swedish Covenant Church near here where Elaine is to sing. I am all alone, listening to the radio. Darling, you cannot know how much I wish you were here with me tonight. I miss you so. It is not too bad around the house when there others here to keep one company. But when alone, I feel terrible. Everything everywhere seems to remind me of Mom. It seems so strange that she should be taken from us. Our little family always was so close. And we were so happy. There never was a dull moment around the house. We always were together and joking and having the best time possible. Now, we still try to laugh and joke, but our joy is mingled with tears.

Darling, I never thought of it quite the same way before, but the Christian's sorrow is a strange thing. Sorrow for us is just as much present as for the unbeliever I believe. But, differing from the unbeliever, the Christian sorrows in hope. We know that we shall meet our lover-ones in Christ again. And, Darling, this is the only thing that sustains us. Of course I believe the Lord also personally comforts his children. At home here we do miss Mom more than words can tell; but yet, we have a genuine joy that fills every corner of our being.

Just now Dad called to see if I had left yet. He wanted to come home to take me to the station. But there was no need of his doing this. Besides, it is a long way to the church where Elaine is singing. He didn't know it, but I couldn't hold the tears back as I was talking to

him. My heart goes out to Dad. I don't believe there is a day that passes in which he doesn't break down. Mom and he were deeply in love. I wish there were something I could do for him; but the Master really is the one one who can comfort. How I do praise him for providing a means of Salvation for Mom and for the rest of us. Because of this salvation, we shall meet again - have a grand family reunion. Praise the Lord.

Guess what, Honey, last night we went to another wedding. There were three of us in Church who joined the marines. One of the three, Bill Brown, got himself married (committed marriage) last night. He married one of the young gals of the Church - Dorothy Liljestrom. Dottie (Dorothy) is a sweet little girl. They make a very nice couple. When you arrive in the States, I'll tell you more about them. At the wedding I met an old flame of mine. Her name is Mary Lou Schultz. She was the last girl I went with any amount before entering the service. Last night was the first time I'd seem her for over four years. At present she is a ~~senior~~ at the University of Wisconsin. Darling, Mary Lou looked very nice and I kind of would have liked to have gone out with her. In fact, Elaine scolded me for wanting this. But, there was another girl that I would far prefer going out with. Do you know her name. She is the Gal that wants to come to the States and become my little bride. Darling, last night Mary Lou came up to me and we had a nice time talking over old times. But, believe me, I was not sorry that I could not go out with her. She meant absolutely nothing to me any more.

Guess what, Dad just walked in the door. He said that he knew I was lonsome; so told Elaine he would come to pick her up later. What a man! Now he can take me to the station. No, I must sign off for now. Remember, I love you.

Your "faithful" hubbie,
Bernie X X O