Medical Detachment Fort Sumner New Mexico August 10, 1943

Peaches, I am greatly disappointed in you. It has been 5 days since you have mailed me a letter, and I am growing despondent about our love affair. I dreamed about you again last night, but I couldn't for the life of me remember what you were doing. All I know for sure is that we were together. Perhaps this is the psychic reaction of my so apparent desire that you would come here and live with me. Hundreds of wives are living on and around the post. Surely you can do it if they can.

Yesterday I wrote at great lengths concerning the value of purchasing an automobile, and today I want to reaffirm those statements and add emphasis to them. If you should come driving up to the post in a couple of weeks in a newly purchased car, I would believe you to be a personification of an angel and the holy virgin, Mary. No matter how deeply you should have to go in debt to a bank finance Co., it would be worth every penny of it, and every deprivation we might have to put up with in order to make the payments, and when and if I should ever be shipped out of the country, you could keep or sell the car just as you choose, and not be one dollar loser on the bargain. And I am telling you, darling that we would enjoy every moment that we are in the car, and it would save us endless hours of nervous strain due to transportation difficulties. So, if you plan to come out to Fort Sumner, as I fervently hope you do, set about the necessary procedure for buying a car. Look in car lots, advertise in the SAAAB paper, talk among your acquaintances, until you have found a satisfactory car. Then, if you can arrange for gas to drive it here, and if you can arrange with the bank to finance the deal on monthly payments that we can meet, buy the automobile and come wheeling out to me. If it is at all possible for us to do this, then let's get a car!

If, after the war, I am still alive, and still in this country, I am going to arrange some kind of a deal to study for a year under some celebrated, top-notch artist: Picasso, Riviera, Klee, Kandinsky, etc. (Perhaps I will have to choose someone not quite so famous as these). This period of study will (on the <u>practical</u> side) enhance my money earning capacity as an art teacher tremendously, and will be deeply instrumental in aiding me to get into a college right off the bat. During this time of study, I will try to make expenses by working part-time at some job – art or other. This is perhaps the smartest idea I have ever had for getting ahead and making money. Deep within myself, I have a feeling of prescient conviction and assurance about painting, and if this feeling grows and develops, and does not evaporate when put to the test of canvas and oils, I think that, in some not far off day, paintings, that are truly expressions of my own convictions, will evolve.

Darling, if, after you have bought the automobile, if you have any spare change, there are two record albums that I would like to add to our collection: (1) Brahm's – "4th Symphony"; (2) Stravinsky's – "Rites of Spring". If you can afford them, buy them and bring them or send them out when you come. You cannot imagine what a comfort and solace good music is until you have been deprived of it for week after week.

I am eagerly awaiting your next letter, for by this time, surely, you have received your anniversary gifts, and I am very anxious that you should be pleased by them. I am also impatient to hear your decision as to if and when you are coming here to join me. Sweetest, the sooner you come, the more happy it will make me. I am becoming just a little like you in that I am becoming conscious of my ability and superiority to my fellow man. Together, we as we go through life, we should be capable of great things. Let us achieve them.

Adoringly, Len

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