

Thursday, June 18th

Dearest Beloved,

Yesterday the sun shone very brightly outdoors but in all our hearts, especially Thelma's, there was the greatest kind of grief. As much as I dislike to write you about unhappy tidings, this time will have to be the exception. Joel, after being in a coma for most of the day, passed on at 6 p.m. In last night's letter I couldn't bear to write you the news but after speaking with Bob today, as the Lord, we both decided to let you know the truth. Joel had very little pain during his illness and was bedded for only 10 days. He sure looked beautiful when I saw him yesterday while he was in that deep sleep, the Lord. Thelma returned to my mother's home with Eleanor and Bass and is given sedatives to calm her nerves. We don't know if Maurice will be here in time for the services which will take place on Sunday morning. Meanwhile the Red Cross is most generous to Thelma at this time and one of the directors took a personal interest in the case. Very few cases get this attention and Thelma is very appreciative. We're doing our utmost to help her bear this grief and I'm taking care of Jim at home and keep in constant

touch with my sisters and mother. Just don't worry about me, my darling, I'm doing quite well under the circumstances and loving you the way I do helps to overcome any heartache I've had these last few years. Don't you get upset about all this and please try to write a very sweet and consoling letter to Thelma. Thanks, my love.

Gimmie and I are fine, the folks are well and Bob and Frances may see us again before they leave on Saturday. Kay called this morning and offered a helping hand to me in this time of stress. Next best to you and Sam and Anita are A.K. Baby and I spent the day indoors and so many phone calls came through that, in order to rest, I took the nannies off the hook for ~~some~~ two hours during the afternoon. Played with Jim, even had a few laughs and read a most fascinating book. There was no mail at all to day and I do hope the morrow brings glad tidings from you. Now I do love you and miss you so! At all times my heart and love are with you and I'm really so happy to be madly in love with the sweetest fellow on earth. Stay well, dearest. Baby is most adorable and playful these days. Hugs and kisses from Jim and all my devotion and love to you. Lovingly Thelma

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO



STATION 2



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VIA AIR MAIL

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COA - 735 - PW - OPN - BN
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