



AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Oahu.

My dearest Katherine:

My darling... my darling... your long letter of March 5 has arrived, and its just about the nicest thing that has ever happened to me, since the day I married you...it makes me think of one of our records... walking on air through the courtesy of NBC only I'm walking on air through the courtesy of you. Just when I need you the most... you always come through.. don't you darling. Also a beautiful letter from Barbie which made me so happy and so proud.

Your job sounds wonderful... and I know you enjoy it... and I also know you will do it well... so if this guy does get drafted you will be head man and thats something. I have a feeling that it is going to be very very difficult to get the American people to fully understand this war out here in the Pacific... our troops in Europe have a hell of a job on their hands, but out here it will be much worse in the end... the problems logistics are enormous... because the Pacific is a very large ocean, as you know. The boys around here are laying money that Germany will be whipped in 60 days... but I stick to my original prediction of this fall.. if then... and out here it will go on and on... Iwo is just a sample. The trouble is that it is too far away to grasp... The setting is so much different from home that I am afraid the average person could not possibly understand it.

Can't tell you what the officers here say about the Chrysler strike... it makes me ashamed that I ever had any connection with the organization...don't know if you know it, but most of our middle weight vehicles... command cars and weapons carriers, are Dodge built... very fine cars. Would like to take about a year, when my trick is finished and tell people in the States what is going on in the Pacific.. via the lecture platform.



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Your account of the party was marvelous... darling... darling.. tell me more things like that... I need to keep you so very close.... you will have plenty of experiences like the one you related.. human nature being what it is... no darling.. I won't worry about you... ever, because anything you do... anything you ever decide is alright with me... What I am trying to tell you is that it would never make any difference where you went or what you did... I would keep on loving you to the end of time. For years I have tried to make you self reliant, and now I have the complete satisfaction of knowing that you are just that.. You're a big girl now and I love you.. like I loved the little gal I married. You said the guy "leaves you cold" and I understand... but if, in the months to come you should run across one that is the opposite.. just remember that you are the boss and what ever decision you make will have my complete sanction... because I love you that much.

Honey child... haven't called you that for a long time have I?... your description of our life together was.. in army vernacular... just out of this world I shall tifiasure that letter, and keep it with the little card... we are not permitted to carry anything with an address on it.. but for my money your address will always be heaven so far as I'm concerned.... it will be for me.. anyway. Lets just be thankful that we have tunes... and that we love each other... and that we can stay close to each other even though half the world separates us oh my darling that's the sweetest thing you have ever said to me, and I shall never forget it. By the method we discussed I could undoubtedly tell you what you want to know but when my life, and the lives of the others in the command is very much at stake, you must know what I cannot and will not do it. I have learned a great many things since leaving you.. and that's one of them.

Yesterday I got very much in the middle, because my written orders were wrong; then when I went to get them this morning they had been destroyed by the military, so I have no evidence. Its something of a mess, but I am sure it will come out alright... as I was definitely right.. but the damndest things do happen don't they?



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Last evening Mrs. Horner.. the gal who is head of the big hospital, cooked a chicken for the two of us... ate fried chicken until it ran out of my ears... then sat around and listened to Mrs. Latham... who has 26 years ARC service out here tell about the early days on the Islands....Mrs. Horner is much like my sister Jo.. same iron gray hair.. small.. very intelligent.. and a glorious sense of humor.. she has been married three times and has learned a thing or six about people and life... and so is good company. Guess I told you.. her husband is the surgeon for armies in Italy.. one of the greater doctors in the world.. a Jew.... and she is black Irish... Anyway, she is the kind of gal you would approve of, and that I can thoroughly enjoy without sleeping with, if you follow me. I have the, realest respect for the work she is doing out here, and hope that she can eventually go forward.

Don't try to find out anything about the Tenth in the papers...when the time comes you will not have to read anything but the top blazing headlines.... if I can find one I am going to send you a Tenth patch.... think it will clear OK as I have never seen a regulation against sending insignia home.. so if you get it you can wear it on your nightie.. not in public please.

Did I tell you.. have been accredited as a war correspondent... am to pick up my papers tomorrow... still have to clear with the Navy... which may be hard, but I am on my way to the thing I want... that's why the curley moustache.. it's getting beautiful.... will have my photographer take a pix in a day or so and try and get it processed so I can send it home to you.. Usually pictures take three weeks but I have an angle in getting it done. Also, the editor of Collier's is to be here soon and have instructions about writing a particular story that he may be able to use.. that would be something.

Oh Katherine my darling... your letter made me feel that we are together again and that we always will be...it was the thing I wanted to know.. the thing I had to know in order to hold together... when you see men crack up.. one after another.... you realize that it takes something besides you own self to sustain you....



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Glad to know you are whittling away at the debts... makes me feel guilty that I did not leave you with a clean slate... but you know I think, how I feel about money ... anything I ever have will be yours.. always...right now I like to feel that they are our debts... and that we... not you, are paying them. There will always be debts.. but the important thing is that they be ours... and that we fight it out together... never alone.

Am sorry about Uncle Roy... you remember the months I spent at Grace hospital with Dr. Karl Max Newman...fighting that spectre.. we learned that we could not pull the body temperature low enough to control the growth of the tissue... so hypothermia was a failure... but there will be something else... I am sure... did you read article about CO Little in current Satevepost? That's another thing I have learned out here... that a "business career" like H A Malcom. Russ and Fors, is a shallow, hollow thing... when I get back I'm going to devote my time to helping people... not trying to weasle out money for myself.... did you know Fors has cracked up and that Russ is at Mayos?

Hope I get back before you get that "extra" bond...darling I love you so much, and here's kiss for every inch of you..toes and all.. God bless you and keep you my dear one... there are not enough words to tell you how I feel. I love you too much...

Your very own...

Henry

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry".