

Friday Evening
Nov. 5, 1942

L-07
p1r

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Dear William!

We have so greatly enjoyed your letters and I had hoped to have answered at least a few of them before now; due to constant and varied activities at Denison University and because of self-inflicted tasks at home it has been impossible to write you a long, interesting letter in return. — But I know you will forgive me and answer me whenever you can, for I have so many questions!

What is Africa like? Great, mysterious Africa! I'll never forget the rhapsodic joy with which I viewed the mountains of Morocco from Gibraltar harbor in 1940. Some fantastic desire within me has always, since the age of eight, made me want to see Africa someday, and India too. — So would you describe to us, in your next letter, the details of the countryside. In the Africa where you are there are no pyramids, are there? But is there perhaps jungle, or is the land dusty and bare. When you are not working what do you do for sport? Is there swimming and exploring exotic places, or is it so very torrid that you must rest in your spare time?! At any rate, it must be interesting. — (These are all the questions I will engulf you with, except one more... are there orchids blooming like daisies do in our meadows here?)


We are, thanks to God, very well and happy. Carl is a cadet at Staunton Military Academy in Virginia and in his sixteen years he has developed splendidly, both mentally and physically — (he stands six-foot-one now!!) Last week

Some friends took me with them to Staunton and Carl and I had a superb time together for two days. He is really a precious brother.

L-07
 Mutti is constantly busy with her French, German and Spanish teaching. Your papa is in a dilemma over affairs in his store, but he is in good health and is becoming milder in nature every day. — In fact, he now holds out seven kisses our household pet, Samba!! What do you think he is coming to?!!!!

Uncle Curt & Aunt Mary in D.C. are prosperous but seldom deign to let us hear from them. I trust they are well and will not hurt themselves by their own pride and feeling of superiority. My father sings now in the San Francisco Opera. His wife is an artist and is a very sensitive, sentimental, thoroughly sincere and affectionate person. — As you perhaps know, they have a little boy of three years, "Johnny". So you see, I am not lacking in brothers!! — — — — — I myself am deeply interested in learning. Learning music, languages, astronomy, philosophy & literature. Am also consumed with the ideal and Ideal of World Federation after this war and after our victory, which must come, regardless of any previous mistakes or any sublimated theories of the enemy that Democracy is decadent. — When you saw me last, I know, that my opinions were different. But everyone must go through an evolution, the individual as well as humanity, the mind & soul as well as the body. — Mutti says, "Well, don't you think that you will keep on changing your ideas and your outlook upon the world?" — Of course, this is possible & probable. But of this I am certain; there can be and is not to our present knowledge, any Ideal higher than that of World Union for the maintenance of peace and therefore for the progress of humanity. We have come so far with our science and our machinery that we are blind & deafened to values far loftier & transcendent, though intangible. These are the supreme values of the human soul and that inner light which inspires music and art and all beautiful culture through all ages. There is not a nation left on this planet, (unless it be India, whose culture is that of the soul and whose people are innately spiritual,) which is

free from self-forced fetters of opportunism, imperialism, monopolism and materialism. Any broad minded person will acknowledge this. — First we must win this war, but we must not lose it again by our own folly. Oh William, we must see to it that the peoples of all nations everywhere are educated to peaceful, cooperative living under democratic principles and that there are intelligent, sincere leaders to make the peace & unite the world!!



This is Samba's paw-mark!
 It is her way of saying 'hello'
 & sending her puppy-love!

II L-07
 p2r
 You are in a position to contribute largely to such an effort and I hope fervently that you favor such a post-war policy. People say, "Why talk about that now? Let's win the war first!" — They are right. If we do not win this ghastly battle then there will be nothing and our Ideals, our Dreams, will lie shattered in the twilight of Elysian fields. But, if we are to succeed in this Plan of ours after the war we must begin serious work on it immediately and start our international education right away! — Generations have been disciplined to Nazism, Communism, Fascism, Imperialism. Why not train the minds of children to think along truly constructive lines such as those taught by Christ and Buddha, Confucius + Mohamets?? Children are pliable like young willows. They are the future of the world! If we awaken to this Ideal ourselves and use it as our basis for living + education, then in a few generations the world may well be truly civilized. — For war is a disgrace to the name of Man. Man who considers himself a demi-god or god with his finite knowledge of Mechanics, Chemistry + Physics, but who forgets that he conducts himself as even animals do not. — For animals are motivated by nature and laws governed by nature, but man has become a Monster, using his bill of knowledge for destruction and his beloved science for the death and torture of his brothers. And all of this is because of his blind self-confidence and his unbridled Greed and Hatred. There is one solution to the world's problems today. That is, a genuine attempt to unite all peoples in understanding. There must be first the international feeling — and then the national feeling. Men must think as brothers and arguments must be brought to just hearing in an international Congress or before a Supreme Court the members of which are one absolutely sincere and loyal judge from each nation. — This is all too complicated for total solving or adequate solving by my inexperienced mind, but it CAN be done. All we need is the Will and the Inspiration + the Love for it. — At least, it is worth the attempt, instead of another attempt by schemers and opportunists, (cheap politicians,) for dominating the world, either by force or by subtler chains of economic + commercial despotism. — At present though our sole thoughts and energies must be aimed at victory. ^{Meanwhile,} our minds must always remain + grow this Ideal of World-Federation and later we must carry it through, conquer

ing ourselves (that is our greed & hate,) as well as their barriers. In spite of arguments by skeptics that a World Union is impossible because of the mere perversity of human nature alone, we must struggle & achieve. For human nature does not consist only of bad elements; it consists also of some very noble elements, and in these we must build.

L-07
P2

So, if you have not already given this subject thought, will you do so? I hope you do, (not mind my spending most of the letter on it, but it is really important) & you are & may someday be in a position very contributive to this purpose. — Umak Khayyakh of Persia once wrote "When tyrants rule, can gold redeem the earth?"

University — life is very nice & I am anxious to know enough to graduate in three instead of four years, (by going to summer-school,) so that I can go into a profession, (either music, or, if circumstances direct, into world-traveling for the purpose of promoting World-Union & international understanding after the war by use of my German, French & Spanish, even tho' the latter are far from acquired yet!) Next year Matti will send me to Ohio State U. or to the Cincinnati Conservatory. But this summer I will be busy at D.S.U. anyway. Have dropped from the Tri-Delta Sorority because it is a waste of time when there are more important things to do and the money therefore can be used for more educational things. — I don't mean to be conceited or 'snooty', but there are many who do not belong to fraternities, though asked, because they do not have the time. And I prefer to do things wholeheartedly, or not at all.

The farm, although we go there seldom now, is in fair condition. To your papa's practical mind, it is pretty poor! But to my aesthetically-inclined thinking it is at all ways beautiful with its hills & dense forests, the meadows & vast fields & the singing creek. It is "home" to me, having never had a permanent one! But William, I do not mean to make you homesick. I remember at Genoa how wistfully you gazed after the S.S. Washington. But you may soon be sent home to visit! That would be grand! If not, there must be plenty to interest you in Africa. Is your sweet heart, Philinda, coming to you? The Francis boy said when he was here that she is very "charmant" and beautiful! — I hope she can soon be with you.

(P.M.)
Now it is almost 10 o'clock here — almost dawn in Asia and Africa, is it not? I try to send my vision clear across the oceans and see the splendor of the other side of this planet! We are very fortunate to exist in such a beautiful world. Why must we destroy it or close our eyes to it?! — You, Sam Saxe, realized this when you wrote that you left a part of yourself at every place in the world where you had visited & worked.
God be with you & you with Him. — Lovingly, Uelody