

Bungelous 33.

29/5 - Tues.

My dearest,

Just a short one tonight -
I've spent the beginning of the evening
doing many chores & I've just about
an hour left before turning in.

Your letter in pencil delighted
me, baby. I enjoyed reading of your
week end - I've already said my
mouthfull about what I think you
should do with your time now - a day
& that visit to Shorncliffe was just
what I would prescribe. Just one
word of warning, precious, don't overdo
the descriptions of lobster pattie, crabs
sandwiches & the like - right at this
moment I can't take it - I shall need
to nip ashore to a restaurant & restore
my pallette before I can bear to look
at descriptions of such goodie. Camp
Spuds aint exactly appetising.

but on Saturday all of us will be paid & we're all starting our social regeneration by going into Bombay with some of the Indian lads to have saloon photo's taken & to make certain purchases. (In case you're wondering, pigeon, the first I got - religiously saved against the chance of a camera). By the time we've got that trip over & followed it by a Sunday ride to Breach Candy the days to come will be ~~spent~~^{viewed} with a less soured eye - nothing like variety to drive away the willies.

Tonight the boys have gone to the camp picture - Spencer Tracy in "The Seventh Cross" - but I thought it would be a waste of time for me to go. I'd just finished a session of Forsyte's Saga & definitely wasn't in the mood for grim war scenes. My mood was, oh, very

soft + sentimental + I didn't want
 to be shaken out of it. Funny about
 that particular book. I can well
 remember when you were reading
 it volume by volume but to you
 by, (I believe), Joan Fairlie + I
 chided you in your choice. You were
 so wrapped up in it + it made a
 very big impression on you. Luckily,
 as I read it now, there's no
 analogous character in the book
 to have made you start comparing
 her at that stage of our wooing,
 I might have been let in for some
 very critical analysis. As it was,
 I'm sure my lack of perception + taste
 made you impatient with me +
 now, of course, I understand why.
 If you indignantly deny the last
 sentence baby, I say that you
should have been impatient, even
 angry with me because it's a
 very wonderful book + I love it.

Don't ask me why it takes so long
for me to acquire good taste in
literature - I don't know, unless it is
because now I have more leisure
to read whereas before there were
very few evenings! When I had the
inclination to stay in & read - even
if I had had to do so I'd have
read technical books. Then again,
unless of my curious nature can't
have experienced a courtship &
marriage to a girl in a million
without enquiring, as soon as he was
able, into the whys & wherefores of
life & love, the most expert opinions
concerning which are only to be
found in the classics. Therefore,
after having sorted, in my own small
way, the best & worst that literature
can offer, I've now become to read
& admire and learn from the great
authors & writers. The camp library
has been enlarged & I look forward
to many pleasant evenings with
a book.

Tomorrow I shall be going
into Bombay on business. I've been
to the Dick Day & asked for a clip
to get some spectacles - I've had
no trouble with my eyes but as I
said, I'm reading much more than
before & to save strain I thought
I'd get a pair out of the Navy -
it'll cost me nothing. Next week,
I shall be going to the dentist to
have an examination & to get the
old molars scraped - the water
out here has a most awful effect
of forming tartar, or at least a stain
of some sort. The spots are gradually
disappearing with the T.C.P. treatment
but all the time I sweat so much
they'll persist, & it won't be until
the cooler weather sets in, I'm sure,
that they'll go down. From then
on I should be used to the heat
& my blood won't protest so much.
Will you give me an idea

of the latest times taken for my
letters to get to you, darling, please.
I have an idea they take longer
than they should & if there's any
delay this end then I can enquire
into it I'll take it up. Yours regularly
take 6 days - sometimes 5 - which
isn't bad. When I give you the
word that a parcel or shipment
has been sent I should look
out for them 8-12 weeks after
despatch & there again, I'd like
to know the exact time taken.
By the way, about 3 weeks or a
month ago Jim sent a duty free
parcel to Muriel containing 2 lbs of
tea. 1 lb of that is yours sweet,
I bought it & sent it with Jim's
to save a duty free label. Muriel
knows all about it & she's written
to Jim telling him that she'd
either save it for you to call or she'd
bring it or send it to you. I'll
send the next 1 lb direct probably

with a similar arrangement for
Muriel.

I'm writing this inside the
cabin tonight because our deck-
chair's been pinched. The new spot
has spoiled my inspiration which
was the vision I described before
to you and - remember? I did
so enjoy seeing you in different
poses each night & now I've got
to fit you in somewhere else. I
think I'll have to frame you in the
doorway - the only suitable spot -
but then you get a little too much
light for the effect to be so
ethereal as before. Never mind I'll
get to like it just as much, so
long as people don't keep on barging
in & out of the doorway which
rather disconcerts you - well, I mean,
it's not easy well to have blobs
walking right through one's body
every five minutes is it? Besides,
sometimes you're not dressed fit
to be so rudely disturbed & it may

be that I'll have to find a more
private visioning ground for you to
perform on - if only you wouldn't
insist on the Dance of the Seven Veils!
The trouble is, the fellows might
not see you - then not being magic
like us - But they sometimes see
your effect on me & they wonder -
not only do they wonder but they
sometimes say to the effect that
I'm looking I was doped or
something, & what was I grinning
at so insanely? I can't help it if they
take dopey looks & more, just as
such when all the time they're really
outward manifestation of man who's
miles away - 7000, to be near enough -
& is closely chattered with the only
being in the world whom he loves, &
whose love he holds. I do that
journey many times a day & I
never get tired nor I never shall.

Your beloved

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Received
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