

*[Letter from Arno Knight to Olive Drinkwater]*

Bassickville Colo.

Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> 1879

Dearest Olly:

I have forgotten how to write to a young lady if I ever knew but I will try and scabble a few lines to you hoping you will not take them for Chinese hieroglyphics. Presume you received the few hastily written lines from Pueblo. Did not go to Leadville as I expected then so if you wrote to me there I shall not be likely to get your letter but I don't think I shall forget you darling even if you did not write at all and yet I know the love of a pure and noble woman like yourself is something to be thankful for and it is to me the one bright spot in my otherwise restless unhappy life and though we are separated by thousands of miles I shall look forward with fond anticipation to the words of encouragement. I feel your brave little heart will dictate the knowledge of your love and devotion will nerve me to the utmost exertions to prove worthy of you my darling and God grant that I may prove successful.

It is a hard lesson to learn to wait with patience the fruits of labor We feign would soar at once to the summit of bliss and to have our aspirations curbed is maddening torture but the hour of triumph will surely come to those who bravely endure the trials and adversities of life

I know that you often weary of the position in which your duty calls you to move and you long for a higher and broader sphere of action and yet the grandest and noblest purposes of life are the duties performed in love and devotion I long for sufficient wealth to place you in a position worthy of yourself where you might be happy as you deserve I know I may fail! I know the road to success is generally long and tedious! But I know that manly exertions, upright conduct, and habits of industry, and economy, must ultimately win and you Olly shall be my guardian Angel to lead me on to success and inspire me to higher aims in life Good bye, for the present and write me at once Direct to Rosita Colorado Box 63.

Send me your Photograph when you have it taken and be sure and have it taken soon.

A.W.K.....

P.S. Tell Ernest if he thinks of going away it is a pretty hard time to go West  
The flood of emigration this spring is immense about 12,5 per day arrive in the City  
of Denver alone.

Give my regards to your Mother  
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