



UNITED STATES MARINES

August 19, 1917.

My own Darling Girl:-

Received

two letters from you today and I was glad to get them. Do you really mean that my letter made you happy? Don't take this question to heart my dear. Let it pass.

Well I have been thinking over ~~last~~^{mistake} that Thursday night. It means a lot to me Grace and it has left me something more precious than money can buy.

When I think it over it is hard to realize the truth, but it is and I am, oh so thankful and glad that I asked you and you promised.

I still have some of your candy left. You must have put some of yourself in the candy, that being the reason it has kept good so long.

Yes Grace dear I am satisfied in loving you from here, but I would like to have you near at times. See I get selfish at times, but I will have to be satisfied until I can come home to you. You can't blame me

for wanting you near me, can you?

I ~~sometimes~~^{mistake} sometimes think it a sin that we could only have such a short time together, but then I am thankful for what I did get, that was only a beginning to what we will have when I get home to stay. I know you wouldn't want me home now, would you Grace? I mean as a slacker, so don't envy the girls who have their sweethearts at home. I don't want to brag about myself for being ⁱⁿ the service, but I am glad I am here and that I am doing it willingly. You understand

what I mean Grace? I am
coming back to you Grace,
never fear so you won't have
to do any protesting. I don't
want any other girl, I have
found my dream girl and only
death will keep me from you.

I know you will be true,
so I am not worrying. You
mean too much to me, to
have me mistrusting you and
I know you will carry your
part when the gossip comes
around.

No my dear I would
never get sick of your raving (as
you call it) because I know
it is from your heart.



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Now for your letter of the 17, —

Gunnar has been rather worried for a couple of days. He doesn't say much about his girls. Last night after we had gone to bed I started to bid him about his girls. I was telling him, how he goes making love to two girls and they trust him and some day when the awakening comes it will be awful. I raved on in this way for time and he never said a word. I think he is starting

to think of what he is doing. I feel sorry
for the girl when he comes to decide.
I am glad I am not in his boat.
Yes, I am satisfied about your
dream, but what was it? Tell me
Gracie. I want to know.

Would you really shake me
and leave me? Yes my dear I will
take it all back. I realize how
freely you gave me the answer that I
wanted. I will tell you that for over
a month Grace I had been thinking
over whether I should ask you or not.
Well I told you how I felt about it on

the Thursday night and when you asked
me if I wanted you to promise I knew
you were ready so I just asked you.
I to know I ~~can~~ would have no
other but you and I believe you
with all my heart my dear. I never
did doubt you.

Yes, I had enough ice cream
but as you say boys will be boys.
We just wanted to see who could
eat the most. I will never do the
thing over again though.

As I wrote you when I get to
Washington I will have my picture

taken. ~~Do~~ Do you want me
to have a bust picture taken
or do you want all of me in
the picture? I prefer a bust
picture, but you can have
your choice. See how good
I am.

I was to church this
morning and I was glad
I went. I slept most of the
after noon. I have not made
up my sleep from my
vacation yet. I sure did
lose a lot of sleep, but I
am not sorry for doing it.
I am sorry I did not have
another week to spend at



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home.

I was reading over the Epworth League lesson for tonight. It was just what I needed. If we but trust God he will take care of us. I am trusting God to bring me back safely and I want you to do the same. Grace. If it was not that I am sure of coming back I would not be as happy as I am. I feel safe. Grace and God shall

never been so much to me as he is tonight. Oh my dear, whatever you do don't leave God for one minute. We must have him with us and only then can we be happy. Just think how much happier your parents and my parents are just because they serve God. Don't you think it is worth while to serve him? I know you do.

Well I will close for this time. Best regards to your folks. My whole heart with mistakes all for you and you only.

Your true Marine lover,

Dave.

S. W. A. K.