



August 21, 1917.

UNITED STATES MARINES

My own dear Grace:—

I have just sneaked over to the Y. M. C. A. to write you a letter. I did not dare wait until after supper as I may not have time. I did not write you yesterday as I had no time. I thought I would be able to after supper, but then they issued clothes to us. I waited from 5:30 until 9:15 for mine and then it was taps so

you see where I was. There may be something else to-night so I will take no chance. If it should ^{ever} happen that I will not be able to write to you for two days I will send you a telegram to the office. I will send it on the third day. Is this agreeable to you?

Why did my telegram mean so much to you my dear?

Oh if I only could come home to you for good. But I am going to be patient and the time will fly and soon I will be home to stay.

When I lay down on my bunk and some of the boys are around they will say, "What are you thinking about Dave?" I turn crimson and smile and they know and start kidding me. When my mind is not taken up with work I think of my home and my sweetheart who is waiting for me. It does me good too.

I hope I will not have to kill, but I will do my duty as you want me to do.

I am sorry that picture
was blurred. Tough luck.

Now, Grace dear I do not
think you hard hearted
one bit. Gun does deserve
to suffer and he won't
quit fooling girls until he
does suffer. I feel sorry for
him, but that is nothing
when it comes to Arline and
Goldie, then it will be time
to feel sorry. They will not
be the only ones either. He
has about three others. Two
down at the office who
write very often and one on



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the south side. Keep this to
your self Grace please. No
my dear, you will always
find me try no matter what
may be the case. If I can't
have you I will look for
no other, but I trust you
as you trust me so I am
not worrying.

I have wanted to cry
many times, but it did not
come so far. I have lain
awake though thinking of

you and wishing to be home by you.
Yes Grace dear we will both be brave
and God will take care of the rest,
only trust him. Oh how essential
that is.

I have gotten one boy to stop
smoking and swearing. I have made of
him a friend. When we first met
something seemed to draw us together
and now we are as brothers. I want
you to pray for him Grace. His
name is Bert Graham. I will win
him for Christ too.

It is very hot down here. How
is it in Chicago? Our nights are
very cool and I sleep like a brick.

I will close for this time Grace.
Best regards to your folks and your
mother. ~~My~~ All my love and mistakes
are for you my sweetheart.

Your Marine boy,
Dave.

S. W. 2120.