

AMERICAN



"In a trench at the front"
ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

April 19, 1918.

My dearest sweetheart Grace:

Your precious letters to answer to, nits and oh how glad I was to receive them. They seemed to bring new life to me darling. Oh if it wasn't for your letters, I don't know what I would do. Time would be very dark and gloomy. How I love you, my dear.

We have had pretty cold weather, even had some snow. But today it seems to be turning warmer again.

I am glad you had such a good time at the party Grace. I surely am waiting to see that picture, and believe me I will, so you better save it and make up your mind to that.

Grace darling, you can't start to realize how good it makes me feel



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when you tell me about the good times you are having at the Billy Sunday meetings. But it also hurts to know I can't enjoy them with you. I hope he comes over here, so I may see him as I don't think this war will be over by May.

We too have set our time one hour ahead. We did that early in March. Do you remember one year ago this Easter darling?

Yours of 2/21/18.

Oh if I only could have my way sweetheart, I would be home by May 30. But I doubt it very much. I want you so, my darling, to hold you in my arms again and kiss you.

Yes dear, thank you for the snap. It is like you darling, and I wanted one

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Just do your best Grace. I know how I feel sometimes, I seem so blue and lonely and all I want is you. You say your letters are complaining, but what about mine? They must be worse than yours.

I wish I could read short hand, but I can't. What did you say?

Mar 25.

At first I didn't want to tell you Grace as I thought it would make you feel blue and that I did not care as much for you darling, if I did such a thing, but I knew I must tell you and ask your forgiveness. Darling you are so big to be and I am so small. I know I am not worthy of you

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love, but may God help me to be the man you know me to be and love you with true and pure love. God is going to have his way with me and I will come home to you dearest a man pure and true. I could not keep on writing and loving you if I were to come home different. Your love and trust in me help me to live a right and clean life. Grieve, if I could only write you how I love and trust you, but I can't. Words fall so short, but some day darling. Ah how I wish you could put your arms around me and kiss me, but as you say, some time we will.

God will dear, his protecting arm is around me and he will bring me safely home to you, never fear.

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You trust God and I will.

Sometimes we boys get together and sing song and amongst them is the one you quoted in your letter.

Your dreams are going to come true and we will walk down the path together.

Better stay home, and be there when I come home. Right on the station platform waiting for me darling. I can see that time now.

I hope we never will have to part again, Grace. There is no joy in parting when love is there. I know it would be harder for me now, since my love has grown, but darling it was for a good and just cause this time and I hope there will never be another war. What a really big thing love is, don't you find it so dearest?

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Well that keep sake was just a little something from me, I thought you would like it. I sent mother another kind.

I think I will stay in the office from now on. I like it and want to stay and I know it is up to me, but sometimes I just want to get out with the boys, but dear, you want me to stay in the office and I will. I believe God wants me too or I would not be here now.

You tell Billy, I will write him a letter real soon. I haven't forgotten him by no means. His few words meant a lot to me darling. Has he grown much since I last saw him? Now dear would you send

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me a snapshot of him, if you have one. I don't want to ask you for too much dear, but I would like to have a picture of him. Yes, if you only could deliver Billy's kiss in person, oh sweetheart why must it be so, but it is and we must make the best of it.

Well Grace, what more can I ask for now, than your prayers, love and trust. I am satisfied with that now. Those are worth more than words can express when I know you love me truly and that you trust me.

Darling I am glad you are thinking of my home coming. I try to picture it to myself and it helps me to keep bright and happy. It strengthens



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my love and trust dear.

No darling girl, I must be true to you and why shouldn't I be? Haven't I asked you to be mine, to wait for me. Oh if I were not to be true to you, I never could face you when I come home. Your trust and love in me will not be in vain dear. I love and care for you too much for that. No matter what others may say or do I am yours and yours until you say otherwise, which I hope never will be. Will it darling?

We will have all the suppers we want together some day, Grace, and downtown too. Just wait dearest.

3/27/18.

No, I know it is the mail

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man's fault if you do not get my letters regularly. Grace I am going to number my letters for a while, just to see if you get them or not. Let me know how they come.

If you let me - who's going to stop me from seeing that picture when I get home? I bet I see it. A big box of candy is my bet. Are you on?

No, no, no darling, if I said I thought you only loved me a little bit I must have been joking. I know you love me and with all your heart too. Forgive me dear if I said otherwise. That's the way dear and the only way to feel. Then when I really can come home our times together will be more dear to



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to each of us:

Lillie will get no answer to my letter, Grace. I am sorry such a thing happened Grace. I know just how you felt dear and it hurts me too. I am glad you told me Grace. Try not to carry anything on your heart darling if I can help to carry it. Oh how I wish I was home to be with you, then they could talk as they pleased. But why worry, that does not change my love and trust in you, it only adds more, Grace. I wanted to be civil to Lilly so I answered, but it is all off now. Is there any other gossip around Grace? Don't hold anything back if there is. Are you tired of reading yet?



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← scarcity of paper - was.

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just a little more.

We had a lively time
the other mite. The Germans tried
to slip one over on us, but we
met them more than half way.
They got us out of bed to carry
ammunition. Bullets and shells
ringing through the air. It sure
was fine. The whole front was
illuminated so that a paper
could be read. I wish you was
here to see it Gras. All our large
guns were sending shell after shell
at the Germans and it lasted
but an hour or two. How do
you understand why we must
sleep with our clothes on? The
Germans can't slip anything over
on us. Can they dearest?

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Will close for this time.
Give Billy three kisses for me,
darling and best regards to your
folks. To you my trust of the
true, my own darling girl I give
all my hearts love and trust from
your own true, (but a little lonely
to-night) sweetheart,

Dare.

S. W. 6 R's.

Pvt. David L. Lhor.

73 Company - 6 Regiment,
U. S. Marines - American C. F.

Wt. D. L. Brown.
13 Co - 6 Regt.
U. S. M. C. a. a. s.



Marine Mail

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