

Germantown

January 22, 1950

Dear John,

While you are taking your examination Wednesday morning, I shall be proctoring one of mine. I hope I will not be the focus of agonized and accusing looks. I will not, of course, be able to work, so I shall think of you and my dilemmas. It will be almost as quiet as Quaker Meeting, but there will be more form to this service. I shall be at home at 6:00, and I will correct examinations until you come - or perhaps all night, if I am well enough. Please do not come Wednesday if you are tired. You ask me to make decisions: that is a decision which I make quite easily and firmly. Of all the things in you which frighten me, your weariness is the worst.

I cannot play any records because the furniture in that room has been moved around and wires detached; there is to be a large party here tomorrow night. I will come to give Mother moral support. It will probably be a frightening occasion but not so bad as the two classes of review through which I must put my eighth grade class. I do not see how the poor children will get through the examination - most of which was set by another teacher. I feel horribly guilty about that class.

Well, perhaps I can still accomplish the impossible. I feel more rested than I have for weeks - no longer on the edge of complete exhaustion and desperation.

I am glad that you understood some of my letter last week. I do not think you can understand how much your letter meant to me. And I do not know how to explain any of these things to you, either the things you like, or the things you dislike. Here, I am even more helpless than in ~~my~~ eighth grade grammar and history. Perhaps you will help me.

Sleep Well,

Margaret