

Germantown

December 16, 1950

Dear Tochen,

I am listening to Jesu, Meine Freude, which I will hear at the concert Wednesday night. The fire is warmly crackling at my back. When the music and this letter is finished I will go to work with Mother in the kitchen.

I could not go to the Thursday evening concert. I sat and waited with Dory until her parents telephoned from California. When that was over she went away to stay with her friend. I tried to write you a letter, but I was too tired and too disconcerted by having wasted an entire evening. I hope that I was at least kind to Dory. I felt very stiff and unfriendly - almost as bad as I am with Janet.

Yesterday afternoon I bought the Oratorio for your family and also the Haydn Concerti for Margrit. I spent a long time

Searching unsuccessfully for a reproduction of Pi-casso's "Woman in White" which Margrit asked for long ago. Instead I found this and sent her one. I hope she will like it. If not now, perhaps later. I think you will understand why I love it so specially.

Thank you for your letter. It troubles me that it should be simply one more thing in your already too long day. But I am glad that you think of me when things are hard and that you think that I ~~could~~ help you if I were there. God willing, I shall be there next year, and I will try to help.

Mother and I have had a long, varied conversation this morning. I expressed some of my petulant and nasty feeling about Janet and her Christmas plans - ~~at~~ and also promised to try to be nice. We also talked about the possibility of Graduate School; and ~~so~~ I told her, as you said long ago I might, that we had plans of being married "eventually" though we could not say now when it would be. She seemed

to be relieved to know that. I must ² tell you also that she had already planned to give you a very nice present - something as old and nice as the violin. I am very happy ^{that} you and I will have it - and that she ~~should~~ think of it while feeling worried and uncertain.

She had already planned all the room arrangements for the weekend. You ~~shall~~ shall be in my room, in my bed, and I will be upstairs with Aunt Martha, if she comes. A narcissus is already blooming in my study, waiting for you.

Please, could we go to the Museum Friday morning. Then on Saturday I will let you work quietly until time for your train. I am afraid that with a Museum trip Saturday will be very hard and confused. On the ~~the~~ other hand, Janet, etc. will be home Saturday, so perhaps it would be better to be away ~~there~~. Well, we can decide later.

I will try to get the Ritke for you
Monday or Tuesday. Now I really must
go to Shelp Mother's last Saturday at
his time we ~~were~~ were walking to
Provincetown beside the waves. I
can hear them and feel your arm
around me.

Deine

Margaret