

Nov 26

My Dearest

Two letters from you this morning! All you say about David is most awfully interesting. I wonder if you have advised him for his happiness. I should feel very afraid of advising any one to try at all to fall in love with Jelly because I think it rather dangerous, but then I am too cautious. ~~or~~ I do think with David that the difference of nationality is a difficulty, but then Jelly is so sweet and dear that when one thinks of her again it sweeps all caution aside. I wonder if she is in love with him I should not be the least surprised if she were. On the whole I think you were right but I should not have dared it. You are an impulsive creature at the bottom. I foresee lots of difficulties but none that love may not overcome but still I do think it would be the greatest mistake for them to marry unless they are very really and completely in love. It can't be one of the easy marriages that jog along; they neither of

them have the nature for it.

I think one thing will happen & I tried to suggest it to David by talking of Natasha in War & Peace and that is that if Jelly has children she will become much more domestic than David will like. He will all the time be worrying over her music & her soul & she will be worrying over the trifling ills of her baby. For besides being a great musician she is passionately and ~~truly~~ very strongly a woman and all the woman's instincts will come out in her.

She is very interested in the male now and in the best sense flirts a lot. After she is married if she really loves I think she will be entirely devoted to her husband untill the children come and then she will throw her whole heart into motherhood even to the exclusion of him for a bit very likely. David is a very romantic person under an unromantic exterior isn't he? His male instincts emphatically do not go out to every female as is the case with some men, consequently when they do they probably are to himself

pretty acute, though even then I should expect him to show it very little.

I wish I could talk with Jelly and she could tell me what she feels. I think it quite possible that she would not mind doing so but I'm sure a mutual shyness, or at any rate a very considerable shyness on my part would keep her from doing it. I am always very very shy of people talking to me ~~or~~ ^{or} of trying to draw them on the subject of their love affairs. I think they are very sacred.

Must it it be dreadful for a person who is married to find that they have fallen in love with some one else, they might slip into it so unconsciously I think. I think it might happen specially easily if their husband were away for a long time, they would be so glad of the present friend and there would not be the daily life together to keep the rather weak love alive that the husband and wife had.

Having babies too makes a difference to love. I love you just as tenderly and really when I am pregnant as at any other time but both physically

and mentally I do not love you passionately.
You remember when you came home in April to
have your ankle operated on. I was awfully
disappointed and unhappy that your coming did
not thrill me in the same way that it had
at Christmas & I did not understand quite
why it was. But now I am sure it was just
the baby & added to it the fact that I was
very tired with being in London & looking after
Diana while Mary Anne was ill.

I shall be thrilled this time when you come
back dear. David is hoaxed to say it may be
months.

I am sorry you have been distressed and made
unhappy by me being ill but you got your
letters saying I was better almost as soon as
the one saying I was ill so it might easily
have been worse might it. I am being
very careful. It's damp & cold & foggy today
so I have not gone out.

The doctor said he was coming once more to
see me I hope he will come soon because I
want to be passed fit and allowed to do

just what I like again.

He has just been and he says I am quite well which I know but that I ought to be careful for six weeks not to get wet through or sit in damps clothes, that I dont mind but he also says I ought not to take hard exercise like digging or bicycling or sawing wood. That's a great nuisance because I wanted to saw a lot of wood with you and go up to the garden to deal with that.

If you can find a suitable thing to put on Christmas cards or make one up I will certainly try and so some but I dont think I should have time to do very many.

I have had a wire to say that Arie has a son & both are doing well. I'm sorry it's not a girl as that is what she wanted but I cant help a pang of jealousy that she should have a boy she does not want when I want one so very very badly. Why dont these things arrange themselves better.

I am sure Doris will have another boy & then I shall go and have a third girl and I should be most bitterly disappointed.

Dearest I do wish you were here I want to have you to talk to so very badly, as you say there is so much to talk of ~~to~~ besides I just want you most awfully badly.

I expect I must end this letter I am going to look after the children indoors this afternoon as it is raining a little and Violet is going to the dressmaker to get her to make some coats for the children. With great economy we think we can get two coats out of a piece of stuff I bought for one and stuff is so fearfully expensive now that I should be very glad to.

Your very very loving

Ruth

Mill asked me to thank you for your letter to her. I enclose this receipt for the curtain stuff.