

Tuesday July 4 (60)

My dearest Besides the letter I had yesterday evening and that I told you of at the end of my last letter I had another this morning. And you told me only to send letters every other day which I shall do till you are less busy and can have them every day again. I wonder what you are thinking of events out there. Our papers make it out to be excellent yet I doubt if our progress is excellent at all points though doubtless it is at some. It's all fighting inch by inch, we aren't getting them on the run at all, we shan't get very far like that, but of course we do not know what we are setting out to do. It may be only to show our superiority by shoving them back a bit. We may think that will be enough to end the war. I wonder if it would. Oh that it may go on well! My dear I am sorry to hear that you are

deafened even temporarily. Do you use those ear protectors? Please be as careful as you can. I bathed in the airco with rosula this morning. It was very nice except for the flies ^{which} ~~and~~ ^{undressing}, they were a torment. I do hate flies.

Dearest you say that my letters vary in interest and that some times my mind does not seem to govern my feelings, specially I gather about little Clare. You see she is doubly precious to me because I have not got you here, and she is all I have of you. She may be the only baby I shall ever have & I do love her. I want more babies badly. When I've got you again & perhaps another baby though I shant love her any less perhaps I shall cling to her a little less. You know I think my letters must vary a lot. I am quite conscious that they do and I dont altogether try to help it. Because you see I want you to know how I am feeling as much as I can, so I write like I am feeling and sometimes its dull and ordinary and sometimes more thought ful and interesting. I wish I were as clever as Harry

Amn then I would write you really good
letters full of humor & interest. I do
think she is clever, she can make up
rymes and poetry. There is a sweet one
about Owen call "The Angry Man."

Next day July 5.

Darling dearest. I'm not sure if the
first part this letter is nice. It sounds
doesn't it as though I am defending
myself. And there was ~~not~~ no need
your letter was not meant for a
criticisim, it was very nice

I am sorry things are not going
very well in your part of the
line but we must have an awful
job before ~~them~~ us, I read that
the villages are full of deep cellars
and underground passages that the
defenders get into and come out
again behind our men. However they
do seem to be getting on in some
parts.

M^r Ranwothy who is usually very
pessimistic said the other day that he

expect the war to end this year. It's
really wonderful what a lot of people do seem
to expect it. Oh just think of having
you back again.

I had a little short letter from you this
morning saying that you are writing me
a long one which will be very nice to
get. Do you know you quite after say
what your next letter will be about but
it never yet has been about that. You
~~said~~ said you would describe to me the offices
of your men. It would amuse me if you
ever have time.

I have been to the dentist this morning
and had those small ~~small~~ stoppings
done, that's not had its a long time
since I have been.

Your plan of shifts sounds a good idea
but it doesn't quite seem to work
because in spite of being off you seem
to be on. I'm sorry Capt Dithgow in
difficult moments gets flustered, it must
make things much more difficult.

It's rather awful when you say in this
letter that you are full of hope and
in your last hasty scrawl that I had

this morning to learn that for the moment
you have somewhat failed. I wish I knew
what was really happening.
Well any way the Germans are getting
it all round, the Russians seem to be
going it pretty well. They can't be
happy.

I can't tell you much more about
people, Kowala is still with us but
she is away at Haslemere today. I
don't feel I have much to say about her.
She is very much the same as usual, she
has at the charm of Mary Ann but she is
very nice. She is just a bit apt to over do
things. It's hard to explain. But she rather
to label one. I think a good many
of your friends do that rather. I mean
they think you are funny ~~or~~ uneducated
or clever or something and always answer
to ~~do~~ laugh at the same things. I don't
really think this of your friends in
particular, only people belong to a set
and get to talk like that. I must stop
I am going out.
your very very loving
Ruth.