

Sunday July 23 (72)

My dearest Good morning. I have just been finishing the last chapter of The Ultimate Belief before writing. I was too sleepy to finish it last night. I think every one should read it and those who have to do with the bringing up of children should read it more than once and remember it carefully. I'm sure that the leaving out of the aesthetic side of our spirit is what leads to a vast amount of discontent and misery. When one is making something beautiful one is absorbed and contented and one comes from the work happy. If people would only know what they want they would be much happier. Their work is dull & profitless for their spirit, so they want money to buy pleasure instead of making it all day in their work.

Then I like so much what he says about children in the last chapter. How the keen disinterested spiritual activity of childhood must be kept into youth and never let to fall away into dullness

and the desire to be the same as other people. Don't you think that happens with boys largely because they are sent to school too young. For instance when Mildred & I went to school we both of us were so much ourselves that school could not make any vast difference, and certainly no difference that we did not want it to make. We were both able to see which girls we liked & which we did not and to be entirely careless of the opinion of those we did not. And that carelessness of opinion you do not approve of, in a girls school at any rate, is a strength and not a disadvantage. It did not make one disliked, but made the other people think. I know I was unpopular at school because all the time just at the time I could always be friends with any one I wanted to be friends with. When our children go to school I should like them to be themselves so much that they are able to stand against the temptations and to continuously choose

the good

I have just seen a big by plane, a fighter
pass by so close that I could see the
little man's head & shoulders sticking up.
Don't you think that if the children have
spiritual freedom only guided with all the
~~care~~ ^{care} & wisdom that we can manage they
will soon ~~learn~~ ^{gain} to have strength & self
reliance.

Mr Cockrell & the two younger children
came yesterday. Christopher the eldest
~~came yesterday~~ is six & Katharine is five.
They seem very jolly children & I think
we shall enjoy having them very much.
I am so terribly sorry for him. His
wife seems to be incurably ill with nervous
complaint. It does not make her nervous
but they are wasting away, and she can
do so little, she gets tired with talking
and can be read aloud to but cannot
read much to herself and can hardly
walk at all.

I had a short letter from you last
night dear. The weather was bad and
you seemed unhappy about our anniversary.
Indeed I hope all is going well but as

I said in my letter yesterday we does not know how much is suppressed & how much told. You said that all you wanted to tell me you might not and oh I felt that you were not quite happy about it. I hope it is not going to be anything very dangerous. I wonder if you are going to move.

I had a horrid dream that made me wake all miserable. You were here at home on a short leave I suppose & you look haggard and miserable & you told me of your work and it was so awfully dangerous that it seemed you must get killed. And then I found I had left poor Clara with someone she didn't know all the afternoon & she had been weeping and miserable. I was glad to wake up. But how hard dreams are to shake off.

My dear what ever happens afterwards the relief of this war ending will be immense.

I am glad the butter arrived safely I shall send some more. I have not done

so the last day or two because it has been so hot, but today is much much cooler, almost cold. So I should think I could send some on Monday.

The breakfast bell I must go in away from talking to you. Oh my dear when I can really talk to you again, what bliss it will be.

It's now three o'clock. Marjorie has gone off in the car to fetch the Clutton Books who are coming to tea with their three children. And with the three here we ought to have very jolly afternoon.

Mr Cockeath sent you a message I can't quite remember it. Something like greetings + kind remembrance.

Violet has gone off for the afternoon. Maggie is back for the week end.

I am just going to take baby into

the garden. Mr Caswell thinks she is
very nice, really.

Margaret Waterhouse sends remembrances

Clare is eating paper so I must stop.

your very loving

Ruth.

