

Thurs, May 3

Darling, I will try and catch you before you leave F., tho' probably won't quite make it. Think your plans are fine, as feel Paris will be infinitely more important to you than Spain alone--you need Paris-- it is good for you there. Too bad you can't stay on there longer. In case you find that you can, you really should do it. Because this building bus. can wait--however I spose you'll feel anxious to get back to work, and staying on in Paris would not fulfill that

Do give my love to Emerick, tell him I sent his mother Lindamood another tea gown I found in the attic in N.O., not as sensational, but, nevertheless.

The weather has been devine and all the white blo ssoms are just coming out now. We have been fixing the garden, the steps that go down to Mollies (all gone), painting screen door, all sorts of things---it is amazing how much help A. really is, and loves to do it too. He and Cynth are back at their old romance, only more-so--this week he has done nothing but wait for her to come from school, he sees her for breakfast, and she eats here for lunch and supper--she is quite a good balance and I enjoy having her, she is nine now, does dishes, and sweeps. But are they ever thick! Kathy has been in with a cold. Yesterday Cynth missed A. so much she told the teacher she had a stomach ache, so came home, then we went out, and met the teacher, she was eating ice-cream. A. is full of questions on how the world goes around, the sides of the sky, light and darkness, so much he wants to know, and I find I am able to sit down and relax and talk with him, I have given up all ideas of the spotless house---no more--they need so much time and attention and who cares if the floor is dirty.

Joahn is incredibel--his darling, sweet ways, dimples, those eyes he makes--oh what a doll--he is so determined, so sweet and loving, requires attention every waking moment, will not lie in bed like A. used to do--"get Up" loudly at 6--A. will sleep til 7:30 if I get J. out and quiet. All day long he is on the go and wants help, so I enjoy him like never before.

This morning we made a pie, then this p.m., do-nuts--that was the end--Philip could hardly lift them to carry

them home! Bruce has bought himself a convertible, so took A. and Cyn. for a ride tonight--A. fell asleep.

I am sewing like mad, whenever I get a chance, which is seldom, on the children's clothes. I will try to get you the emery wheel at the Lands End if it isn't too much! We can't charge anything anymore and I have only \$75 to last til Jun

What is this about Brion being lost in the desert? I wrote him also, from N.O. but no ans.

Helene called the other nite to say she can rent her Apt there, and both places here, could we possible give her the chicken house? I said of course, as at this point in her lif I would deny her nothing, if she can stand it---we could move the things to the lumber yd. Please do not protest--she may not take it anyway, but oh she is so so broke, I would make all effort to help her out---wish we had a room for her here.

I have written Tony per your request, and Mu. regarding payments on the K. relative to bldg.

Get the tools and everything you can there, mark this, you will need them later, and not be able to get them. Never mind more shoes for me, please don't.

I will write your family that they should meet you, tho I put it to them before leaving, Pauline would like to, so eprhaps they do, who knows. Lets don't worry about it.

No, I did not bring up the Miro and Dubuffet, as the M. is being framed. But can have Helene bring, she is coming in Eddie's wagon with Miz and Lillian Freed, next weekend.

I am so tired at night can't do much--am still under 130 which is much too little for me, so am now drinking 3 malted milks a day, and eating lots, but guess I will go get some vit. shots. Food is terribly high, hamburg 98¢ lb., and you know a lb. is nothing. Milk 28¢ and I get 7 qts. every toher day--that is \$30 a mo. I must be very tired so forgive me for stopping, but off to bed. Got the plans you sent, but think we should keep it very rough and not go over the \$1500 for now really.

Glad you go to Naples, have a wonderful time in Paris, it will be so wonderful this time of yr. All love,

Jeanne

Sunday noon

Darling---The children are playing quietly outside in the sand, the roast is in the oven, so I'll grab a few minutes. Anthony and I went to church, he looks so handsome in his good suit, and is so proud of himself--meantime Jo fell off something at Alices and cracked his head again---he is awfully clumsy right now, but doesn't get much hurt. He has something on his skin like ivy, prickly heat, hives, or all three and was up last night, he scratches himself crazy. I have been doing a little ivy spraying as its thick this yr. but I think it may be an allergy---so have stopped the cucumbers he loves so. He looks so messy all the time, will have to fix him up before you arrive, 3 more wks. now---still don't know if I'll make it down, as no place to stay with the kids, so Mu said perhaps she'd come up with you. Anyway you'll be in a state arriving---I was, and had no earthly reason to be--- but there is such an excitement as the boat comes in that you can hardly stand it---I know I felt that way---just something inside almost does you up. However if you would like especially for me to be there with the children, please say so, and I will try to arrange it.

Letter from Mu yesterday, says o.k. go ahead with the bldg. so I talked to the carpenters again, and they will be ready the 20th. But don't want to order anything til you get here, say it can be had quickly. Nickerson is not much cheaper, but they do know where to get tile flooring, and the wood block for ceiling that they suggest, cheaper. Perhaps we can use Alberts new pickup truck to go up cape and get things. He'll be back the first for good. He was here last sunday---looks wonderful---better than I've ever seen him. Is fixing up his places on Conwell St. for rent for \$300. I have not yet been able to contact Sammy about the ability of those men as masons, as he has been in Wellfleet working for Dorothy but will get him this week---however I do wonder if they have equipment etc., also will talk to Duncan about them. The best man now seems to be Raymond Brown as he has four men and much equipment, Ken C. is using him now and thinks he's terrific but I wonder. Still have not heard from Tony, tho know he has made a drawing---when I get the exact date of your arrival will write and urge him to meet the boat- tho he has been in Conn.

Todd and the Nardins were here last nite for a drink---I sure can't have anyone for cocktails without you, with the kids,, so asked them to come late, which they did and had a very nice time. They have taken a cottage out where Tenn used to live, and Warren will be glad to advise you on any architectural problems he says. Also Miz had the idea that Freed would be glad to work on the bldg., which I think a good idea. What do you think?, as if so I'll write him. She says they are very broke. I think perhaps I will have to move the kids to the studio, tho wish I could get them out of town, as Jo is into everything, and A. is very curious, so will be too.

Did I tell you I am going to make a lot of things for Mary and sell them as the shop in Hyannis we have heard is folding---she is making up a lot of things to sell off the rack, is putting a tree out in front, and feels she can use the childrens clothes too--hope so, tho I won't have a lot.

Have painted the outdoor table and will try to get the chairs fixed up now, they all need recovering, the garden is coming up nice, what there is of it. Bob Dodge asked to use the rest, but still has not planted so guess he won't---they are too busy making money. Yesterday was beautiful, hot and sunny, following a very cold week of northeaster, but today is cold again.

HELEN IS still here for another wk., wild, drinking, has horrible dreams about Simon calling her, saying come with me, every night. Still has not rented her front apt., or the apt. in N.Y. so doesn't know if she'll use the chicken house or not. Have not seen Hazel again--a dumb fellow, her

friend, opened up that gallery of Ben Wolfs, bad taste I'm afraid, he wants
esome of your paintings--told him to wait. I now have two in my lap. Oh
Johann is too helpful---they are making ~~to~~ like mad with the new pop-up.

It is a little lonesome, but keeping busy solves everything. And thats
easy around here . Hope Paris is spring like and I know exciting for you
now as always. Mary says if you can bring her an assortment of those eyes for
buttons, about 2 or 3 dollars worth, she will pay you when you get here, as
its too late to send the money, she never seems to get with it, but do bring
them for her if you h ve a few dollars. Loved the wooden shoes, but someone
has beat us to it as they are all over Vogue, the soles, with a few narrow
kid straps across the front, no backs. Miz looks much better in the wk. she
has been here, Hans comes soon now.

Alice finishing knitting my dress and it is really terrific--fits beauti
fully and looks wonderful on. I have gained five pounds so am o.k. now.

I got a good bra for it in N.Y. with a little bit of padding in as otherwise
I looked like a flat chested queen in a 1920 bathing suit.

A. has a new friend his age they get along fine, Frankie Days in Alberts
old house. Ju t now ther is a gorgeous bright orange oriole outside the
window. Albert says he will help me get the shutters off the studio and the
water on when he comes, I got the ones off the south side alone. So please
tell me right now whatever else you want me to do before you return so I can
get it done. Can't think of any more news with my little helpers here, so will
close for now, please give my regards to Emerick and anyone else there we know.
Where are you staying??? Eat well, as I haven't enjoyed a meal since back.
Love Love, Jeanne