[Transcription begins]
96 Paterson St.
Jersey City 7, N.J.
July 2, 1944

John A. Albanese
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11th A.A. Bn – H + S Battery.

My dearest Johnny: —

Well honey, how are you today? I hope feeling fine! I'm happy you like getting letters from me and I can assure you that I feel the same about yours. I enjoy all your letters immensely.

In your letter, you said that you & Walt always ate spaghetti when out together the last three days of liberty in the States and I thought that was a swell idea! I wish I were with you both.

So your brother is in Italy! Gosh he and his buddies are doing a swell job over there. Is he your only brother? In my family, I have one brother, who is Walt naturally, and a younger sister Dolores, who is 14. I always tell my sister that she's at that right age for by the time she is 16—or 18 yrs., she'll be able to have fun for there'll be no war (I hope) to in[*cut off*] her life or the lives of [*cut off*] friends. This may be a se[*cut off*] outlook but it's the way I feel! By the time the war is over, we girls in our teens now (16 – 20) will be given the go-by for the younger ones. Oh well! I at least will be given a chance to learn to knit extra well in the Old Maid's Home! Very Funny and how!!

Thank you for promising to hold me tightly when on the Scenic Railroad if and when the day comes! Honestly I'll really appreciate that for I think I'll love it then for more than one reason. The reason I have this silly fear of going on unprotected is because once when with my cousin (who is now a Marine) on the Scenic Railroad, I nearly fell out. He did too. It seems the strap or something loosened as we sped down. Maybe it was the skyrocket but anyway that feeling has stayed with me. I'm really a sissy.

You really struck home in your letter before me when you said that the boys are not glad to get away from the women and vica-versa [sic]!! Usually I would debate on that statement but underneath I would know it to be the truth. After awhile, everyone wants to have the companionship of the opposite sex! This war has accomplished one thing—if nothing else—for it taught men and women to appreciate the other. Honestly, I think you fellows should be given credit for all the sacrifices you've all made! Gosh, are not I in a gloomy mood according to this letter. Really I feel swell but I guess I just have a "serious" head on my shoulders. I'm even concerned about the Presidential election and I'm too young to vote! What a person I am!

You mentioned that when you write at times you have a pretty shaky hand, and you said because you're thinking of me! Now I wish that were true but I think you're only handing me a "snow" job as you Marines would say! Right! [Transcription ends—Letter incomplete]