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(Transcription

96 Paterson St.  
Jersey City 7, N.J.  
March 25/45

My darling Johnny: —

Here I am again! It's strange how you met two fellows from New Haven in this outfit, especially being one turned out to be one of your old buddies! Golly, I don't know how his sister could eat grasshoppers. Ugh! They're disgusting and to think of a kid eating them!!! That takes courage. Yes, I received and answered your letters of Jan. 22 and Jan. 26 being you asked.

Honey, I closed my eyes as you instructed and I also can visualize our historic meeting, the way you described it! Romantic eh! I could tell from your personality in your earlier letters that you didn't write "love" letters to girls, for you were very reserved. Some fellows start in right away writing love notes but I give you credit for being very sensible and nice about it! I like the way you manage things!

Yes, the censors must get a kick out of some letters you fellows write! I'd like to be a censor. Why? Well here's one reason. It must be interesting to see how many girls one fellow writes the same things to! Understand? You're right, though, about secrecy of the mail in the States! Are the censors commanding officers or what? Perhaps that's a secret!

I should mention our anniversary being you did! I was conscious of it but wasn't going to say anything! It's a little over a year now since we first started corresponding! Long time, but it went fast though. Let's hope this year also goes fast so you can come home! However in October 1943 I first heard of you, so now it's a yr. and a half, right!

So you still can use me as your secretary! Your knee is ready, you say, but as I once mentioned to you how do you expect to accomplish work that way? Not that I mind! Providing you give me a good wage, I'll agree. Let's see how's this! 3 kisses per day; lunch & dinner and all your evenings! Could you afford it?

Gee, honey, I was so happy and surprised to hear that you also have a desire to become a writer. Another thing that caused me excitement! I was also contemplating taking the N.I.A. course. I even completed the Aptitude Test but never sent it in being I was too busy, at that time, with night school. I thought I was doing enough, besides working, without taking a writing course. However I may yet someday take it. The way I write, you'd never think I knew correct English!! And I want to be a writer!!—Oh well! We really have a lot in common, seriously.

No, definitely not!!!—What? Well, I do not play post-office anymore because: —

a—no fellows  
b—no parties

c—no desire

I hope you didn't think by my letter that I still do. Oh golly! Seriously I'm inwardly shy but not outwardly so I guess I can help you snap out of bashfulness. If you can't speak because of shyness upon our meeting, don't worry for I'm quite a conversationalist! Do you like girls who converse easily or do you like quiet gals? Please tell me the truth, regardless if it's for or against me. I can take it!

I'm surprised at your girlfriend's opinion of you. I do not think you look much older than 20. Judging from your pictures, I would say that you look your age or perhaps between 19 and 22. In your colored photo I would say you look about 19. I noticed that all the boys I know from overseas have a more matured look now. Yes they're older, of course, but I think boys overseas become more serious in their appearance! Thus that probably is what the girl means, for you definitely look young and attractive in the pictures I have. As far as I'm concerned, I'm pleased with your age and it matters not to me how you appear as long as you are **you!** I also sometimes look older than my age, especially at work for people know I'm doing a woman's job and thus presume I must be one. But no, I'm still a little girl, really I am! When I was 16 though, I was matured so I looked maybe 18. Herman was 21 when he first met me and he at first thought I was too young for him! Oh well, perhaps I was.

I want you to know how sorry I am about your cousin's death! I know how you must feel so I'm really at a loss to find the right words to express my sympathy. I hope your aunt will be alright after the blow. You really had your share of bad news, though. I get so blue when I think of how young and vibrant fellows have to die for—oh well—I'm only going to make you feel worse talking about the war. I'm sorry about your friend and your buddy's father. This time bad news did come in 3's to you, heh kid! It's strange how the rumor spread back home that you were expecting a discharge, isn't it? Yes, I bet your folks will be disappointed when they receive your letter telling them it's false.

Johnny, do you boys hear popular songs out there? What made me wonder was that joke about Swoonatra singing "Come out, come out wherever you are!" That's quite a new song. Also, it is a good joke! The Japs may get weak in the knees if Frankie sings.

Nothing new to disclose, so I'll just say so long and take care of yourself!!

Love, Kisses & God Bless You.

As ever,  
Corinne  
x x x x

HAPPY EASTER!

Perhaps I shouldn't have said that but I hope it will be. (Transcription ends)