

MY DEAREST SILVIA,

I HOPE THIS LETTER FINDS YOU WELL. I DREAMED ABOUT YOU ABOARD THE TRAIN, I WAS STRANDED ON A COLD ISLAND WITH NO TREES OR SAND, AS I LOOKED OUT ACROSS THE WATER I SAW YOU IN THE DISTANCE ENVELOPED IN FOG, LOOKING BACK AT ME AND CRYING. I THINK BEING AWAY FROM YOUR EMBRACE WILL BE THE MOST DIFFICULT THING ABOUT THIS TRIP. PART OF ME ALWAYS WISHES TO QUIT AND RETURN TO YOU, BUT I KNOW THIS IS SOMETHING I MUST DO.

AS FOR MY TRAVELS:

I HAVE GATHERED NUMEROUS SUPPLIES, I THINK PERHAPS TOO MUCH. THE MAN AT THE STORE SOLD ME ON NEARLY EVERYTHING THEY HAD FOR CAMPING, HIKING AND THE LIKES. I CANNOT SAY I WILL BE UNPREPARED FOR THE JOURNEY AHEAD, AND THAT, AT LEAST, IS RELIEVING. I OVERHEARD ANOTHER PATRON IN THE GENERAL STORE TALKING ABOUT BEAR ATTACKS IN THE AREA, AND THOUGH I KNOW I SHOULD BE FRIGHTENED I FIND MYSELF GIDDY FOR THE OPPORTUNITY. THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT SUCH AN INCIDENT THAT PRODUCES A HIGH, I FELT IT WHEN I WAS ON TOUR IN THE PACIFIC, BUT AT LEAST THIS TIME I WILL BE UP AGAINST NATURE. IT WILL BE THE WORLD FIGHTING BACK AT ME, AND IN A PHYSICAL SENSE FOR ONCE, NOT JUST IN MY HEAD. ENOUGH OF THAT THOUGH, I HOPE YOU WILL NOT WORRY FOR ME, I AM SURE MY MOTHER IS DOING ENOUGH OF THAT FOR ALL OF US.

AFTER PREPARING FOR MY JOURNEY I FOUND MY FRIEND DERICK WHO GRACIOUSLY HAS INSISTED I STAY THE NIGHT WITH HIM, HIS FIANCÉE AND THEIR 2 MONTH OLD DAUGHTER EMILY. THEY HAVE BEEN VERY GRACIOUS HOSTS AND PREPARED A LOVELY STEW FOR DINNER. I AM SURE IT IS THE BEST FOOD I WILL EAT FOR SOME TIME AND I DID NOT HOLD BACK, I ALMOST FEEL BLOATED.

EARLY TOMORROW MORNING DERICK AND I WILL AWAKE AND HE WILL TAKE ME IN HIS NEW FORD TO THE BASE OF BEAR MOUNTAIN, I AM BOTH EAGER AND ANXIOUS TO BE STARTING MY JOURNEY.

I HOPE YOU ARE DOING WELL AND I HOPE TO FIND A MEANS OF CONTINUEING TO GET THESE LETTERS BACK TO YOU, BUT THIS MAY BE OUR LAST CORRESPONDENCE FOR SOME TIME. AND THEREFOR I WISH TO SAY THAT I MISS YOU, AS YOU KNOW I HAVE NEVER BEEN ONE TO WRITE LOVE LETTERS AND FOR THAT I APOLOGIZE. I AM SURE IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU TO HEAR HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU, BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED I JUST FIND IT EASIER TO AVOID. I WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY THE BEST. I SHALL SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE SOMEDAY, HOPEFULLY A NEW MAN.

FOREVER YOURS,

EVERETT

