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1945-08-03, Jack to Evabel

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PVT. JOHN P. BELL 35052495
78TH SIGNAL CO. APO 78
% PM NEW YORK, N.Y.



MRS. JACK BELL

345 W. RIVER STREET

ELYRIA, OHIO

HOFGEIZMAR, AUGUST 3, 1945

DARLING FINK,

TONITE I GOT TWO LETTERS FROM YOU DATED JULY 24, AND 26TH. I'M GLAD YOU'RE GETTING SOME LETTERS FROM ME EVEN IF IT DOES TAKE QUITE A WHILE TO GET THEM TO YOU. I LIKE TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE GETTING MY LETTERS AS I KNOW HOW IT FEELS WHEN YOU DON'T GET ANY FOR A WHILE.

I GUESS I'VE TOLD YOU THIS BEFORE, HONEY, BUT IT SEEMS AS IF SOMETIMES THE MAIL DOESN'T GET THRU' AT ALL SO I'LL REPEAT IT. AS FAR AS WE KNOW NOW, ALTHO' EVERY THING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THIS ARMY, THE DIVISION WILL BE HERE THRU' '45. WE HAVE A TRAINING SCHEDULE THAT RUNS THRU' TILL NOVEMBER 17TH. AS FAR AS WE KNOW WE'LL BE RIGHT HERE IN THIS TOWN TOO. AS LONG AS I HAVE TO BE IN THE ARMY I COULDN'T EXPECT TO STAY IN THE STATES VERY LONG SO I'M JUST AS WELL SATISFIED TO BE HERE AS IN AN ACTIVE THEATRE.

DARLING IT SURE WOULD BE GREAT IF WHEN I DID COME HOME IT WOULD BE FOR KEEPS. YES, SWEETIE WE'LL KIND OF HAVE TO GET USED TO HAVING SO MUCH HAPPINESS ALL AT ONCE. I THINK WE CAN DO IT THO', DON'T YOU HONEY? HOW WONDERFUL IT WILL BE WHEN I CAN COME BACK TO YOU, AND WE CAN ENJOY OUR GOOD WAY OF LIFE TOGETHER. KNOWING THAT WHEN I GO TO WORK IN THE MORNING I'LL BE COMING HOME TO YOU IN THE AFTERNOON. YOU'LL BE AT HOME ALL DRESSED UP SWEET AND NEAT, AND I'LL GIVE YOU A BIG BEAR HUG, AND ONE OF MY JUICY KISSES. OH DARLING, IT'S HEAVEN ON EARTH BEING WITH YOU.

PURSE READ ME A FUNNY EXCERPT FROM ONE OF HIS LETTERS TONITE. IT SEEMS ONE OF HIS BUDDIES HAS JUST GONE INTO THE ARMY, AND WHEN HE GOT TO THE RECEPTION CENTER THE SERGEANT IN CHARGE OF THE BUNCH ASKED HOW MANY MEN WERE COLLEGE GRADUATES. ABOUT FOUR STEPPED OUT. THEN HE ASKED HOW MANY HAD GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL. QUITE A FEW HAD. SO THE SARGE SAID, "OK YOU COLLEGE MEN TAKE THE MOPS, YOU HIGH SCHOOL MEN TAKE THE BROOMS, AND THE REST OF YOU DUMB BASTARDS SIT AROUND AND LEARN SOMETHING."

SPEAKING OF JOKES, I HEARD ONE WHEN I WAS COMING THRU' THE REPPLE DEPPLES, AND I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT IT TILL THE OTHER DAY. THERE WAS A BIG BULL NAMED FERDINAND, AND ONE DAY AS HE WAS GRAZING IN THE PASTURE A CUTE LITTLE HEIFER TOOK NOTICE OF HIM, AND GAVE HIM THE GLAD EYE SO FERD DECIDED HE'D GO OVER, AND GET ACQUAINTED. THERE WAS A HIGH FENCE BETWEEN THE TWO FIELDS SO FERD TOOK A LONG RUNNING START, AND OVER THE FENCE HE WENT. WHEN HE SIDLED UP TO THE HEIFER, SHE SAID, "OH, YOU'RE FERDINAND THE BULL, AREN'T YOU?" HE SAID, "JUST CALL ME FERDINAND. THAT FENCE WAS A LITTLE HIGHER THAN I THOUGHT IT WAS."

HOW LONG DID FLOYD STAY IN ELYRIA, HONEY? HE'S A PRETTY BIG LAD NOW, ISN'T HE? HE'S A HARD LITTLE RASCAL TO ENTERTAIN. REMEMBER THE TIME HE STAYED WITH US ON WEST STREET?

PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR NOT WRITING LAST NITE SWEETIE, BUT WE HAD A MAP AND COMPASS PROBLEM. IT WAS A PRETTY GOOD DEAL THO' AS WE GOT TO SLEEP TILL NOON TODAY.

DARLING, ALL MY POST WAR PLANS ARE "YOU" YOU SAID WE'D DO WHAT EVER I HAVE BEEN PLANNING FOR. THAT'S FINE 'CAUSE HERE'S WHAT I'VE BEEN PLANNING; TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE MAKING LOVE TO YOU, AND TO SEE AS MUCH OF YOU AS I POSSIBLY CAN, AND STILL MAKE A GOOD LIVING FOR US. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THOSE PLANS, SWEETIE? YOU'VE BEEN DOING SUCH A WONDERFUL JOB OF TAKING CARE OF EVERYTHING WHILE I'VE BEEN GONE, BUT I THINK WE'LL BOTH BE GLAD WHEN I CAN FIRE YOU FROM YOUR JOB, AND KEEP YOU AT HOME JUST LIKE IT USED TO BE. I'M SO PROUD OF YOU DARLING. YOU'VE KEPT EVERYTHING GOING SO WELL. BUT OF COURSE ANYTHING MY BABY DOES SHE DOES GOOD.

I'M ENCLOSING A MONEY ORDER FOR TEN DOLLARS, HONEY. SINCE I GOT BACK TO THE COMPANY I'VE DRAWN TWOPAYS, PARTIALS FOR TWENTY DOLLARS EACH. SO THE FIRST OF NEXT MONTH I'LL BE PAID IN FULL. I FIGURE I HAVE A LITTLE OVER FIFTY DOLLARS COMING, SO I'LL BE ABLE TO SEND A PRETTY GOOD MONEY ORDER HOME. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME NOT HAVING ENOUGH AS MY EXPENSES ARE VERY LOW. IF YOU EVER NEED ANY MONEY DON'T HESITATE TO TAKE IT OUT OF THE BANK, SWEETIE. THAT'S WHAT IT'S FOR. I ALWAYS LIKE TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED LOVER.

DARLING, HAVE I REMINDED YOU LATELY WHAT A DEAR SWEET PRECIOUS WIFE YOU ARE, AND HOW VERY MUCH I LOVE YOU? I'M ALWAYS THINKING OF THE WONDERFUL TIMES WE'VE HAD TOGETHER, AND WHAT A WONDERFUL FUTURE WE HAVE. I WAS JUST THINKING OF THAT TIME WHEN YOU AND I, AND JIM AND MADDIE WENT TO LOOK AT SOME FURNITURE A WOMAN HAD FOR SALE. SHE WAS GIVING US A BIG STORY ABOUT HOW MUCH EVERYTHING HAD COST, AND JIM WAS GETTING KIND OF DISGUSTED SO PRETTY SOON HE LOOKS AT HIS WATCH, AND SAYS IN A BUSINESSLIKE MANNER, "WELL I GUESS I'D BETTER BE GETTING BACK DOWNTOWN," WE SURE USED TO HAVE SOME TIMES DIDN'T WE LOVER?

IT'S GOING TO BE SO SWEET TO BE ABLE TO GO WHERE WE WANT TO WHEN WE WANT TO ONCE AGAIN. WE'LL JUST BE THE TWO HAPPIEST KIDS IN THE WORLD WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN, WON'T WE DARLING? ANYTHING WE DO IS FUN SWEETIE. JUST BEING WITH YOU IS PARADISE. I'M SUCH A LUCKY FELLOW TO HAVE YOU FOR MY VERY OWN SWEET LITTLE WIFE. HONEY, THAT WAS A LUCKY RAILING. WITHOUT IT WE MIGHT NEVER HAVE MET. THE THOUGHT SCARES ME. WE JUST HAD TO MEET SWEETHEART. YOU'RE MY ALL DARLING. MY FIRST THOUGHT IN THE MORNING, AND MY LAST THOUGHT AT NITE, AND ALL THE THOUGHTS IN BETWEEN. YOU'RE MY SWEET CUTIE AND MY CUTE SWEETIE, AND I LOVE YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD.

I GUESS THAT'S ABOUT ALL I KNOW FOR THIS TIME LOVER SO I'LL WRAP UP MILLIONS OF HUGS AND KISSES AND ALL MY LOVE.

YOUR OWN,

Jack