

January 11 1901

Westminster Maryland

Friday night

My Dearest Friend:-

It is Friday night again, another week has gone and I trust we are one week nearer each other. Joe, you know I just think of you lots, and about going to a new home. You only have to think of me, and I am sure you do that all right, but my dear, I have you to think off, and the change too, yet my dear I shall be glad to enjoy both. And shall be glad when I can be with you, certainly Joe it will be a little trying when the time comes to leave old scenes and friends, but I will be just perfectly happy to be with you, and I shall be so glad when we do both get back to your home and I know you will too. I hope you will have a safe journey in here, and that we may both get back home safe.

It has been raining hard all day and is raining real fast now. I got to ride home this evening with Mr. Andrew Frizzell and was glad too. I did not get wet at all. I sent you a letter this morning, I hope you will be a little pleased to get it.

My dear if I could be with you these long winter evenings, sometimes I know we could pass the time pleasantly talking to each other, but if nothing happens and I pray that nothing will, why we shall soon spend our time in each others presence, and I know we shall highly appreciate the privilege, and be very thankful for the same. I don't know anything

particular to write tonight so I will close. You know now I am thinking of you. I hope you may rest well and sleep sound tonight, and have a pleasant day tomorrow. Good night my dear Joe. Your true and loving friend,

Eva

January 13 1901

Sunday night

My dearest and best friend:-

I will write you a few lines now so that you will know that I am thinking about you. Last night I was busy and wrote nothing for you: but you know that I think of you just the same.

I felt kinder lonely and homesick to be with you, and as you know what kind of a feeling this is, you know too how glad I shall be when I do get to see you and be with you. Andrew brought me up to Holmes' this evening. Today was cold and fair. We had a rainy time though from last Thursday until today. Joe there was nothing in the paper about the schoolboard's meeting they had last Monday so I am certain the term will close when first said to end. Feb 6.

Miss Dora entertained quite a number of her friends for tea. I was here too and enjoyed the company. George Ditman and his girl, were with the number. I kinder expect a letter from you in the morning then I will write more and send no later than Tuesday morning. There are fixing to go to bed now and I will close. The rest of the folks went to church a 7.

Good night my dear sleep well with love to you. I am your best  
and true friend,

Eva

January 14 1901

Monday 12 oclock

My dearest and beloved friend:-

It is dinner time, most of the children have gone down  
the road to skate. So I will write to you. I received your  
very good letter this morning. I was glad to get such a nice  
letter from you, but sorry to hear that you were not feeling  
well. I hope you are much better by this time. I do not want  
you to get sick my dear.

You said you wished I were with you to make you some  
tea for your cold. Now my dear I have a prescription filled at  
the drug store, some thing good to make tea for colds. I gave  
Mr. Ditman and others some of it sometime back, she had heard  
of it but had never gotten any of it. And I have several good  
things for colds put away to take along with us, but still this  
does you no good now.

You may be sure if I was with you I would doctor up  
your cold. I will do any thing for you I can when you are  
sick, and I believe you would do the same for me. And further  
I will not only care for you when you are sick but hope to make  
your life brighter and happier all the time. I hope and trust  
to have this privilege for a long time in this world,  
Providence permitting.

Joe you said you hoped I would not be disappointed in you when you come. You needn't be afraid, I shall like to see you even more than you know, or than I fully perceive now. I decided this question long ago, and I know we can adapt ourselves to making each other happy. I know just by what Bro. Lease said about you, that you are just all right. So there will be no disappointments if I can help it, not on my part I know, and I trust not on your part either. I am glad you got a nice dinner. My dear certainly if nothing happens we will have a dinner for your friends, when I am with you next winter. I like to have friends and be friendly. And I believe you will be a little proud of me any way when I am with you.

My dearest I am looking forward to your coming with the greatest concern and pleasure. You spoke of bad weather in Feb. just so you can get here, if there are no snow blockades the cars will bring you, I hope safe. And only hope you will be well. It is a long trip and of course it will be a little strange and maybe trying too when you start. I suppose it will seem that way to me too when we start back, yet I trust that we my both, while we live be thankful that we had the privilege of taking this trip. And if it should snow us in while we are here, why we will stay at home until the roads are put in order for traveling, which never takes so very long. I must stop it is 1 oclock, good bye, My dear, Yours loving,

Eva

Recess

My dear Joe, a few more lines I will write now. Did

you meet with or get to see the Lutheran minister Mr. Henry, down below Smallwood. He died last night, and his wife is not expected to live, she is very sick. I was sorry to hear the sad news. None of his children were home. They are all away off, all but Annie. I have been to the parsonage several times when his daughter Mary was at home, we were friends and used to visit each other. And I likes the old people very much. You know Leonard Ditman married Anna Henry. I must close again and take the school in. Will write more later. Your friend,

Eva

Schoolhouse 4.15 P.M.

Now school has closed for today and I shall write to you all that I know for this time and send this letter in the morning as I come to school. Then you can answer this for next Monday, if it suits, I shall be looking to hear from you. I also hope to hear from you Friday if not before and do hope to hear you are well of your cold. Mrs. Ditman is well as far as I know. She says she has those sick spells sometimes, that last for a day or two. Joe of course it would be well I think for you to write and tell your brother and Martha, before long. They won't say any thing. I don't want every body to know. And about Frank and Kate let's surprise them, they will get over it all right.

Joe, I counted your letters last night and with the one I have gotten today, you have sent me 25 of the dearest letters I have ever received, and I prize them as the dearest treasure

I possess, now. I have been able to read every word you have written to me and seem to understand your character fully through your letters. And fully appreciate your kindness to me. Your letters have given me so much pleasure that I have thought of no one else but you since we have been writing to each other.

I have had several offers since I met you. I will tell you about them sometime. Yet if I had not met you I don't think I should have cared for either of them any way.

I suppose you got my letter today I sent you Friday, I hope you will be pleased with it a little any way. Joe you know a week is long, to not hear from you, whether you are well or not. And too when all my thoughts are yours, and my hopes centered on you in the prospect of our being happy together. You say my letters are not too long, I am glad you think so: and glad you seem pleased with them.

Now about your coming in after me. I will tell you just what I think will suit me best, and if it suits you all right. If you could get here Monday before Wednesday Feb. 6 why you could come up to Holmes' to see me. And if you think proper, we might get married Wednesday Feb. 6 down at the parsonage by Bro. Burdette, and then we could go home after the ceremony and stay about a week and visit our friends etc. I am going to tell Pap next Sunday if nothing happens. Joe I don't want to go home after I quit teaching, everybody will know it then. Therefore I have said I did not want to quit teaching until we are ready, but now my time will be up Feb 6. (I had to

stop here and go home)

6.30 P.M.

My dear I will write you a little more. I did not get to write all I wanted at the schoolhouse.

And now if you would want to get here for Monday, you would have to leave out there on Saturday, and maybe you would not like to travel on Sunday. Yet I don't know how else you would manage.

You won't have the chance to come to see me more than once or twice before either, but my dear we will make up for this afterwards. You see my dear if you can get your Brother Lewis to meet you in town and you are with them, you won't have so far to come to see me.

Then as I have said we would go from Holmes' and then go home and there is a good stable and feed for the horse you would have, down home. Now my dear this is about all I can say now, you can think over this and let me know if it will meet with your approval. I believe it will be the best and would suit me the best. This is if everything will be favorable enough, the weather not so bad that no one can travel, and if you are well. If any thing should turn up why of course you will come as soon as you can. Though I am hoping for the best

My dear I have wrote you a whole lot and yet I am afraid you won't maybe understand it all. Though you will know pretty well what I mean. Excuse me if I should have said any thing you think I ought not to have said. Yet my dear I mean

all for good, for you and for me. I will close for this time.  
Write for next Monday. I am well. I hope my letter will find  
you well. Good night dear Joe. With all my love and best  
wishes for you my dear I am your best friend,

Eva

January 13 1901

Darrrtown Ohio

Sunday morn

My Dearest Friend Eva

I am verry sorrie to tell you that I dont hardly feal  
abel to write to write to you this morning. I gess I have got  
the grip and the bad cold that dos make me feal so mean. I  
have not seen the Dr yet and dont want to have to do that if I  
can Help it but will if I dont feal better by to morrow. My  
dear I could not get to church to day and it is quarterley  
meeting too. I do wish that you was hear my dear. I believe  
that I would feal better. I do hope that I will be better  
before I mail this for I know you will feal uneasey about me by  
me having to write you such a letter as this will seam to be to  
you.

My dear I will write to Martha I thought meby this  
week. My dear see by the papers thare ar so much sickness all  
over the cuntry. I think it is because the wether changes so  
much. It is so nice and clear to day but cold. I have not  
gone out verry much. I expect you went to Zion this morning to  
church. My dear if I dont get better soon I will mail this  
before I get your next letter. Eva I will not try to write



just now but will try and write some this eving so good by for  
this time and remember this is from your loving friend,

Joe

January 14 1901

Monday eveing

My dearest Friend

I am happy in too ways one is that I received a grand  
good letter from you and anuther way I feel so much better to  
day then I did yesterday. I will be all right in a day or 2.  
My hed rorers a little to day outhur ways I feel perty good.

You thought you would send me a nuther letter last weak  
for to day thinking it would afford me a little pleasure. Now  
my dear your letters surly do afford me the verry greatest  
pleshure. Now I will ask you to let me of [off] with a short  
letter this time as I think I will have a chance to send it to  
the office to night then you will be shore and get it on  
Friday. (Excuse theas blots)

The reason why I thought we had better butcher is on  
Billies account. You know tha will want to salt ther meat  
before tha can take it away. We will probly do that next week.

Now my dear you say you ar thinking of me all the time  
and you think that the more I learn to know you the more I will  
like you. Now dont you know my dear that I am praying that it  
will be just as you say and all so that you will not be  
disappointed in me. I surly will try and be good to you as I  
know how. My dear the time is coming verry close for me to

come over to your house. Well I can tell you that I am redy.  
All I ask is ti be well and hope you will remane so too. I  
could start to morrow as far as being redy is concernd. My  
dear this looks like a verry short letter but meby it will beat  
nun. I will write agan for you to get next monday. I will  
look over your letters agan. I dont know how menney times I  
promis I will write more for monday so you will know this is  
from your verry best and loving friend. Good by my dear for  
this time.

Josephus

January 15 1901

Westminster Maryland

Wednesday 8.15 A.M.

My dearest friend Joe:-

I will write a few lines now. I said it looked like it  
was fixing to snow Monday. Well it cleared off fine Tuesday  
morning and has been nice since. Prof. Simpson came to see me  
yesterday, he came right at dinner, and was very kind to me,  
though he said they were sorry to loose me for he considered me  
a good teacher and only wished they were all like me, and said  
there would be no trouble with schools if they<sup>6</sup> were. Now, my  
dear, this was a very nice compliment to receive at the hands  
of such a distinguished man as Prof. Simpson is, and I was very  
thankful for it. He said they would be glad to employ Miss  
Overholtzer in my place.

I want to go to Westminster tomorrow evening, Dora said  
she would come to the school about 3 oclock and take me along.

I hope it will be pretty. Joe I am most sure you will get my letter I sent Tuesday tomorrow, and trust you will be pleased with it now. I have been thinking of you so much and wondering if you were feeling good. My dear I must tell you, Mr. Holmes weighed us all the day they butchered. I weighed 130 pounds, so now you can count up how much I am worth in gold at the rate of \$16 an ounce. And this is all I am worth, (that is worth speaking off). I trust you will appreciate me a little any way. I know I will appreciate you very high, because you are a bigger lump of gold than I am. I suppose I had better stop writing for this time. Mrs. Henry they say is some what better. They took Mr. Henry to Pa. to bury him. Good bye my dear for this time. Your friend,

Eva

I forgot, my dear Mrs. Kate Schneider they say was taken very sick this week and old Mrs. Schneider is very ill too, the doctor does not expect her to get well any more, you know she stays at Frank's.

January 17 1901

Thursday recess A.M.

My Dear friend Joe:-

I was pleased to get your letter this morning. I only hope you kept on getting better, as you said you felt the next day, after you felt so bad the day before. (Sunday) I have been thinking of you so much and only hope you will be real well soon again. Take good care of yourself my dear. I am pleased to tell you that I am well. I heard Mrs. Kate

Schneider was a little better, though they say she was very sick, Today is cloudy again. Mrs. Holmes grandchild is sick and they sent for her, so Dora and I will not get to town this week. I must stop now, will write later. Your loving friend,

Eva

My dearest friend Joe:

It is dinner now, and I will write you a little more. I may have nothing new to write any more tonight, then in the morning I will send this, so you will get it on Monday. I will also look for your letter on Monday. You know my dear I am kind of uneasy when I think you are not well maybe, and look more anxiously for your letter.

I was glad to hear you were ready to come in after me, and only hope will enjoy health and be pleased. Your letter was just real nice and pleased me as much as possible. To Joe from your best friend,

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