

November 4 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Sunday morning

My Dear Friend Eva

What a beautiful sabath morn. It is and I am sorrie that you ar not hear but my Dear I hope thare is a better day coming for us. I will tell you I was awake most half of last neight thinking of my dearest friend in Maryland. I have been busy all morning looking at your dear picture and nice letters. I do thank you for them from the bottom of my hart for I am so pleased with them. It seems that tha ar all the real plasher I have and I think if thare is one person living that knows how to appreciate a good friend it is me and I surely will try my best to pleas you in everry way.

My Dear you spoke of the picture being small now I think it is just as sweet as it can be and plenty large anuf. It could not of pleased me better onless it would of been the real picture it self. Now Eva I will try and tie up three little pictures of me and your fucher home. And you know tha ar only cheap ones but I thought that tha would be nice for you to look at for a wile. The one you will see is the front & outhur the rear of the house & the outhur is up at the barn. I hope tha will pleas you a little enney way till we can do better. I will mail them and your letter some time to day and hope you will get them wendsday and be pleased with them. And

remember that I am sincear in what I ever doo or try to say to you. I will thank you agan for the picture & and for the kiendness that you manifest toward me. Your letters ar such a grate pleshur too me and I am thankful to God that I ever did meet such a dear friend as you seam to be to me. And truly hope that we will be permitted some day ear lay [early] to be happy to gether as long as we ar eather of us alive. My Dearest I will close hoping that you can read it all farely well. I will be looking for my mail. From your loving friend,

Josephus

November 4 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Sunday neight

My kind and good loving friend

I was thinking that mebe you was reading my last letter to neight and perhaps would write some for me to neight. So I thought that I would write a little too and tell you that you went to church with me this afternoon. I gess you was not aware of it. I put your picture away for to neight a wile ago but I have got it out agan and am still looking at it. The more I look at it the more I like it.

I am so glad to hear you say that it is a plesher for you to write to me. It surley is a plesher for me to have you write and for me to read your verry dear letters. Nothing

pleases me better. Now my dear as I have 6 more neights to write I will lay this aside for to neight. I just wrote a little to let you know I am thinking of you as I know you are of me. Good neight. Your true and loving friend,

Joe

November 4 1900

Westminister Maryland

Sunday night

My Dearest Joe:-

It is late, but I can't retire, unless I write you a few lines, to let you know I am thinking of you. I went to "Zion" this morning there were a good many out, and I had a good time: the service was nice. This evening Kate and Frank came up to Holmes' with me, so I got a ride, I was glad. They just went home a little while ago. Frank said he wrote you.

This evening I went over there before we started. He got the albums and showed me your pictures, and said you were good looking then, and asked me to say so too: so I said you was not near so good looking then as you are now. This made him laugh, he said he was going to tell you what I said. He wants to please you a whole lot, he don't know all. Well my dearest I guess I will close for tonight, You know now I am thinking of you. I believe I live thinking of you all the time. And I believe you think of me in return. So good night.

Ever yours,

Eva

November 5 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Monday neight

Well Dear Eva anuther days work done and I have just come to my room and have spent some time in looking at your dear picture and reading over my last letter. It seems that this is all the real plesher I have to look over those dear letters that I get from you.

Well I will tell you I got a letter from Frank this afternoon. He said that if I didnt vote for Bryan that Mr. Polster would not let me have Mary. Then he went on about me writing to him and me saying that if you would write to me first that I would ansor your letter. He sys I know that you have been ansoring her letters this long time. He still wants me to come East. I know he thinks lots of Mary. He thinks she is just the girl for Joe. He was all so telling me of your trip down to Hooks and the fun you had. I will ansor his letter in a week or two.

You was speaking of Wash Reese I dont think that I knew him but I did know Liza Coppersmith. I think that is how [who] you ar speaking of. Dont you know that I was just talking to her a little before or after I dont know wich that Kate brought you around whare I was sitting in that bugie. You will remember when you first met me at Dear Park Liza asked me to

come to see them. If I had gone to see all that asked me I would be over there yet and I just would like to be there for a few days anyway. And you all so speak of one Dan Seipp. I heard of him while I was there. I will tell you of just another case like that same time when I see you and it is very near home to me my brother Will. Her name is Mary. I will tell you all about it some time. You know that you are expecting their boy to be sent home now most anyway time. Dear I will have to close for tonight. Good night. With much love and kindest wishes for you,

Joe

November 5 1900

Westminister Maryland

My Dear Joe:-

I will add a few more lines. I believe that Grace Hook is married, but they keep it so secret, it might not be true, but I can't help think it is true. My dear I got another office at church Sunday, as one of our stewards, I just thought I would do what I can for them while I am here. For I hope to go to church with you after a little while.

Deer Park meeting may begin in about 2 weeks, Dora said, her friend said I could go with them every night, but that would be too often, I will go sometimes. Tomorrow will be

election day, but it will be no legal holiday, I will teach school. I will close. Good night my dear. Yours ever loving

Eva

November 6 1900

Westminister Maryland

Tuesday

My Dearest Beloved:-

I will write you a few more lines and enclose them with the others I have written, and mail them this dinner yet. So you will get a letter on surprise Thursday, if it goes straight.

You were so kind to me by surprising me the other time by such a nice letter, and this morning I got your dear letter and pictures you sent Sunday. (I suppose the mail service knew how I look for your letters and send it a day sooner?) Well, my dear I don't know how to return thanks for your dear sweet letter I got this morning I was just so pleased with it. And with the pictures too, they are all right.

I am surely thankful to God that he ever sent you in my way for I don't believe I ever would have met any one so good as you. And you must rest assured I appreciate your love and kindness. And will ever try to live, that you will never be sorry you met me. I shall live for your happiness, first of all on earth, and I know you will do the same for me. I am

glad my letters make you happy. I know yours are the greatest comfort and joy to me. I will not have a chance to write much more now, for I want to go and mail this so it will go this evening, but I will write you another letter, and mail Thursday for Sunday, so you will have something to read Sunday from me. I hope you are well and remain so. I am well. Today is election day, and a lovelier day no one could desire. I have all my scholars present but one today. I suppose you got Frank's letter too by this time. Write so I will get your letter Wednesday any way. Yours lovingly,

Eva

November 6 1900

Westminister Maryland

Tuesday evening

My Dear Joe:-

I can't help but write you some more lines this evening. I was hurried at dinner, because I did want to surprise you Thursday: and I did not get to say all I wanted to say in regard to your dear letter, which I received this morning. School is out, and I thought I would write to you before I go home, we have supper mostly after night any way. I just read your good letter again, I can not express to you how thankful I am to you for your kindness; your letter is just perfect. You said I had at least one friend in Ohio. I think myself most fortunate in having one good friend like you for I

am sure it is all I desire, a greating blessing I am not praying for, and I surely appreciate you. You said you knew how to appreciate a good friend, I know I do: I know I could never have found a friend so good as you, and I know you would never have found one better than me. I am yours in all sincerity and unselfishness: and will do anything I can for your happiness. Do you know Joe, (God sparring us) that I believe that you and I will be as happy together as any two can be! Our lives seem to blend so well.

You said we would quite writing after a little while, I hope so. I know it will be much sweeter when we get so we can hear ourselves talking to each other. My dear, (excuse me for what I am going to say, if it should not suit). The school term, or rather the winter term will be out the 6th of February, that would suit best for me to give up then. Although, I must tell my school commissioner, 30 days before: so that some one else can be employed in my place. I do not want to stop teaching though before you are ready to come in. Should it suit you anywhere near that time mentioned. We would likely get back to your place about 2 weeks or so before those people moved out: but that would give us time to think about what we would want to get in the house. You can think over this, and let me know what you think of it. It wont matter about the people in the house, they wouldn't object to me being there that short time: and I would rather be with you any way before we would get our house keeping affairs.s The above are only suggestions, and will be as it suits you. And then there



might be snow blockades too. But if nothing happens, and we are well, the time mentioned or thereabout, would suit me. Yet we will make the time more deffinite later.

Now my dear. I must tell you what I thought of the pictures you sent me. I just looked at you first, and then at the house. I think all looks realy nice, and I was pleased to hear you say, that this nice looking place would be our future home. I am glad you are fortunate enough to have such a nice home. Yet I would like you just as well with out this. I think you fully know this. It is your personal character, as I understand you by your dear letters, that makes me love you above all in this world. I think Joe, or rather beleive, that; there is: "a higher Destiny that shapes our lives" anyway. And I trust we will be happy together because, "God wills it". And I know I shall be yours lovingly and truly as long as we shall both live. And I trust we shall both live a long time. I will close for this time. Yours ever,

Eva

November 7 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Wendsday

My Dear I just thought that I would write a few lines just to let you know that I am still thinking of you and hope that you received your letter and pictures to day all right. And I expect that you ar looking at them and mebe writing me

some good lines for Saturday. I hope you are anyway I will have a little better one taken of my self before long for you. My dear I will be looking for your dear letter Saturday and see what you will have to say about those cheap pictures. I expect you will say that Joe might of had better ones taken for me. Now my dear I will quit for to night will write more later on. From your loving friend,

Joe

November 7 1900

Westminister Maryland

Wednesday night

My Dearest Beloved:-

I will write you a few more lines tonight, and tomorrow I will mail this, so you will have something a little new to read on Sunday. That is if you get my letter Saturday. I don't see why you should not, Because you have got in the same time before. I have not much news to write you tonight but yet I thought it would please you to know I am thinking of you. You said you thought of me every night, I don't think you can think oftener of me than I do of you. My thoughts seem to be all yours. My dear you said you could hardly keep from showing my picture to Joe & Harry, well my dear I am so glad you are pleased with it but if you would let them see it that would tell on you: so maybe you had better keep it to yourself. I don't want Harry to know it, because he would write home. And

we want to surprise some people at least. Grant Hook asked Mr. Schneider, so Schneider told me, whether I wrote to you. Frank told him he did not know. Lewis freyman also asked Frank, and he told him the same. Lewis said if it was so, Joe would not better himself, so somebody at least thinks I am right good. I mean beside your thinking so. I don't know where these fellows get their news, unless from those who watch the mails.

We had another pretty day today, but it was a little cooler and more windy. I suppose you are husking corn? Joe, send me your nearest express office, and I will send you some chestnuts, while they are still kind of fresh. I want to go to Westminister next Saturday a week and will send them then. Be sure to send me your express office address when you write for next Wednesday. I will close for this time. Thanking you for your kind consideration of me. I am yours lovingly. Write for me to get your letter Wednesday anyway.

Eva

November 8 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Thursday

My Dear Friend Eva

I was so happily surprised this afternoon by geting such a beutyful letter from my dear friend. I was just counting the days till Saterdag wen I would get one from you

not thinking that I would be so happy as to get such a nice message from you for which I am truly thank you fore.

You asked me to excuse you if I thought that you talked too sweet. Now my dear I don't see that you said enny thing out of the way. I am onley too glad to know that you feel that way or you would not write that way. I am sure that you are cincear in what you say. I will have to get another sheet. My dear this is the last sheet of papper I have. I will have to go to town before I can write to you agan.

Dont you ones think that you will tier me reading your long letters. If tha wer printed I could not read them quicker. I think that tha ar just all right in every way. I think some times if I onley could write one as good.

And I doo hope & pray that it will be just or even better with us then expect that we will all ways bee happy together. I surly cant think enny outhar way trusting the Lord for his ade. I am so glad to hear you say my letter pleased you. It seems to do my hart good to pleas you. If I know how I know that you beleave me wen I tell you that you ar the verry best friend I have. It saems earse [easy] for me to beleave and trust you. Now my dearest friend as I have more time to write before mailing this I will quit for to neight and retire. I cant help thinking of you till I fall asleep. Good neight from your friend,

Joe

November 9 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Friday neight

My Dear Eva

I will add a little more to neight. The first thing I will talk about is you tell me I nead have no feare of Father interfearing with you coming with me and if I would leave it with you to fix it with him. Now my dear I surly will doo that and will be pleased to have you do so. Of corse I am willing to do my part what ever it may bee.

I am all so glad to hear you say that you have made up your mind to be satisfied to stay with me. Now my dear I promes you that I will doo all I can to make you and my self happy. But I know it is natcherl for a person going into a strange place to get a little home sick. But I surly will try to keep you from geting verry much so. I am satisfied that you kmow just what you ar dooing and will do just what you say as near as you can. And I know we will be happy and I surly do appreciate your kindness that you show toward me all redy. I must thank you agan for those grand good letters you send to me. Tha ar all joy to me and that grand old Brother Leas I will never forget him. Now my dear as this is all the paper I have I will wate till tomorrow neight then I will read that dear letter that is coming and then finish writing and mail. So good neight from your loving friend,

Joe

November 9 1900

Westminister Maryland

Friday night

My Dearest Joe:-

I will write you a few lines tonight. Another school week has passed and every week that passes bring me one week nearer to you, at least I hope so. Time and distance are both between us yet. But time keeps on going, and I feel that as it passes we are brought nearer to each other. And as you said if the cars did not run off the track, you would be sure to come after me. So I am hoping that the cars will bring you in East all safe, when the time comes.

Last night we had snow, and today the wind is blowing very hard. And it is cold tonight, something like winter. I came home this evening, Pap has gone to bed, and I am alone thinking of you. I wish you could be here, if just for one hour, how glad I would be. But as it is, it is sweet to me to think about you, and of the happy days, that I trust are in store for us both. Maybe you got my letter last night or evening, that I sent you Tuesday. I hope you were pleasantly surprised and pleased a little too. And tomorrow evening you may get the one I sent you yesterday. I hope you will be pleased with that too, and not think I write too often. When I got your letter and pictures on Tuesday, I could not wait to write all for Thursday. I will close for tonight, and will

write more some other night before I expect to receive your next letter. Which I shall expect and look for with all my heart on Wednesday. Good night my dear, yours lovingly,

Eva

November 10 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Saterday neight

Shure a nough I recieved that dear letter this eving my dear and am pleased with it verry much. Now my dear I am glad to have you talk free about ower matters and want you to tell me whatever you think best. Now you see that my space is small and I will have to put of [off] speaking of it till next time. Now about those chesnuits I surly will be thankful to you for them but my dear I hate to put you to so much trubel as that. My express office the best place would be Collinsville Ohio (Butler Co) Adams express I think. Good neight my dearest. Your loving friend,

Joe

November 10 1900

Westminister Maryland

Saturday night

My Dearest Beloved:-

I will write you a few more lines tonight, I went to the "Aid Society" this evening, and Grace Hook or rather Beaver now. For she is married, asked me to go home with her, and she would give me a sleeve pattern, I wanted and also she had a message from Harry, but she wanted me to read it myself, I went home with them. And she showed me the letter Harry sent, he just begged me to write to you once, and if I didn't do this, write to him for he would tell me something good about you. Poor fellow we will have to tell him better after while, but not yet. I guess you will have to tell him you don't like me any more. Grant was near ready to go to town, and so, I got a ride home. He went to see the doctor , he has lumbago.

Grace was married in October, but she told no one outside the family, when she went to get married. Dr. Hartstone of Westminster died suddenly Friday night, I don't know if you knew him: people were shocked to hear of his death. Harry Hook knew him.

Well my dear I don't know much more to write tonight, will write you some more tomorrow night. Hoping you are well and coming on nice and thinking of me. I shall retire and think of you until I fall asleep, and should I wake in the night I will think of you first. You are first and last in my mind. Good night. Yours lovingly,

Eva