

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

WASHINGTON SQUARE, NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

FACULTY OF LAW

TELEPHONE: SPRING 7-2000

July 12, 1957

Dear darling papa,

Your letter just arrived. It struck me as so beautifully written that I just had to show it to everyone around here. I'd tell you what they said about it if I weren't afraid it would turn your head so much that you'd be just impossible to live with. I don't blame Judy for wanting a copy of it as a memento; I shall certainly treasure my copy. I will say, though, that I think you're a real meanie to apologize for encroaching on my "precious time"-I've been waiting so anxiously every day for something from you.

I am so happy that you are feeling relaxed and at ease out there. It's just what you and mom have needed and deserved for a long time.

I just reread your letter and derived still greater enjoyment from it. That is, indeed, a wonderful saying about the worm. And isn't it true? But I should have thought you would have appreciated its truth long before now. The Romans had two words to express the thought which I am reminded of--"carpe diem" which is translated in English as "sieve the day". Take the opportunities which each dawn offers. So long as g-d gives you the years, health, and ability to do so, is there any good reason why you both shouldn't travel together or do whatever really interests you and will give you maximum pleasure out of living? You know my sentiments on the subject of going out more often with mom, of taking a trip to California and other parts of the country- I think you know how delighted I would be if this trip were to be the prelude to a happier and more exciting life for you both, one in which you really would make "every day even every minute count".

I got a great deal of pleasure out of your description of your first plane trip. Now that it's over, I can tell you that I think I was more worried about ~~you~~ how you and mom would react to your plane ride than you were. I, too, was much impressed by the wondrous serenity and beauty of the stratosphere on my air experience.

I picture you and mom walking down the gangplank with Judy, Hank and the kids waving happily. Oh, I can just imagine how exuberant you must have been. I know what exultation must have been yours when you saw Judy's place. I move for three cheers, if not hosannas, for the blessing of that moment, one which I, pessimist that I am, never really believed would come. May you and mom both have health and long life to enjoy many more such moments.

I can hardly wait to see these pictures you say you are sending me. I had to laugh at your comical prediction of my reaction to them. I have not yet had the opportunity to pack up our movies, forgive me, but did ask Dave to send off the L'Chayim book.

I spoke to Dave during the week. He was awfully nice. He made a special trip in on Wednesday to see that everything was in good order at the

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house. So far, so good. I opened up the bank account for him with that check of Sylvia's you gave me. He collected everything due last week. (He also got this week's already- today's Saturday and Dave just called to let me know the tenants all brought the rent up themselves).

I am kept busier than ever- is it possible? Elena is really irresistible. She seems to get cuter and sweeter each day. I just eat her up. Between me, George, and his mother, I'm having one heck of a time saving even a little piece of her for you to eat up when you get back.

Thursday I fired the girl who started working for me when Mary left. She was utterly impossible. The same day luckily I secured another girl, 18 years old, who is, at least so far, a sweet, capable thing. One of eight children, she is a very willing and appreciative worker. Unfortunately, she also can not continue past the summer since she has to go back south to school.

This past Tuesday afternoon, I had a personal interview with Judge Finch who, as I mentioned to you, is interested in having me do the research for him for a series of short but important articles to be published in leading legal journals. Judge Finch, as you may recall, was formerly presiding judge of the Appellate Division of the first department of the Supreme Court of New York, which, it may interest you to know, is one of the most powerful judicial positions in the state. He was thereafter elevated by Governor Roosevelt to the Court of Appeals, our highest court, from which he has been in retirement since he passed the mandatory retirement age of 70 fourteen years ago. He is, however, still engaged in active practice, with his own law firm uptown employing more than ten lawyers. From his looks and demeanor, I never would have taken him to be the age he is. He was very impressed with me and was quite eager to have me work with him. I would be given credit for the research assistance, and could do the work at my convenience. I have two weeks to think it over, name my price, and give him a definite acceptance. I need not start before September 1st. There is no deadline, other than, I suppose, completion before Judge Finch joins my most recent late employer, A.T.V. It is unquestionably a prestige position which could mean a great deal to me professionally. The subject matter of the articles, incidentally, is one in which I have become keenly interested since my work with Judge Vanderbilt: reform of legal procedure in general and of New York legal procedure in particular.

On Tuesday night, by the way, I was elected Associate Dean of The New York Alumnae Chapter of my legal sorority, an international organization, the president of which is a California lady, a fantastic character who's always racing around the country in all directions simultaneously. The woman lawyer who was elected Dean, has law offices with her husband a block away from our office, ran for Judge of Children's Court of Nassau County where she lives in 1954, was last year appointed Commissioner of Correction for the State of New York by Governor Harriman, and last but not least, has six children ranging in age from 3 to 14½ years! Some of the women lawyers I meet

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are truly incredible.

Here it is Monday night already, and I've had this letter in the typewriter since Friday. George just came home-it's 11 p.m. and he wants me to fix him something to eat, so it'll have to be a very fast goodbye.

Please do me a favor and have a real good time, both of you. Do some touring. I'm sure Judy will help you with the arrangements.

Kiss the kids and Judy for me. I know I owe Judy a letter, and a thank you note for the pretty pajamas she sent Elena for her birthday. Please ask her to be patient and not to hold it against me. I haven't been able to get to the stores to buy Laurie a birthday present yet, and that's something I really feel bad about, but that will come just as soon as I can get to it. Maybe you'd be an angel and get her something special from me while you're there, if you can manage it. Ask Judy what she'd like. If you can't, don't worry about it, I'd really prefer to pick out something for her myself.

Would you also kiss your wife for me, while you're in an accomodating mood. I'll surely return the favor when you get back.

Uh, oh...my master's voice.

bye for now. love and all the rest
from your daughter,

