

September 16th 1918.

My Dearest Girl:-

True to my premonition I was up all night last night taking care of cases, but I was relieved at eight this morning. After eating breakfast, I did two or three dressings and went to bed. I had a fine nap for two hours. Then I got up and bathed and shaved and right now I feel like a top with only one hour to wait for dinner. This afternoon I am going down to the lace shop and then over to the club to play some billiards so we will have a rather pleasant afternoon.

I have recieved no mail yet but there is a rumor around camp that there is a big lot of mail to come up today so I rather expect to get some very soon. I hope I get a lot of letters from you dear, it has been so long since I have had any. Today is a perfectly beautiful day – just the sort of weather we pray for now, as our armies need good weather to lick the [illegible]. In the French paper this morning

is an account of the Austrians first real openly expressed desire for peace. We all know that in expressing that desire Austria is acting merely as a mouthpiece for Germany and I can't tell you what hope we all have that their plea will be ignored. They haven't been defeated yet and if Peace can be avoided until next Summer, they will be, and then negotiations will be out of order. Peace then will be a Peace dictated by the Allies and that means one not to Germany's profit.

Peace is in sight now. It won't be long before the whole scrap will be settled and we will be coming home. Coming home! My God how I long for that time to come! Won't it be wonderful dear to know that the world is finally at Peace and definitely at Peace and that you and I can live in peace in our dear little home with our two dear kiddies, and not be worried any more by the war like ambitions of a Kaiser?

There ain't goin' to be no such thing as a Kaiser when this war is over. They are going to be decidedly out of style. All we need to do dearest, is to keep up our grit a little longer, and be brave a while longer, and we will be rewarded by a happiness greater than either of us has ever known in the past.

I have made a dozen different plans for our honeymoon and discarded them all. Now, I have decided to wait till I get home and make the plans with you at that time. It is impossible for either of us to know what we want to do so far ahead, isn't it Honey? So let's leave all planning untill we can be together and enjoy it. Don't you think that is better dearest?

It is nearly time for dinner now. It doesn't seem to me that I have consumed an hour writing this letter but I have very nearly done so. It is so hard to write anything of news

interest because not a thing I could tell you that would get by the Censor. However you can rest assured that you get all the news at home just as quickly as we do, and perhaps more so.

I can only tell you dear girl, that I love you, and how much I love and I can't begin to find words to do that adequately. You know without being told so that it isn't necessary for me to be elaborate about it. Kiss Tud and my dear babies for me and give them my dearest love. Tell them not a day passes that Daddy doesn't long to be with them, and that he will soon. With all my love to you sweetheart, I love you, Oh! so much. I love you.

Daddy.

1st Lt. Ansel B. Smith M.C.