

I was strong enough to STAND such a winter. You must admit it has been quite remarkable that this little simple modest woman should have hit the nail on the head so many times, when she never saw me before, and has never seen me since. I KNOW she was ~~xxx~~ correct about my dramatic ability. I can say that with all due modesty, for I have been told that a dozen times in my life, and I KNOW it is true. But we went on the stage as singers, & outside of a musical comedy stock engagement on a show boat, our beautiful singing trio drove all that out of my mind, for Norma and Walter both have gorgeous voices, and I dont think either of them would ~~xx~~ ever have set the world on fire with their dramatic ability so I would have had to go it alone, and leave my two darkings; a thing I'd never have done. When we had the three theatres we did have, Norma was going to school, & had a fine education, and played so well in the private school we put her in, that the head of the conservatory told me there was no use of her taking lessons on the piano, for she was so much better than the ~~other~~ kids, that she demoralized them by being able to play the other things THEY were learning without taking any lessons. But I DID forget that the clairvoyant said my little girl would one day be a fine musician, and she IS. And would be a millionaire ~~now~~ now, if she had been Jewish. For she has written and composed some wonderful things. One arranger said she was so good at harmony, that tho he had studied it for NINE YEARS, & she had NEVER studied it, she could give him lessons in the art. So she was right there, about Norma.

Well, I dont know why I have gone on and on, like Tennyson's 'Brook' but I couldnt seem to stop. I hope you wont be bored.

And I want to tell you that God has sent me the most wonderful pal a woman ever had. He is six years younger than I am, but when I think of all the tender care he gives me, every day of my life; how unfailingly kind, I wonder what I ve ever done to deserve such a blessing.

But then, I really must admit I am kind of a nice girl, & even in my old age, get more compliments for my looks, than many women years younger EVER do.

I am sending you a snap shot we had taken about a month ago, in front of our house (or rather in front of the entrance grounds) My dress looks as if it were hiked up on one side, but it isnt (darn it.) And doesnt Walter look fine? That white spot on the front of my dress is a hand carved ivory medallion, which I wouldnt have worn ~~xxx~~ nor would I have worn that short dress, if I had known my picture was going to be ~~xx~~ "took".

Norma said she would be coming home every six months, or I wouldn't have been bothering her about coming home next time (which will be about the middle of July. But if the war should develop, it might be impossible for her to plane in, as she always does. And I dont want anything to happen to HER. She has a grand husband, too. She phones us two or three times a month, besides writing Air Mail Specials every week.

I dont suppose we ll ever see each other again (you and I) so I thought you might like to hear from me, with something besides the weather, and 'sich'.

With much love, now and always,

~~xx~~ *Calla*

Walter is going to mail this now, if he can get it in the mails.