

Fri. night

Darling - I am a little sad tonight - despite a glorious quiet golden afternoon - and your letter - and quite good progress with the paintings. Ralph, the plasterer came yesterday - it boils down to the fact - that he has a job (a scholarship - I told Sam) redoing an ^{old} house down the cape - and he doesn't want to do the job here until spring - I spoke about doing part one now - just two after Florida - etc. - a general Edna type version - So - Sam tried another man - nothing definite but it doesn't look promising - so I hope to start closing the studio tomorrow get the gas & water off & hope that Fisher comes by about the shutters - I spoke to Helen now - He was working to night again - so despite the best intentions no plaster until spring - perhaps I can come up early before Easter & we can do cleaning at Easter - I won't touch a thing now - Everything is filthy - I don't think I've even swept since your departure - but I am working - painted on top of the hill all afternoon - quiet - not even a ripple in the harbor - blue and the dunes beginning to really blaze -

I ate with Alice & Jud last night - Alice flunked her test again - bad clutch work and general exhaustion - Dr. Herbert had called and asked her to work days on a case - so for the last few days she's been at it night & day - Last night was sweet & rather bizelty pizgely - Gus feels a personal failure in hers, so everything was muted - both fell asleep after dinner watching television - I sat till 10 to wake them.

Dr. Herbert suddenly emerges as a villain at Tamers - yesterday's case & several others have been directed to Fiske - so Tony is working up steam to question Dan as to the reason

why-? Fiske is not even a patient - A cat is suspected - It is so funny - I was to eat there tonight but had food in the house and since I eat tomorrow at Hofmann's and Sunday at Halpers - I thought I better eat up the contents of the ice box - However Tony discovered a depleted bottle of Carbon and we had a drink over our barrows - Handson Dan's and Ralph the Plasterer's perfidy - I must say I feel so much more at ease here now - easier than ever - much more a part of the native scene - and still never have I been so removed - touched but not identified.

Johnnie De Witt brought your letter by - he has the furniture packed and is only waiting for it to be picked up - Then we will see the car installed and call the Ford garage - Sat.

It is another one of those days - so calm and warm that every sound is carried and expanded - It is about 8 now - I've been up since 6:30 - just standing and looking - That winter is the sequel to this is hard to believe - Your garage is empty; Silva's trucking just picked up that crate to return it to the south.

Still no letter from Warren - I begin to suspect that beneath that apparently calm surface of the Nardin household seethes and I mean boils and bubbles a cauldron of repressed snakes and skeletons such as would bring glee to Dr. Freud's + Dr. Kusey's eyes - not to mention Kraft Ebbings - Oh the change to the suburbs will do it though - really lift the lid - "I'm going to write a letter - I will! I will! - I will!" you remember the story of the jagot with a broken neck - By now it is Sunday morning - Your car is wintered - I called Ford garage and they came by pronto - No Fisher to help with

the shutting up of the studio - so while closing off the water - The box near the road - the pipe gave out on both sides of the shut off ~~to~~^{to the studio} - fortunately Sammy came just for the gas tanks so he put a cap over the inlet pipe so that water to the house would still function - so except for the shutters I got the studio fixed - everything moved in - water off - gas gone etc. The house is the same -

Last night I went to dinner at Hans + Miz's - They were bringing the phonograph - it was a nice dinner after a beautiful day - They both feel that the interest + participation in Dad's business will be a very good idea Hans is most enthusiastic - "Unexpected consequences may follow" - Especially after

this last bout with poor Sam - he (Sam) sold two pictures of Hans (big ones) but at quite a reduction (as Hans says only) to get cash - that I will perhaps never see) They are both rather disgusted but caught with Sam. I am daily glad to be out or rather to be free to choose and develop. By the way the iron + extra hearts for a hexagon ^{table} came from Dad - the express man delivered it into the studio and was even chatty - See the fruits of firmness I am sorry with Gloria that I was not firmer in the first instance and insisted on an apology + nothing else - no being nice - no winners before an apology - a costly but valuable lesson - Tony Tarvers talked with Dr. H. yesterday - laid his cards on the table - H. pleaded innocence and possible absent mindedness - told Tony it would not happen again and that he T. was a new man - D. He seems so - really busy + happy.

Last night when I came from Hoffmanns there were two boiled lobsters from Gus in the door - honestly these people are darlings -

I have a picture to crate - I want to send it directly to the studio - is Betsy there during the day ever to receive it or her neighbors ask Betsy please I'll call the night before I leave to make sure - if not leave it here until I am in N.Y. - I get up at 7 and the day is full of promise and if I only walk around in it like yesterday it is a joy -

By the way the Barbara + Al mentioned was Barbara Denis - + Al A. not Silva - This is a propo of a drop of news from Tony Tarners. This is not Grace's first visit to Bellevue she was there at least once before - Albert S. came by in a breathless hurry the other day to borrow the tall ladder as they were "pulling out a ceiling" in his end studio - This is about all - I miss you but will see you almost as soon as you get this - and so I'll save my feelings until then - and give you the love, the hugs and kisses that I would write about.

I will do my best to go to church with you and the boys this winter - and with Sat. for us - lunch + galleries after a morning in bed - Sunday will be movies and church and Indians will west or whatever may be - Sorry about the house - perhaps I can come up early open the studio for us and spend Easter - no Thanks giving here this year - The house is a mess + there is really no use cleaning it. All my love - Fitz Fell better!