Letters to Grandma: An Exercise in Critical Thinking

Prepared by Victor Swanson for NCSS Austin, TX 2019

Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Plan</td>
<td>Common Core State Standards and Lesson Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background of Featured Characters</td>
<td>Narrative background of authors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copies of the Letters</td>
<td>Primary source documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handout</td>
<td>Worksheet for use with students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note from the author:

Thanks for stopping by my presentation at the 2019 NCSS Conference! What follows should be pretty self-explanatory, but if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me at the email address listed below. Additionally, as you build upon this lesson and incorporate other primary source letters, I’d love to see what you come up with and how you’ve enriched this work!

-Victor

victor_swanson@glenbard.org
Lesson Plan - Historical Thinking Skills, Letter Detective

Rationale:
Uncover the ways informal, non-fiction writing like historical letters and notes can activate students' historical thinking skills. Explore extensions of this practice for students in AP and U.S. History alike.

Goal:
To use primary source documents as a tool for historical thinking.

Common Core State Standards:
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.11-12.1
Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.11-12.3
Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.11-12.4
Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.11-12.10
By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Procedures
1. Pass out a copy of the letters to the students.
2. Explain to the students that these letters are from one individual to another over a period of time in the 1930's.
3. Give them the task: "You've discovered these letters and have hired your students as historical investigators to determine what the relationship and story between the individuals in the letters."
4. Using any medium of their choosing, students should craft a short story (i.e. audio, written, video, or animation) using specific textual evidence to share the evolution Grace and Glen's relationship.
Background of Featured Characters

Grace Lagerquist (Edney, Palmer) was born in China to missionaries. When the Boxer Rebellion broke out she and her siblings were sent to live in the United States and Canada. Grace was sent to live with her older sister in Nebraska. While in Nebraska, Grace became a music teacher. Grace had a premarital relationship with the Principal of the school and got pregnant. By the time she was pregnant, her parents were back from their mission trip in China. She was fired from her job as a teacher and sent to live with her parents in Chicago. Her father went to Nebraska and brought the Principal from the school back to Chicago where he was forced to marry Grace. After the marriage he got on a train and went back to Nebraska leaving Grace in Chicago. Grace gave birth to a baby boy and named him William (Billy) August Edney.

Glen Palmer was born in Yorkville, IL. He married a woman named Marion. Glen and Marion had three children who all died before their 3rd birthday. Nancy was the last of the three children. Allegedly, Marion did not take her sick children to the doctor, instead believing that God would heal them. After Nancy's death the marriage between Glen and Marion fell apart.

Doc married Evelyn, one of Grace's older sisters. Doc and Evelyn lived in Yorkville, IL. Glen Palmer sold life insurance and for a time worked out of Doc's office. Grace used to occasionally work for Doc as his secretary. Glen and Grace meet in Yorkville during one of those times that Grace was working for Doc. Most of the time that these letters are from Grace is living in Chicago with her son Billy.

Glen and Grace both having been in some not good circumstances met and fell in love with each other. What follows are Glen's letters to Grace, during a time in the 1930s at which both were still married to estranged spouses.
1. Read the letters and answer the questions. Take notes on the individuals below and answer the questions that follow. Develop conclusions about the story of these people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Conclusions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glen D. Palmer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace I Lagerquist</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. What happened to Nancy? Where did she go? What is her relationship with Glen?

2. What is Marion’s relationship with Glen and why does she go between places?

3. What happened to Grace in Nebraska?

4. Why on June 20, 1935 does Glen refer to someone as "(our?) son"? Who is Glen referring to?

5. What does Glen need a lawyer for?

6. What is the relationship between Glen and Grace?

7. Who are Evelyn and Doc and how are they connected to the story?
Dear Grace:

Just a year ago to-day a woman came into my life that somehow changed my heart and my life. I have never forgotten her nor never will, though it seems she was not to be mine, only to know and to remember for her understanding manner and her comradeship while it lasted. Knowing those things do I need to tell you how much your letters and especially the last one means to me? I certainly was most happy when I received the first one and had planned to reply on the day little Nancy left this world never to return. Then your last letter came and you can never know how much I appreciated your thoughtfulness and the comfort to a broken heart it contained.

Somehow when I saw you last Wednesday I wanted to talk to you so badly. I do not believe I need to say that I drove back to Yorkville that nite only to see you and while perhaps it was not diplomatic to do what I did in front of Evelyn yet I am not ashamed or sorry—I simply could not resist. I too had many things I wished to say to you. Things I would not care to tell anyone else. It did seem that I was entirely alone in the world and nothing to care about. Nancy was so much a part of my life and hopes that when she had to leave I couldnt see much left—nor can I now.

Marion left for Aurora about the first of July and somehow things did not click as they should nor had they for some time as you know. She did not say anything about coming back nor did I and finally she decides to stay all winter, and most of her plans were Aurora for the future although no decided break. Then when Nancy left nothing more has been said except she came home last Sunday nite, and I am told is going back and forth staying about two days a week in Aurora. That of course is up to her but I know I must do my part now like I never did before. If that does not work then I can not ever blame myself, as I know that is what Nancy would have wished me to do had she been old enough to understand.

If you could understand Grace, I can not conceive of anything that I want more than just one more afternoon, or evening with you when ever it might be convenient if you
would care to see me. I have so many things I want to say, and to talk about with you. I know of no one whom I believe would understand like you would—and well I am perhaps selfish about it, but I do want to see you so badly. I assure you unless you wish I will not ask another date and that it means so much to me.

I could meet you either in Chicago, or the suburbs at any time or place you might suggest any day or nite. It would be nice if you have an afternoon a week off if I could take you up into the Lake region that I spoke about and then have dinner to-gether at some quiet place. I can either drive in to where you work or any place you may suggest and the date, and time of day. Am enclosing a stamped envelope which I know no one would ever open or think anything about, and will appreciate a reply. I am to be away most of this week but anytime during next week or the week after would be wonderful.

Am mighty sorry that I have not been able to locate anything in the work line but have never given up hopes and some day I am sure I can find something.

Again thanking you and assuring you your letters and friendship has meant more to me than words can express.

I am,  

Sincerely,
Darling:

As per my request I am looking forward to a letter from you- thought it no more than fair that you get one also. Sure seemed so wonderful to be with you again last nite and to really know that the other date was not just a "dream". Should not perhaps say this- but somehow it seems that I have had almost too many things the past few years turn out just dreams to have this one be a failure also.

Marion came home today- for how long I do not know, but I do know that she is making plans on working in Ann's store at least part of the time this winter. Now what do YOU think? I had heard this before but she had not said a word except to the fact that she thought it would be better if we had a real housekeeper there instead of Adele, so I asked her if she was going to do this and GIRL was she surprised as she was just leading up to that for a few days hence I figured so that time I had the jump on her. She stated "the folks" wanted her so do this and they had done so much for her etc etc etc. I said I thought it would be O.K. if she wanted to do this for if it meant more happiness to be up there than down here to go to it, and believe me I meant it. Don't think I am going to be lonesome.

More news- was thinking all the way home about things and decided this afternoon to go down and lay cards on the table to Evelyn and then if there was to be any differences to get them over with. Sure am glad that I did as she told me that she told Dr last night that she was going to ask some questions the first time she got a chance. Well I told her what you meant to me- that I could not make any promises until I was free to do so- that I simply had to wait until some one else made the move which I believed they would do in time. Then I told her about our date last week. She wanted to know how many times I had seen you and I told her that was the first outside of the day Nancy left us since last July. She said do you know about Grace in Nebraska and I said yes and furthermore it means absolutely nothing to me except I loved you all the more for it. I also stated that I had a pretty good idea that I was not exactly disliked as far as you are concerned. She seemed pleased to have me do this and in fact said so and then added that she did not believe it would be best for us to see
too much of one another for a while. I said Evelyn I have told you how much Grace means to me and you are asking more than you can expect as after all it's our affair and while we would be most discreet and not of course see one another too often yet I was going to see you when possible and as long as we were careful then she did not need to worry, as she nor Doc as well as your Mother and Father would never have anything to be ashamed about. Naturally from what you have told me of your folks they should never know. I also said that you expected Evelyn to ask you a question or two and if she had you would have told her yourself. She said well I thought she might tell me without being asked. Said I never had fooled her that she knew I cared for you for a long time. Am glad I went over there and that we have somewhat of an understanding.

Oh sweetheart I can hardly wait until Thursday but know I must, but will be there as near 11 A.M. as possible. You do mean so much to me and every wish and hope in my heart is that I can some day have you for my very own for always. Almost train time now dear so must close and get it on the train. Will sure watch the mail for your letter.

Always yours,

[Signature]
Darling Girl;

A few hours ago I was with a wonderful girl. She is not here with me now but her memory is. I hardly knew what to say this morning. I do not wish to refer to yesterday only I regret being a wet blanket, and will hope to be better company next week. That's all- and as you said forget yesterday and live for to-day and to-morrow. The same is true of the enclosed which I trust will give you just a little happiness.

Girl am I low this A.M. tired as the devil and could not sleep after I got home. Was up a little before 8:00 so you know that I did not get too much rest. Got home about 8:15 and nothing said or nothing asked. Somehow though my heart is in the clouds and- well- do I need to say why the most wonderful girl in the world was with me? I leave about 3:00 this afternoon so am hurryin to get this letter written before Doc gets back from a call as he is not going to catch me writing any letters.

The above was as far as I got because he did come back with a patient so I folded up and put it in my desk until now 11:00 P.M. Will go to Oswego with it and then try and talk with a little girl I know in Chicago if she is still at 5607.

Hope the frog legs are aid settled and that you are O.K. Have you headed out the information where you were as yet? Don't blame you as I know you must feel, and sure glad we could have gone the places yesterday we did so you will have something to talk about. You rate altogether to much to let certain people feel you are of the peasantry class. Want it be grand some day if you can invite them to your own home and really classify them.

Gee honey (you note I didn't swear didn't you?) it's sure lonesome without you and seems like a long long time to next Thursday. Has not life been cruel enough to both of us without adding any more insult to injury? However as stated above and I told you yesterday I am leaving this afternoon for two days and of course with three other fellows time is bound to move just a little faster. Will be thinking of you constantly though dear, and suppose dream of you. Had another dream last night MUCH BETTER AND MUCH HAPPIER. That one can come true no foolin.
Just got in line for a new policy. Am to see the prospect first of week and believe that I can make the sale. Hope for me went you dear as W3 can use the money. Have two other pretty good prospects for next week that I think I can close. Have let my business sort of take care of itself too long so believe me it's a November resolution that I am starting in working beginning Monday the 12th and keep at it except of course Thursday which should be my day off.

Well dear I can think of no more news or much else to say so will quit for this time and mail this from Oswego, as my time is almost up before I must go home and get my things packed. Am going to look for a letter Monday for sure and will try and write you another that day and tell you about the ducks.

I see you, Bye bye sweetheart and best ever until

Always yours,

Glen D. Palmer
DEAREST GIRL:

What a day for Sunday. Cloudy and warm and sloppy under foot as it rained most of the night. AND IS IT EVER DREARY. Sure hope it ends sometime and not months off either that I can at least be with the most wonderful girl in the world on a day like this. Being with you honey is like being in sunshine and roses, and you simply can not be lonely.

Sure had a time to talk with you Friday didn't I? I really did not know what to say when Mrs. Janis asked who was calling, as I did not know whether you wished her to know my name or not. Oh well— you said skip it so next time she gets it even to the telephone number as far as I am concerned. Anyway it sure seems good to talk to you and really dear peps one up a lot especially if they feel some what low. Haven't seen Evelyn since Thursday. I understand she was in Sandwich to the show Thursday evening because Marion was over with Loomis and of course I heard all about it. I hope they all had a good time but they will have to see a lot of shows to have as wonderful an evening as I had. Hope you can say the same dear.

Was in Morris yesterday most of the day but missed everyone that I wanted to see. Did talk with Ruth a few minutes. She said "how is everything going?" I said great in Chicago and Hell in Yorkville. What a laugh she got. Said she was coming in Tuesday and would be sure and call you and say Hello. Suppose its Tuesday evening she will be there, as she did not go in last Thursday as she had planned but next week.

Went to Oswego this A.M. but the young men I was to call on had gone to church so that was wasted efforts. I know what you will say—shouldn't work on Sunday but what else is there when you do not feel like staying home. Believe me I am hoping that will change though. One thing though the office is vacant so I can write you with out any interruptions from anyone. Thats something isn't it. Will have to go home and eat dinner soon which will never taste right until someone I know cooks the meal. Oh baby wont that be something. I know there wont be any more away from home work that is positively necessary then either. You know what Evelyn said—
under those circumstances I could eat dishwater and never
know the difference. She is very much wrong either dear,
as one person I know of surely has a wonderful influence
on the surroundings as to whether they are dull or bright.

I gave Doc your big check to cash for me as I
thought it best for someone else to present it at the bank.
It's barely possible for an example if I were to take it
in that Polly might ask a question or two, and how could I
answer them properly.

Am going to Minooka to-morrow and hope to make
a few dollars. Think I can do so too as I have a pretty good
prospect over there and anyway we need the money. Was home a
few minutes ago and I understand Mrs. Loomis has invited us over
for the evening. I think that's great for it will be one
less dead evening.

Darling why does Thursday come so slow and go so
quickly? Do I ever wish it were to-day as its simply gloomy
here in the office. Believe me I am going to have a picture
of the "only girl" before long or know the reason why.

Just read this letter over and to my notion its not
so hot to say the least. Too much sob stuff but its written
and as I am going to try and get it mailed this afternoon will
send it anyway and promise you sweetie that the next one will
have a few more rays of sunshine. Will watch the mail to-morrow
and Tuesday until I get your letter, and are your letters ever
welcome. If they keep on improving as they have in the past
well- thats an awful big order for each one seems more perfect
and I know its asking too much to keep that up. But anyway
darling I enjoy them so much and YOU too and dear I just
dream night and day and hope for the glorious time when you
know dear I want just you and the rest of the world can go
byby.

Just existing until Thursday and dreaming until
I see you then,

Sincerely always yours,

Glen D. Palmer
May 7, 1935.

Dearest Girl:

Your letter received a few days ago and I believe it goes without saying I had a pretty heavy heart after reading it. In a way though I did expect it as you know Evelyn talked to me on the way home and told me how your Mother was taking things. I can understand her view point and I also can understand the place it put you in. There was really nothing else that could be done but oh darling its sure tough going not seeing you. I am going to stop look and listen just as I know you want me to do. I know in your heart you dont want this any more than I do, and it was just a bit brave of you to write the way you did and not bring in anyone else. I also know the whole family talked to you which would not make it a bit easier for you.

I also appreciate its up to me to make things possible for us- and Darling that will be done just as soon as I can possibly do so. It may take a month, it may take six months but it sure will be brought about just as quickly as I can do so. You know dear we will (at least I hope so) have a long time to live to-gether and I do not want to have to pay to much per month all these years to some one else. I am willing to be fair but not give all I can make. I trust you will understand this and know I am trying to do the very best for us both. Things have not changed only worse with a real session ending at 2:00 A.M. this morning. I know I must be patient for the best in the end but I do not know how much longer my patience can last. Every day she is here is one more day away from you and that certainly does not help my patience one bit. Enough of that darling all I ask is have faith in me and patience and remember I am thinking constantly of you and trying to do as you wish and for OUR FUTURE HAPPIESS.

You will never know though how much real comfort and happiness your letter has given me. I have read it over until I know it by heart, and I assure you I will do exactly what you wish and just as soon as I can.
Is it a lot of nerve to think that is what it meant? I do not think so hence the reason why I love this letter and why it means so much to me. I assure you my dear I will be absolutely true to you in every way. There will be no one else, there won't be anything done by me that you would disapprove of and I will work as I never worked before as I know there is going to be some money needed sooner or later. I will try and be as happy as I can though that is somewhat of a hard assignment.

How about my insurance records. I hope you will fix them up for me and you can either send them out by Doc and Evelyn or I can come to the apartment for them. If the going gets too tough and you ever need me or wish to see me I will meet you any place you suggest and I assure you it will not be mentioned by me, for honey it is going to be plenty tough not seeing you for a while.

I might mention here— that you did not say I could not write to you in your last letter that's why I took the chance that you would not object to this letter at least. I would at least like very much to be able to write you and a reply would be heaven itself. Is that asking too much dear to get a letter from you?

I had an opportunity to get another contact that might mean work for you to-day. Do not know just how good it is but will try and do the best I can, in fact I am just out of luck finding a pay check for you, but hope sometime to be fortunate. Anyhow dear its not going to be always that you will be working for I have some plans to take care of pny and his Mother. He won't have to write to me then— he can tell me.

Was glad you liked the hose, and I hope Evelyn explained why I put the paid slip in, so you could exchange them if they were not just what you wished. Did do it to show what they cost etc. but so you could be sure and change for something you liked better if you wished to do so.

I will sure appreciate a letter if you think you can do that much and not cause you any home complications and if you do not mind would like to write to you. Will keep saving coupons for you and either mail them to you or give them to Evelyn for you. As stated above if the going gets tough I will meet you any time or place you wish— if you need help of any kind dear financially or otherwise remember it is a privilege and favor to get the opportunity
to help you in any way I can until things are such that I can see you and TELL THE WORLD ABOUT IT. Oh honey it seems tough to say the least but suppose it will have to be. Evelyn was quite insistent that I not see you again the other night when we came out from Chicago. I told her I would not make any such promise because I might break it but would do what you wanted and that only regardless what anyone else might wish. After all dear its you I want to please, to make happy, and not cause any grief.

The above is as far as I got yesterday so am finishing it this morning. Just another one of those blue rainy days that makes you feel like you would prefer to sleep or forget. Am I going to enjoy future Sunday's after this is over for they sure are nothing to look forward to at present.

Enough of that blue stuff darling- as why should I make your heart heavy because things don't look so good to me this morning.

Be just as happy as you can dear. I hope you will think of me and I do have confidence that you will. Just remember if you do not wish me to write I will listen but I surely hope I can have that much privilege. Will try and make them cheerful and not give you the blues reading them. Will not ask to see you but if you ever change your mind or wish me I WILL SURE COME FAST, wherever you say to meet you. Also remember I can always spare a few cents if you need it, and a letter now and then would be marvelous to say the least.

Remember the song dear "STAY SWEET AS YOU ARE" you too be happy as you can, good and patient and just know I am doing everything and anything I can for our future happiness.

Always yours,

[Signature]

GLEN D. PALMER, DISTRICT AGENT
The Northwestern Mutual Life
Insurance Company
OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

GLEN D. PALMER, SPECIAL AGENT

Yorkville, Ill.

May 17
1935

Dearest Girl:

As I did not get any word that I could not write, and after reading over your last letter it does not mention letters so am taking the chance that letters are not taboo.

Honey, it sure seemed almost inhuman to say the least last week and knowing you were in town and I could not see you. Even knowing you were in an automobile outside of the office yet not be allowed to at least say Hello.

As you know Doc is away to-day so its a wonderful opportunity for me to write you a letter, with your pictures perched on my desk and know I wont be disturbed. I dont believe you can realize what the two pictures really mean to me. They are precious to say the least.

Hope the plant did not cause any embarrassment on your part but dear I did want a wonderful mother to know she was remembered on Mother's day with flowers, even if I could not be with her this year on that date. Have something else for you that I was able to get in New Hampshire. One of my policy holders and friends who recently moved down there was able to get some maple syrup for me. Just as soon as it comes will send in a gallon by Doc and Evelyn. If its as good as some we have received from Vermont I feel quite sure it will be good. Anyway I hope you will like it.

Things are moving along about as could be expected. To me it seems slow but I know its sure and sooner or later I will be able to see the sweetest girl in the world again. It has seemed something has turned up to stop things just as they were going good. As you perhaps know the last time the girl at home had to have her appendix removed and stall things along for a while longer. I am trying to be patient but I will be nuts before long if something doesn't happen.

Was down to Doc's Tuesday evening and played three handed bridge. Had a good time too altho the house did seem just a bit empty and foreseen. Wonder what was missing to cause that.

I have about 25 kids cousins saved for you.
We down to Morris yesterday and saw Ruth and the rest that you know. Ruth is fine and Nelson asked how you were. I said fine and he added bring her down again some day. I am going to do that too my dear. Ruth doesn't have time for insurance at the present. She is wrapped up in a $5.00 chain letter. Hope she gets some returns but I have my doubts about it. I think those things have just about run out. Oh yes, your name is on one that has gone to Washington D.C. or will go this afternoon. If the gods of fortune smile on you and you get some five dollar bills just smile say nothing and spend them. Ruth drove up to Yorkville just to sell me one on her chain and of course I had to fall of rather I got Polly Gutek to go in with me on it. As we have two letters to hand on am mailing one to Chauncey Reed at Washington and perhaps it will get started there. I hope so anyway, as your name is on it and I hope you get rich, well- not TOO RICH - you might forget your friends. I guess I won't worry much about that though.

How are you coming along with my insurance records? I hope all right. When you have them finished will you send them out or am I to call at the apartment and get them. Am enclosing a little amount towards the pay check due you when they are finished. I know you are not working honey so let me do this for you until you do get work, or I can call again. It's not much but does give you just a little independence, and there seems so little I can do for you at the present time.

How is Billy, Viola and your mother? Fine I hope and every one happy even though work is scarce. Even though I am out for the present dear, remember I still have a lot of regard and respect for your entire family. They have been wonderful to me and some day perhaps we can return compliments.

Well Darling thats about all I can think of for this time so will stop for this chapter. AND STILL Hoping that the spirit might move you to write I am now and forever,

ALWAYS YOURS,

Glen
May
30,
1955.

Dearest Girl:

Hope this has surely been a long, long and hectic week to say the least. What a joy and what a heart ache it was to see you last Sunday. Joy to the highest degree in seeing you, but a heart ache to see you for such a short time when I had so much to tell you.

I am sorry I did not see you Monday A.M., for although I had something to say that perhaps you might have cared to hear, but it takes too long in a letter. I am trying to keep my promise not to call or try and see you, I am trying in every way possible to protect you and your name. I fully intend to do this, but dear it certainly won't hurt you in the least when it's possible to at least allow me to say HELLO when you come out. After all darling it's getting kicked around at present and taking it so that later when the break comes it won't be tough on you. Believe me I am taking it too on an average of at least once a day for the past week. Don't know how much longer but it's plenty hot right now. That's enough of that dear for why worry you with my troubles. Just know because I love you more than anything else in the world I am doing my very best to be just as diplomatic as I can possibly be, and come out of this the best possible manner for both you and I but most of all you.

Things are going along about the same as usual otherwise. Have certainly worked to get business although it comes in extremely slow at present. Money doesn't seem to be found in any quantity as you too perhaps have found in trying to get work. Am still selling a little business though with fair prospects for some good business later in the summer or early fall.

Suppose Billy is getting to be a big boy now. It seems so long since I last saw him. Four weeks day before yesterday to be exact. That sure is a long long time too. Well, we will make it up sooner or later my dear just as soon as the fates will permit.
Suppose its pretty tough without work dear and believe me I have tried to help you get something but somehow it doesn't seem to be bad. So as long as I can make a dime don't let it worry you. If I give you a little spending money from time to time to pay for getting my insurance records up to date. Am enclosing another small installment.

Am also enclosing some more coupons. Will keep this up honey till you get enough to get something worth while with them.

Your most welcome letter received a few days ago. And darling it certainly was wonderful to get it. You do write interesting letters and while I am quarantined I certainly appreciate them more than ever. Please continue them as that is one thing can not be cheated as my letters all go to my box in the post office and no one has the combination to it so I know they will not catch up with them.

Today is bad, honey because its decoration day and having just returned a short time ago from the cemetery after decorating Nancy's grave and things not going too good I guess this letter is simply a flop.

Just be patient honey, know I am trying to do the best I can for both of us.

Always yours,

[Signature]
June 20, 1935.

Dearest Darling:

Well honey its now Thursday nite- three whole days since I last saw you, and the first day I was able to get down to work and really put in a good long hard day since Monday. But how could you expect me to work hony after being away from you for so long a time and then be with you for a whole day and have (our?) son with us too for the first time for an outing. Rain and cold didn't matter to say the least that day dear for I had you with me and a very dear sweet little man along in the front seat. I guess Viole may be right- suppose I will spoil him when things change but will try and do what's best for him. Anyway its his mother's business to do the reprimanding, and I will console him.

Haven't seen Evelyn since Monday night. Talked with her over the phone a couple of times but have not been able to get over. Otherwise things are- as they say about the tide, slowly but surely moving- like any battle front there is a lot of bursting of shells and shots fired until the enemy run out of ammunition than a rest until a new supply arrives. I don't think you will have to worry about looking for work very long after you finish your school but will be able to practice in the Dist agents office in Yorkville, that is if you are to do a little office work, otherwise you can take care of his home.

And that reminds me dear, find out about your lawyer friend in Chicago SOON. If he wants too much money they let me get Jim Holdeman. I know he will be reasonable and will certainly keep things most confidential. Any typing necessary I will do for him so his office girl won't even have to know anything.

Am going down to Morris to-morrow and thought I would feel Jim out as to how much he would charge to put a case through similar to yours. Naturally darling I won't mention any names or give him any opportunity to figure out whom it might be but merely to get his price and an idea as to just what is necessary under the circumstances. I am sure he will tell me.
The other half of this letter was written last night or rather a short time before supper time. As you know Ethel Wall is moving away from Yorkville to Elmhurst to live. So she was out to our home for dinner last evening. When I got home I was in the living room with Ethel while the dinner was being put on the table. She asked me how business was etc etc, then I said you are going to Elmhurst she said "yes? I said I had driven through there the other night on my way home from a game farm at Desplaines, which was true I had. Then Ethel said do you get up that way often and I replied that I did not. Then she said do you get into Chicago very often, I said very little, she then smiled and said- "why don't you bring your sweetie up to see us some time" smiled and then added "the one in the kitchen". Naturally I was not just sure how to take her so I said "Thanks Ethel you might be surprised sometime for it is possible I will take you up on that". She laughed and the subject was changed. Ethel herself is a good fellow Honey and if she had reference to you- I am quite sure she is not at all narrow minded about the matter.

I came down town to finish this last nite but Doc and Evelyn were here so I had to put it off until this morning. Oh here is news- Doc bought a pipe yesterday sometime and was Evelyn ever tough at him. She has already offered me coffee at any and everytime I call from now on if I swipe it. Guess I will- shall I keep it or stick to Kools? Which reminds me- I have 5 more coupons to enclose in this letter. Lets hope dear we can have friends in this winter on a good metal card table- I mean play cards and have a lunch on the card table not our friends. That is of course if that is what you may wish to get with the coupons.

Was very glad indeed to see Clarence again. I also hope that you will make it clear to him that any questions I asked in the insurance office or anything I did was done because your Mother asked me to. Please do this dear as I do not wish him to get the idea I was sticking my nose in some one else business. If you care to you can tell him that WE are coming up to see them some time.

Well darling this is about all I can think of at this time in the line of news so will close and HOPING to receive a letter from you for darling they are precious to say the least. Always yours,

[Signature]
June 26, 1935.

Dearest Girl:

...and by the way did I ever have some good eats) and I asked them if you supposed you people had run out of stationery in there. I said if I didn't get a letter to-day I was going to put three sheets of paper and a stamped self-addressed envelope in another envelope and mail it in—just to see if the hint would take, and I would receive a letter.

However as the warning given to Caesar—"Beware of the Ides of March" and knowing the 23th was almost here, I as usual changed my mind and am writing instead of the above. Am also completing what I promised to have for you by the above mentioned date, which you will find enclosed and another bunch of coupons. Am glad to do this dear and remember anytime you need me, I will do my best.

Life is going along as usual out here—just a little more ---- and a little closer to the day when we can be together "forever and ever" and oh honey the wait is so hard but I know if I am patient it will come out much better in the long run. Going to Aurora to-day for the rest of the week, enough of that darling—just know whatever I do am thinking of you and doing the very best for your future welfare and happiness.

Believe me I appreciate Doc's and Evelyn's home and George Arundell's. Those are the two places I have been calling on after work as I do not go home until people are asleep, and really I have got to the point where home is going to look like a million dollars when things are different.

I wish you could walk in the office now dear—the left top drawer to my desk is open and two pictures of the most wonderful girl in the world are looking up and smiling at me while I am writing this letter. Are those pictures ever valuable, Have borrowed a small space in the bottom of Doc's desk and have my treasures hid there in case there is ever a raid on my affairs there will be nothing found. Am certainly careful of them darling for they are most precious to say the least.
I suppose things are going along with you in the same routine manner, school and home again. Anyway you have a darling to come home to that you can be real proud of. He is a pretty fine boy dear and it was a lot of fun to have him with us the other day.

This letter is not so hot dear and neither am I. Just low I guess this morning but will get over it. Would I ever wake up and be walking above the clouds though if you were to call me on the phone right now or better still walk into the office. HEAVENLY DAYS—JUST TO DREAM ABOUT IT. You know a letter would help a lot.

Raining again today. Are we ever getting a lot of it this summer. I think it's rained every day this week so far.

Doc just came in and I suppose patients will soon arrive so will have to cut this short dear as it must be finished so I can mail it in Aurora this noon to get it to you in time for its contents to do you some good at school Friday.

Please write dear when you can as they are most welcome to say the least. Am sorry this letter is so blue but will try and do better next time. It won't make me at all pressed to see you soon if you can arrange it.

Bye bye darling just keep up faith in me and I will certainly never let you down.

Always yours,

Glen D. Palmer

Be sure and look in the enclosed envelope.