

21 October '67

Dear Gerry,

For the past few months I have been living in my own little precise confused world. And I guess it has come to be the time when I must say good-bye. Not forever but for a long time, it even hurts to write to you, because a part of me doesn't want to let you go. But I feel it is the best thing to do.

The army has changed me ⁱⁿ such a sense that I want to do things I have never done, go places I have never seen, and love those I have never loved. I want to make things within my reach that have never been in reach and I want to touch things I have never touched.

Yes your right I am not old, but one thing I am is confident that marriage is for the person, who can share all there is to share with his children. Marriage has to be more than sex it has to be more than the desire to be with someone till it turns into an obsession. Marriage is something I have not yet discovered in my own little world. To me its propertys and behaviors are unknown. Someday I will get married but only when I am physically and mentally able to support and understand my children.

I AM IN THE PROCESS OF LEARNING TO KNOW MYSELF....

I beg you to forgive me, and bare being without me. If this was written on is read thru anyones elses eyes it may sound conceded. But to you I know its true. Please try to put me out of your mind as well as heart and go on. Let it be that such a bastard as I, am not worth weeping over, and is not worth the love you so beautifully intrusted in me. "PLEASE IF IT IS THE LAST THING I SAY TO YOU REMEMBER THIS, THE NEXT MAN YOU LOVE, KNOW HIM FIRST, MAKE SURE HE KNOWS HIMSELF "LET NO FRY OUT YOUR SILK LINED SLIPPER TILL THE BELLS START TO CHIME.. BUT MORE THAN THIS KNOW HIM AND PUSH ALL FRAUD ASSIDE JUST KNOW HIM"....

You can leave my ring with my mother, you'll see tears in her eyes, for those tears are mine. It has taken me along time to right this letter please don't thing I carried it so far...

I LOVED YOU WITH ALL THE LOVE AND COMPASSION THAT
GOD GRANTED ME, BUT THE ARMY WHIPPED MY ASS AND
MADE ME LOOK AT MYSELF...

LOVE

I am not worth a letter on
a drop dead note, just nothing!

JOHNNY.....