

From

Walton Trumbo

Box # P.M.B. 7551

To

Mrs Walton Trumbo

(Name)

June 21, 1950

(Date)

Lazy T Ranch, Fresno Co., Calif.

(Address)

At last, sweetheart, I have arrived at the Federal Correctional Institute in Ashland, Kentucky, in the midst of beautiful wooded hills and the greenest grass you have ever seen. From what I have seen of the institution and its personnel, one could not wish for a pleasanter place, granted that one must be imprisoned in the first instance. I may write 3 letters per week, one page, using both sides of the page. I may receive 7 letters per week of no more than 4 pages each, one side of the page only. My address is as above, and on the envelope, namely: Walton Trumbo, Box No. P.M.B. 7551, Ashland, Kentucky. All who write me, including you, must sign their names in full, together with their address. You could use my ranch stationery, which gives you large pages, and writes small. The letterhead contains your address, by placing "Mrs." before my name. All incoming and outgoing mail is, of course, censored. I imagine all my letters from now on will go to your regular mail, while it would be nice if yours came air mail. I haven't lined up exactly who shall be on my correspondence list, but I think I shall make you the only family member. If you write me three letters a week, I could still receive letters from four other persons, whose names I must submit here first. By writing you one letter one week, and two the next, and so on, I could also keep the other correspondence going. I thought perhaps I would put Ny, Hugo, Pomerance, and Jan down as my other correspondents, so if you will send me their addresses, I can make the arrangements.

Did Theatre Bits come out with my article? Did the departure merit any local newspaper space? How did the children react to the demonstration? Have you had any quotable reactions on the poem? It was read last night at a N.Y. meeting for the 8 in Town Hall. Forget the information I gave you about parole, and the Oct 8 date. Apparently the whole thing was an error on the part of the Washington jail authorities, and, although we shall check with our attorneys, we probably are totally ineligible. I understand a national broadcast has been arranged for next month in our behalf, with a dazzling array of names.

I presume you found my glasses in the glove compartment. I also presume that by this time Superior Optical Co. has sent you or Rex the 2 other new pair. I need, in all, the 3 new pair — one bi-focal, one distance, and one reading. Send them with your return address when you can, and insure them. And also, as a special favor, drop mother a note that I send her greetings on her birthday tomorrow.

I cannot tell you, after 11 days in the Washington jail, what a pleasure it is to be in this new place. I had a fine train ride over-night, arriving in Ashland at 1 p.m. today, after a morning of lovely hill and river scenery. I hope quickly to get work to do here, which will make the time pass much more swiftly. My reading progresses ravenously, and I shall surely be in better physical shape when I come out than when I came in.

Well — that must do for today. Write me three letters quickly in the 3 days after you have received this, giving me all the news in a great gush. Then I shall be caught up again. Kiss the children soundly and send them to bed without any dinner. Tell Adele to watch those two new-comers, and reserve for yourself as much of my love as you can absorb. Cotton Trumbo - 7551