

556 South 5th
February 4, 1965
11:05 P.M.

My dearest & only Patricia:

You "stole a march on me!" I had thought that I might get a valentine to you before you did to me, but you beat me to it! I love you card — and the designation of Godfather is as appropriate as any could be, in spite of the unconventional way in which I have acquired the title. Actually, this title has certain advantages. It is a standard term that indicates an accepted degree of relationship and will be understood by anyone to whom it is made known. In fact, should you wish to introduce me to anyone under this title, it would occasion less explanation than almost anything else that might be used. Of course, I shall let you decide

if you want to use the title or not,
and I shall expect that you will
continue to call me, Carl, person-
ally. I have grown so fond of you
calling me "Carl" that I really
wouldn't want you to do any-
thing else, but when anyone
shows curiosity about our relationship,
"godfather" will be an appropriate
title and I'll do my best to live
up to the name. I am proud of
the relationship, as you well know
and I am more delighted with
you as a person as the weeks go
by. It has made me so happy
to discover that you have the
same kind of sensitivity, taste,
and discrimination in your
personal behavior, your appreciation
of line & style in clothes and
accessories and in your ability to
wear them as Neva had - and
the persons I've known who could

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match her, or come even near to doing so, are precious few. I am sure, as I tried once before to say adequately that, were she here today to see you and know your qualities she would be both proud & relieved that I had the good sense to focus my interest and affection on someone so obviously fine and superior as you.

How well your camping jaunt these two days is turning out, I can't guess, for I don't know where you have gone or what the facilities for shelter from the weather are. It's been cold & foggy over much of California (north of Tehachapi, at least) until today and the only change is that it is now cold and raining instead of foggy. However, good companions & a proper attitude save any situation and I trust your judgment in both respects.

You were sweet enough to ask my
reaction before making a firm
agreement with your new friends
and for this I honor & like you the
more. I have no doubt that, had
I shown marked disappointment
you would have turned down the
venture & kept the dinner date
with me. On the other hand, if I am
to show you any of the kind of
affection that I would be obligated
to do were I your real father, (I hope
from what you have told me of him,
that I am doing better) I would
be inconsiderate in the extreme.
As I told you, I will miss you, for
I consider myself to be honored
every time you favor me with
an evening - or with your
presence even for a little while.
And I should be hurt if you
were to show in any way
that your consideration for me

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were only a superficial gesture -
that would crush me - but
as it is, I am happy to see
you happy, I know that our
dinner & show engagements
are only postponed a little and I
am sure that you would not
ask to be excused from our date
for purely trivial reasons, so I can
lightheartedly say - if this is
what you really desire; if it seems
rewarding in what it offers to you,
then I would not want to bar
your way at all. I really meant
it when I said you can trust
me utterly & also that I desire
most of all to bring to you the
happiness & opportunities that
fate has never made possible for
me to do for a daughter of my own.
Only I still hope that, as time goes
by the feeling of trust and confi-
dence and the happiness that it
engenders can become more & more
like that between a real

father and a real daughter. I want only for you to succeed in reaching the worthwhile goals that you set for yourself; in always selecting & retaining as friends the persons most worthy of friendship. I want you to achieve, always to remain alert, human in your outlook, courageous, & exploratory in life, & ready to play the role in the turbulent world in which we live that you are capable of doing. That way, my sweet, you will always remain as beautiful as you are and as admirable; a tower of strength to those who look to you as an example and a source of inspiration to all who, like me, must live or die by that inspiration.

My niece, Lindy Williams, is home for the week from Santa Barbara U.C. — as also is her

tall boy friend & fiancé, Mark
Dawson. They are coming in to
see me in my apartment to-
morrow around 2:00. P.M. I should
like nothing better than to be able to
have you join us for a brief visit
and refreshments for though Linda
lacks your maturity, experience and
judgement, she is a fine & spirited
young lady — vivacious & pretty
too. However, in all probability
you will not yet be back from
your camping, unless the rain
drives you home.

When I got back from my
sisters at Chico, I had a tele-
phone — No. 286, 9976, so when
you get home, if I don't beat
you to it, give me a buzz.
I'm holding Saturday evening
for our dinner & possibly the
movie too — but we can make

the necessary agreement when we make contact.

My younger sister, Joyce, also is someone whom, should circumstances conspire favorably, you'd enjoy knowing. She is one of the most open minded & considerate persons I know & she'd put you at your ease in very few minutes. However, I think you'd find her interesting because of her art. - She has artistic talent oozing out of her fingertips, yet is quite modest about it. She has produced creditable work in the fields of painting, ceramics, wood carving, mask making, collage & mixed media (metal & wood), also in metal sculpture & is recognized as one of the artists in the Chico Colony. And she has friends in number among the worthwhile students at Chico State. They think the world of her.

Well darling, I'll terminate this effusion & try for a few hours sleep. With loads of love as always - "Deine Götterpapa" Carl.