

Distinquished Miss

Our relationship to the bookstore owner is so good that I can send you today the that you mentioned last time. I hope that your fondness of the Russian language will help you get over the boredom of studies and then I will be honored meeting you again, I hope that in Russian you will be able to tell me about your progress. In case you should need other help, I do not have to mention that I am at your service. My regards to your mother and the doctor similarly to Mrs. Bates.

Very truly yours

Dr. V. Absolon

20.7.1872

My dear Karla

I have only an half hour time to write if I get to send off this letter today as I want to announce that we got to Breitenstein in order. On the way I had miserable company, this was only agreeable, I could quit and give myself to my thoughts and be with you. Until now being tired and the change of conditions interfered with my activity. I am afraid to say how I am going to feel when I fully realize how far away you are and how long my cute (Karolka) I have to miss you. I hope that you have received my telegram from Bilsen. Kiss our mothers hands for me and also Miss Anna, for Blasta and Madanks a kiss. I am kissing you many times.

Willibald

14.8.1872

Dear Karlicka

I wish to make known to Miss, but again today I have received no letter; if I would know for sure that she forgot to write I would not permit myself to bother you with this letter but it is possible that the letter got lost or got delayed at the post office and therefore I wish to let you know. In the latter case I would better start writing letters again. father mother and the sister-in-law. Greetings to Miss Anna. Beautiful weather.

Your fidel groom

Willibald Late 28.8.1872

Dear Karolko

You don't have to worry about a best man, as I was with the "inspector" today that very distinguished young man that I did not find at home but the inspector in his name suggested that he will take you to the altar. He mentioned, yesterday ~~that~~ I stayed in Blansko until eight o'clock. It was impossible to get the architect from over here, we arrived home after ten o'clock in the evening. Greetings from my mother. I kiss you and all the dearies.

Willibald 30.10.72

Dear Karolko

I'm sending you thus certificate. The number of our house is 18 1 that is in the first town district. I hope that you are coming tomorrow, at least father had no objection when I mentioned your project. When you go through Boskovice have the roof off the chaise down I would hope that the curious individuals in Boskovice will thus meet you as my wife. Sincere greetings from mother. I kiss you and the rest.

Your Willibald 26.10.72

My golden (Karlicku)

Thus my wish did not help and you left me without a letter. I should not reproach you as I also forgot to write one day but I at least have a formal right to do so as I did not promise to write every day but my cute "Karlik" promised this twice and now I want to say a word and let you blush for yourself that you broke a promise. That's it! From the letter from the Miss in Roudince I saw that the inlaws family are your friends, and thus you may be interested about the courageous activities of the . "Karuska" and don't forget me. Sincere kisses to all my beloved bride kisses sincerely

Willibald 26.8.1872

My beloved V. Willibald

I am sitting down with the definite intention to complain about the life and about myself in a long letter. I hope you have enough patience and will listen. Ten o'clock just passed and I have arrived at a home we were at the Veible's and then at the train. However was annoyed by the snobbish group of people and the boring faces. Even though I was laughing and forced to be gay. For jokes I was not prepared. The words of Jan Machalicky come to mind. I cannot force my foot into the narrow shoe of life - I don't belong to this human society - my head does not fit into every close circle, however small it must break it or die itself.

I don't fit in the midst of this people, I am perhaps too much of an idealist who is bothered by the world literature- and I come from a party where I had to suppress my idealism I'm unhappy, I would like to enclose myself from the whole world and I can't open my heart so soon to the pain of the world which dictates my crazy thoughts. I am always angry at myself, I think, then that I am stupid detestable. I consider my ambitions as a salad which I hope to sell on the market of the literary kitchen. However life lacks interest; I dislike the noise of all those stupid parties, I am happy I am in my little room in the midst of homes of all those superficial people. If any one should read this or could look into my thoughts he would laugh at all those crazy illusions; are you laughing at me too?

I am very very sad today and your letter made me so happy, I did change immediately and happily entered inbetween in the midst of the other people and sent my heart to you with

sincere kisses. I brought with me melancholy, I am nostalgic, the time of your absence is too long. But no I would not deserve the dissatisfaction and you yourself consider this a proving period of the truth of our love which I doubt had to be tested.

You reproach me that I am not sending you any kisses. You know how easy it is to hand them out. You want some replacement, no joke I have a stony heart but at the end I will replace what I am being neglectful of now.

About the gossip I shall not talk any more, mother is distressed, she says she won't write to you she apparently does not know how to behave and what to talk about etc. She wants to know who could derive anything from the words "mein Kind", if the letters are read by any one else.

You are happy that I have fat cheeks and true moon face; I get a headache from beer but I drink only because I am sad. When you come father will make for you a declaration of love I should do it in his name, I said thank you to him. I tell you that he said that you are a bad man, I love you nevertheless, now I start joking again as in the other letters so good night.

In every word of this letter there is a kiss from your fidel

Karla 25.8.1872

My cute Karlousku

I was going through the letters which had prince's living between lions and bears is sending me (ursussplaus and leo spelaus) to her fidel groom who is again in exile. I read all eight I counted all eighteen of them and when I read all of them and again started to talk to people they told me "what did you do doctor? your mouth is all black.

This must have been the miracle maker who is my enemy and who made my lips black so that the world thinks that I am drinking ink. But this is not true as I drink only beer which is here excellent. For evening supper and morning repast I usually have in the company of the educator who is an intelligent young man and always when it takes the first swallow he drinks to you, your health. And if at eleven o'clock in the morning or nine o'clock in the evening you hear a buzzing in your ear you will know that it is the Bertenstein doctor and drinking to the health of the cutest of all Karlickes. Reading your lovely letters I run into such a happy humor that I am like changed today. I see everything in a pink light and I am mad at myself that I did not admit myself these happy moments. This then will replace any letters that do not arrive. When we get married we will have to save our correspondence and we shall read it from time to time but for Gods sake we shall never show it to anyone to any third person he certainly would laugh at us. Especially to my letters I would not want to admit in front of strangers. This sure would contrast when such an old man a doctor of medicine would write in such an infidel manner as I am doing it so often. Only your love

would excuse it and therefore I send. Today we go to Manepina to the Lacansky family. Where I always go through a boring day as one has to appear as a and they think then God knows how much they made one happy with their invitation. One cannot deny that it is more agreeable to be in the company of nobility than in the company of some newly rich business friend a Jew or a small townish employee. About our return to Moravia I did not hear anything I am afraid of the worse. Only if this ~~unhappy~~ unhappily beautiful weather would change if it would freeze and rain. Coming home I did not get any letters for some time. Mother suggested that she send my aunt to take care of my apartment in Boskic who would look at everything before I return myself; I would rather avoid this if possible. I heard about one apartment of four rooms in Bonskobice and I wrote immediately to Kubin to find more about it; so far I did not get any answer. Write to me again Karusinko how you are. Do drink beer and eat meat. I'm getting fatter and I am ashamed of it you won't recognize me. If only this beer would be here somewhat worse then I would have to start drinking part water. Sincere love to father, mother Valste. My beloved and dear bride sincerely embraces

Vilibald 4.9.1872

I did not get any letter again today but you can see how good I am by not saying a thing. Beautiful weather here.

My dear beloved Karlo

I have just received both of your letters and happiness is overwhelming me. In quiet moments I am surprised how this quiet cool Absolon who is trying to show himself to the foreign world that he gets all shaken and melts in happiness when you my dear Karolka sincerely and from the depths of the heart talks to me. How only can you think my Karla that I could laugh at the expressions of your heart; whom could you confide your feelings and your thinking. In the contrary this expressions of your young heart does true delight and you do not know how happy you make me when you show me always clearer that precious difference between yourself and other girls. These illusions, these idle opinions of the world and people are entirely ~~related~~ commiserate to your age or youth and even now during the time of general negativeness towards all men how happy is it for a girl ~~for~~ to preserve a sane mind and a pure heart. I would not want to miss in your case my dear Karla. have at their place only what is good and beautiful and I wish that you could preserve these as long as possible. I use to reason this way and hoped that in time I could somehow assimilate the world as I hoped that it would be with the world as it truly was, I did not lose the sense for these ideals which are so beautiful which make us so unhappy when we recognize that these are truly only ideals contrary to reality. Unfortunately the world distroys these one after the after and it will be my duty that you do not recognize the losses and that I replace them with the happiness of the home and with

my love; if I should succeed this would bring me happiness on this earth and even you shall not miss your ideals, If I should not succeed I would not be worth of becoming your husband. I almost forgot that Mr. Machalicky I almost got jealous that his words state in Karlik's mind. I am a bit sorry that I gave up poetry as sometimes in the Arcapiun. If I would know that I could make myself grateful to you even now would I take Petas out of it's fable and would ride into the old romantic land so that I could also get into this literary market to sell the and the of my feelings.

Dear Karolko

I still feel unhappy when you write about mother if she is still worrying about some gossip and that she is unhappy. I had to laugh about the effect of my innocent remark not to call you a child anymore. I said this of course only in jest and I can see now to my chagrin that it was not a good joke now that I see that it was such a commentary. I wanted only to say that father and mother had not returned to their old opinions and consider you too young for marriage while they would call you and a child. (. Of course we know that we are to be children of our parents even though a one hundred years old. I cannot believe that mother would be mad at me and would not want to write to me. Please do explain it to her Karolko and ask her for forgiveness in my name. Why does your father want to express love to me I am no girl after all we did not make to each other any declarations and nevertheless

we like each other now tell father to forget about it. My dear Karolko I can see now that with the resignation that I expresses the first day of our mutual absence I expressed stupidity. I always thought that I would retain of the spirit as I did the first day but now I know that it is very difficult not to be with you and not to see you for two weeks - four weeks and perhaps even longer. Sometimes I feel tense around my heart I am not able to work or talk. And then I walk through our old Preitensteine. Physical exercise is a balm for the soul. Try it if at some time you should find it necessary. - Please Karolko do make our dear mother happy even if one day I am sure I will purge all her . Please do send greetings to the Bakes' a kiss of the hand to grandmother and Miss Hermina express mes con bien sinceres, most beautiful weather as always your truthful bridegroom.

Vilibald.