

[DEC 1, 1897]

Oh Alice, my own wife to be:-
I feel this morning as if I should
go mad. Your letter has just come
to me, and oh God how it hurt. But
I do want you to open your heart to me.
What do you mean by "that" when
you say that you dad not think I would
do "that." What other terrible thing
have I done. I too am suffering bodily
^{now} but from nothing so serious that ordinary
treatment may not be expected to effect
a cure.

Why indeed did God not draw us both
back from the touch of hell. There are
times when you tell me of your suffering
that I feel like crying out against
Him; but what is the use? Even only
praying to him for forgiveness, and surely
for both of us. Mentally, some suffer -
ing the tortures of the damned. Blea -
sed insanity would be a relief - death
anything. We are both paying dearly
for one damned night of folly.

Starting you must never go back to
school again. As soon as you are well



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To

enough we must marry, and God will, He
must make you well enough and soon.
I love you only my Master knows how
much, and it lies my heart to think
what I am making you suffer.

May God grant that you will not
have to undergo the further misery of
which you speak. You are suffering &
I am helpless, and I did it all.

Oh God, Oh God - have mercy on me.
Love write you tonight when I am
alone - my love, my son, my
poor, blessed, broken, tortured
wife!

Paul. (DUNBAR)



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