

May 26

Sunday - May '69

My dear Don -

I realize you are giving me a vacation from E.H. and it is good of you. But I also know if you want to ask questions and brain pick - now is the time. Your letters are so good that they make up for any ruffled surface of emotion in memory. I like the explanation that finally evolved - that I walked off Ernest because he made me feel a failure. Sensitive people can't endure failures in their human relationships. If he expected me to be a romance, I was certainly a failure. Perhaps that is why he wrote about me as he did - to punish me for being a failure. Without meaning to, I had made him feel a failure too. I believe it is a basic human need to try to turn our failures into successes - and that could explain the letters scattered over the years and his visit in '39. Yes - that explanation falls into a groove and seems true.

I have read again some of your letters. They are the kind of writing that can be enjoyed over and over.

It comes to my mind as an answer to what you say about Dr. Hemingway and the killing of game birds out of season - that in those days game was so plentiful that everyone resented and resisted game laws. The fault lay in getting caught. I was

aware that break trout should not be
caught with worms - but it never occurred to
me not to use worms. Laws were for
outsiders -

I think there was some reason for propriety
being in Mrs H's name - I have a
vague memory of some indebtedness of Dr H.
to other facts lead to wrong conclusions - as
I know only too well. Take an event out of
its time and place and it means something
different to the person in another time and place.

Yes - I am defensive of Dr Hemmingway.
He was good to me in little ways - and to
all of the availing "young uns". He was
very much captain of the ship there at
the lake.

all is well -

Love

Margie



Mr Don St. John
Franconia
New Hampshire

03580

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I have read again some of your letters. They are the kind of writing that can be enjoyed over and over.

It comes to my mind as an answer to what you say about Dr. Hemingway and the killing of game birds out of season - that in those days game was so plentiful that everyone resented and resisted game laws. The fault lay in getting caught. I was

aware that brook trout should not be caught with worms - but it never occurred to me not to use worms. Laws were for outsiders -

I think there was some reason for propriety being in Mrs H's name - I have a vague memory of some indebtedness of Dr H. So often facts lead to wrong conclusions - as I know only too well. Take an event out of its time and place and it means something different to the person in another time and place.

Yes - I am defensive of Dr Hemmingway. He was good to me in little ways - and to all of the availing "young uns". He was very much captain of the ship there at the lake.

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Love

Margie