

Friday

Nov. 25, 1969

My dear Don and Ruth,

I feel good about your decision for London, etc. Wish I could be aboard. The pictures arrived O.K. Haven't opened them, but feel sure all is well. I am still psychotic enough not to want to look at pictures involving memories of E.H. I suppose I should want to toss you out the window, too, but I don't feel that way. I can transfer E.H. to you and be relieved of him pro and con.

Georgie has a friend in London whom she feels you would like. When G. went to France with Experiment in Int. Nat. Living, she met Mrs Batten on the boat, and later visited in her home. They have continued to keep in touch. G. thinks Mrs Batten is now about sixty. Her family have good connections, fringes of royalty, I gather. G. says she will write Mrs Batten, and I will get her address to mail you.

X I have a friend in Daytona who belongs to the English Speaking Union and stays there every year or two.

A letter from Pudge tells me she and her Fred will be married next month. I am glad. They have been friends a long time and would have married before except for disapproval of her children. He seems a fine man but doesn't have the education or background to suit them. But he adores Pudge and is so good to her. The children have finally given their blessing. My only offer has been one of which I am sure Sidney wouldn't approve. It is also tough being a square plus being a Virgo. One of me sits in judgment on the one who would like to say "What the Hell!"

I find the name business difficult, too. I have had so many variations. I seem to enjoy hearing the "Bumpy" one friend uses, but you wouldn't like it because it wasn't a Hemingway appellation. You will probably stick to "Barge" as does Connie.

Will look forward to hearing of your activities. Will enclose a picture of my California family, Georgie, Bruce, Roger, Scott.

Love to you both,

Barge -

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