

Dear, Dear Lona, 19 Apr.

Have so much to say,
hardly know where to start.
First, I want to put
your mind at ease about
the money + recorders.

I'll send \$0 Monday
(they're closed tomorrow -
Sun.) so you'll get it
by the end of the week.

I'm so pleased you found
the recorders. They sound
like a better buy than
the ones I could order.
Beside, we have them
open + we know what
they're like. I was a
bit worried about buying
sight unseen recorders.
And they're dual track
that's great. Also, they're
even cheaper than the
ones I could find.

Couldn't be happier
with your shopping.
Hope I get ~~the~~ mine

soon. Oh, honey, I hope
this waiting to send
the money hasn't put
you in a financial
bind. All you need are
more tension problems
& money shortage is
damned unredeeming.
Just hope it gets there
in time to cover the
expenses without
worrying you excessively.

I miss you so much
tonite. Your disappoint-
ment in your performance
on the exams, I fear,
was partly my fault.
I did the damned same
thing on mine & made
a horrible showing. &
And you know how that
killed me when they
gave me their verdict.
The problem is not that
you didn't know everything,

because that's hardly possible. It's the fact that you didn't show what you did know. And, even worse, in the academic world, you didn't show connects and conclusions using those facts as opposed to vague generalities. Also, probably you found yourself talking too much about relatively unimportant aspects leaving some really important & necessary facts & thoughts under discussed or even missed. Oh, I know, I know, how well I know. Where I come into this thing is that I had the horrible nagging feeling it

would happen to you.
I could sense your
progression to a possible
clutch stage in your
letter. My mistake
was double-fold.
First of all, I'm not
really sure I calmed
you all that much,
especially worrying
about no letters too
much. Second, I should
have said something
about making sure you
rested well before the
exams & try to get
away from it just
before the damned thing.
What I could sense was
that you were trying
to convince everyone
around that you weren't
invincible. I realized
that what you were
most unsure of was

not the facts, but
how you'd put them
together + express
yourself. That's always
been your biggest hang
up. Maybe you sensed
my fears, too, + then
maybe not. It's what
was on my mind when
I kept saying if
you didn't make it,
it wouldn't hurt me
+ my love would
hardly be affected. I
meant that honey, I
love you so much!
Don't know if saying
anything would ~~have~~
helped. It's so damned
hard to say it in letters
+ I was afraid it
would shake you more
than it would help.
Anyway, I understand,
oh God, I feel your

disappointment so much.
I'm not broken about
it, I just wish the
hell I'd been there to
console + comfort you.
I just wanted to grab
you + let you cry it
out + forget it all.

I'm all checked up over
it - but strangely I'm
not depressed at all.
We're always stronger
after disappointments
+ we do have so many
valuable things that
are dear to us that
are right that an
occasional set-back
won't kill us.

For instance, I got
11 letters today, that
almost made me cry.
They were all so wonderful,
so full of love, that

I just can't be unhappy.
For a quick rundown,
I got ~~5~~ letters + 1 card
from ~~you~~ you (loved
the card - it was perfect
+ so was the quoted
message). They were
dated ~~Mar 28~~ (that one
you had the wrong APO
by mistake - had 96369
instead of 96368), Apr.
13, 10, 11, 14, ~~15~~ when
I got a beautifully
long letter from Vera
telling me about my
letter + how it helped
crack shells between
she + Ken. Oh, what
a great letter that was.
To think that in
some little way I
helped some people
this far from home -
well it's just wonderful.

Then got letters from
Janet + Lew (a very
long one, I'll mail it
along with this one),
Grandma K., Mom S.,
Dad + J., + Claudia.
And then one of yours
had Cordell + Maybun's
so that really made 12.
Mom S. says things are
going well at home.
Claudia is making
straight D's + on the
heel. Grandma K. told
me about her 2 week
mystery tour + that
she wanted me to write
+ she missed me (I
have written). Dad + J.
were same + usual
+ Julie promised goodies
in the mail. Put
the best of the lot
aside from yours

my dearest, was Verna's,
You just don't know
what it means to feel
you helped two people
take off their masks
& be real & find out
it's really the greatest
thing to life, rather
than something to fear.
Not that I did that
much, it was hardly
a plan of mine, but I
played a part in it &
it's really a fantastic
reward. I love you.

It's been a more sane
day around here. Had
plenty of time to get
the letters read (over
a 6 hr. period). The
general was here today
but luckily we missed
the formalities by
being on duty. Had

a great nite's sleep last
nite after 3 beers &
a good movie, The
Impossible Years. Got
up about 1 & showered,
got ready for work &
then took some shots
around the place. The
mountains were pretty
hazy, so I didn't take
too many pictures.
It's so much fun to
work that camera,
just focus & push that
button. I do hope I
didn't hurt that film
too badly yesterday
because I want a
good example of how
good its pics come out.
It's cooling off tonite
& should be fine sleeping.
Honey, don't think
I'm setting here eating

my heart out over my
possible screw-up in
your exam performance.
That's not what's happening
and hardly the point. I
do understand & feel
your hurt but not in
a wearing-down way.
I do miss you terribly
only because I know
it's easier to console
in person than by mail
& I want to be with
you because I know
you needed & need me.
I needed & need you,
too, so much.

I'll be waiting to
hear if you got by
anyway or not. In a
very important way, I
hope so. First, I know
you know & are capable
of doing much more
than you did. The hurt
was enough & hopefully
it doesn't have practical

repercussions in delaying
your graduation. That
wouldn't be the end
& we can accept it as
we could have taken
my fate if that had
been the result of my
bad show. If you were
accepted anyway, you'd
be taking oral about
now (it's Sat. morning
at home). If you are for
they saying this time
you'll know it's better;
I just feel that.

Darling, you are a
wonderful person. You
not perfect, you damned
human. And these
things happen to humans,
it's part of life. But
you have a big heart
with love to share and
a sharp mind that
won't be stopped by
a relatively minor set-
back. We'll come along

way together and we
travel many miles +
years further. We can
take it - we are taking
it. And I'm very proud
to be the husband of
a wonderful woman.
We're mature enough
now to be able to say
that after we get stuck
in the ruts, we'll still
reach for the stars.
As Mary Ann says, we've
had good times +
experience + not so
good ones, but we're
better + stronger +
more alive because of
both types. This is
life, Elena. And we
both love living, there's
just no stopping what
we can accomplish
given enough time +
a few breaks. We've got
time + we have many

great breaks. I'm so
close to you tonight.
I can feel your heart
beat and I'm engulfed
in your love. It's been
your love given not
only in the present
since of our love &
~~our~~ increased sensitivity
& love for others but
also your potential
of loving. Honey, I truly
believe that altho
you're not a saint you
are one of the most ~~at~~
alright persons I know.
You're on the right
track to discover
the true rewards of
life because you are
learning the true
values of life. We're
doing this together
and altho I tell myself
again & again I don't

know how life could
become richer, the
miracle of constantly
increasing value of
life & love continues to
occur. Yes, I am still
in love with you —
not exactly like our
wedding day — no,
it's deeper and more
valuable. When I married
you, I thought I had
everything. Now I know
I have even more. And
the future, even against
my constant inability
to fathom how, will
nonetheless prove even
richer.

Girl, chin up, dry
the tears, smile your
melting smile and say
"Lynn really does love
me." I'm proud of you,
no matter what the

problems or disappointments
we face. You are my
Alona and that's a
privilege to say, honey,
believe me.

Now, go ahead and
tackle your problem.
We can handle it
together. You are special,
not unique but very
important to those ~~to~~ ^{for} whom
that importance really
means something. I
need you and I don't
think it's possible for
you to ~~over~~ overestimate
that need. Take care
of yourself and enjoy
this beautiful spring.
Life is always worth
experiencing. Stay
just as soft & gently kind
and sensitive as you are.
It's the only way to enjoy
life. Alona, j'et' aime.
Your Lynn