

In study hall, of course -
with only 3 minutes left
Tuesday - January 11

Dear Rob -

This weather is crazy - Yesterday morning and today when I left the house the birds were all singing (yesterday I heard the cardinal's trip-trip-trip ringing loudest of all - for one rather small bird he makes the most noise), the air was soft and damp (misty today) and smells of earth and spring. What will follow - more of the same or sudden winter? Do you think we've slipped toward the equator?

Wednesday - Study Hall again -
12 minutes left

I'm I guess I really don't have anything to write right now.

Thursday - Period 8 - Kids are taking a grammar test & have borrowed my blue pens

I'm putting up a composite bulletin board from the past - Your dragon is up - and one love poem - and a new label "One-a-Day Multiple Valentines" -

I'll put up a new poem each day
until February 14. I have some from
several good Valentine's Day Bulletin
boards and one on sonnets. They range
from Dante through Frost and Nash (Ogden)
in time and Elizabeth Barrett Browning
through Dorothy Parker in sentiment.
I thought putting one up each day
might make the kids curious and
make them read some of them.

Monday -

I know I'm not doing well with this
at all - but it's the end of term (but
thank goodness I have no mid-years, just
procturing), I've been reading for pleasure (I
know you will understand and approve of
that), and we had company Saturday night
(Dad and Al Reguleto - Mom was still quite
deaf from her cold - conversation was
pretty funny)

Among the books I've brought home for
Mom are several by a pseudonymous
"Miss Read" - a retired English (nationality,
not subject) schoolteacher, who writes very

all of this also means that Dad and I together can
give you whatever financial aid
you will need. Hope Chicago is generous, but
don't worry about it.

gentle books that are more episodes strung
together than real novels - most about
rural villages. Mom zips right through them
and seems to read them first. I've been
reading several, too - They are very pleasant
and relaxing - and whet my appetite for
visiting England again. I really want to
finish my library studies as quickly
as possible - and try to have at least
a month free before beginning work so that
I can travel. Of course I want a library
trainee position - both the money and the
experience ~~to~~ would be useful - but if I
can't get one fairly close to home finances
still should not be too bad - I'll have
a bit over \$10,000 in the bank by the
end of the school year. So - whatever
happens as far as part-time work (whether
as a library trainee or substitute teaching)
while I'm in school, I'll be safe financially.

Finding modern love poems is
difficult - There are very few, and the
few there are tend to be cynical,
obscure, or rather suggestive - or a
combination of those three.

in the Pardoners' Tale were seeking with multiple choice answers). Another line of my existence asked whether the things I told them came from Dante's head or mine. When I answered that they came from my own reading of the whole Commedia as well as of critics, he challenged me to name some. I reeled off a bunch of names & he said I have to start a new page anyway.

Monday evening

No one is supposed to get mugged in a place like Colorado - It's supposed to be God's country, full of cowboys, Boy Scouts, mountains, unpolluted air, and people who say "Howdy!" And anyone breathing that air - even an Army draftee - should immediately become as friendly, trustworthy, and unpolluted.

Jane stopped over this afternoon with the baby - who now walks but crawls for speed or crawls upright on her knees for variety - dashes for our stairs - and will try to say aloud anything including a very cute attempt at "Thank you." She is very bright, happy - and determined!

Back to normal in word list - Drew Sauts claims I'm "picky" when I expect them to remember the names of the sins (i.e. Thieves, Treacherous against masters, Hypocrites, etc.) in the Inferno. I really should ask him just what he considers important (He also claimed I was picky when I asked on a quiz what the three roisterers

that I'm sure meant nothing to him at all
but I think I'm going to have to talk to
him - he frequently implies that
what I'm teaching them is a lot of nonsense
that I've made up with no reference to
the works themselves - and I would
like to make a clear statement (I'm sure
I won't convince him, but I want my
position stated) that even if the ideas
came solely from my own reading of
the works and did not include
interpretations by published scholars -
I am sufficiently intelligent and well-
read to come up with quite valid
interpretations on my own. (And the
fact that even after explanations he cannot
understand them is a measure solely
of his own deficiencies - of a large
variety).
is? Ah! Do you think I'll really do

Back to tea - a bit of reading - and
some papers

Love,
Lais