

Thursday Oct. 10, 63

Dearest Diana -

Been thinking the whole day about you 'cause of the date, although the Guardian review would be the only one of interest. Tomorrow is N.S. day and I can imagine the stake you're in. Sunday, of course ... well, I wish I was with you, holding your hand.

Thank you for the story you sent. I read it, liked it a bit. It is too professional for my liking - too fine' too 'nuancy' (from nuance) - the type the New Yorker go in for (although they also have wonderful things of times)

- That is why I never say I am a writer because you are and I am not. You are clever in your writing.

- Yes, I know what:- You move towards Guiz de Maupassant.

-- But I, my type, my ideal, would be CHECKOV (To me, the greatest writer ever lived), that is why a few idiots like myself don't appreciate your stories enough. Anyway, a simple matter of taste. But please don't stop sending me your stories because of this. If I like something I'll be equally frank in telling you; and you'll know it's the truth then.

"Higher Authority" have cancelled my British Army job on the eve of my start. I'm not complaining - quite right they should. Have a HORRIBLE labouring job. But things much better now and shall get my typewriter out next week. so don't worry. Have sent Rowohlt the

money - minus you £50.

Sanic sent me one of his charming letters. I miss him a lot.

I was hoping this letter would reach you before Sunday - it's only an expression of my solicitude about you reviews - I don't want you to be depressed. You never once showed yourself in a sad, angry, unpleasant or depressed mood all the time I was with you - and I do so much hate to think you would be in an ~~un~~ unhappy state. Bless you for always being so charming and so pleasant to be with.

Diana darling. I work from six ~~a.m.~~ a.m. to 7 p.m. without a break, ~~as~~ including Sat ~~and~~ Sunday. forgive me if I'm too fagged out to write longer these days.

But will write you longer

P.S. will buy Sunday Times, Telegraph, Observer. but please send N.S. reviews and any other.

Love

longer letter next week.

Wagtail