

Wolfpen Creek  
Bath, Kentucky  
June 6, 1946

Dear Dayton:

Here I am at last to thank you for the good letter of last month. May was filled with many activities. I went to Lexington twice, to Leslie County, to Hindman a couple of times. And I wrestled with my garden patches, with no help from the weather. Now, as I coast into June, matters are settling down. The warm, green peace of summer is at hand. I'm staying at home for a while.

I would be happy to pay you all a visit. Your house must now be filled with Little Men. How the boys must have grown since last I saw a picture of them. But I can see no chance of getting to Blackburg until the Fall. It may be that I shall go to Baltimore and New York then, and can stop by V.P.I. (The second Guggenheim Fellowship was a great surprise and gives a little freedom of action I had not counted on.)

Katherine Ann writes from California. She has bought a ranch near Los Angeles. She never speaks any more of the "forthcoming" novel. (Did you see the chapter from it printed in the Partisan Review several years back?) But she has other irons in the coals.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings is struggling with a new novel. Says she: "Perhaps it is one I shouldn't write." Meantime she's being sued by one of the real-life salty characters in CROSS CREEK, for \$100,000. The trial seems pretty rugged, filled with words having more letters than four. Though she would deny it, Marjorie likes a good battle.

I am reading Dinesen's OUT OF AFRICA. Not the Africa I knew best, but the parallel is curious. Sanderson's ANIMAL TREASURE, however, covers country I know at first hand.

How's the study of Willa Cather progressing? "Mrs. Razor" has been chosen for BEST SHORT STORIES OF 1946 (Houghton Mifflin.) Atlantic will publish a piece of light verse in their "Accent on Living" Department, probably in September.

Regards to Jean, to the Little Men.

Sincerely,

James Still