

509 Montana Ave. NE
Washington, D. C.
October 3, 1942.

Dear Caroline,

I wonder when I go home tonight if there will be a letter from home waiting for me. I guess everybody is too busy to write. Russell is either gone or he is getting ready to go--someplace--Bernice is coming home for the weekend--Jewell isn't feeling very well, but she hates for the front room and kitchen to be so dirty, so she cleans up the house. Betty Ann and Ruby come to see Alice, and they all want to go to the show at Harriman--or they practice a song for Sunday night--Caroline has been writing a lot of letter that she can't get mailed, she wants to stay all night with Kathleen and Yvonne, and eat dinner with Mrs. Pemberton--Mama is trying to get something good to cook for Sunday dinner, there's a lot of ironing to do, she hasn't got much wood, and she hasn't had time to write to Dorothy this week--she wonders if Dorothy knows how busy she is, (she does)--Daddy had to go to the store three times because nobody knew what they wanted. He brought some red apples and some pork chops--and a jar of honey. He also got Mr. Buxton to give him a bushel basket to put them in. He wants to practice a new song, but nobody has time to play the piano for him. Mama tried to get Alice and Caroline to empty the wash tubs, but they never did--anyway not til Saturday night. Alice don't know what's going to happen if she don't get something to wear to school. Mama says that she'd have something if she'd iron them. Alice says "I mean somethin new"-- Caroline says to order it from Sears 'n' Roebuck. Cubby is asleep on the back porch in a box. Pal comes in the door and wants a box too. Cubby growls and Pal comes to the door and scratches. Caroline lets him in and Jewell don't like it because he will get the clean floor tracked up, and besides he's got fleas.

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Mikey is on the davenport sound asleep. Weasel is shivering on the bannister, on the back porch. Dern if I know where the kittens are. Mama told Caroline to bring some coal, but she had to go upstairs to put her pocketbook away, so she forgot it, and the fire went out. Then Mama had to go and cut some kindling and make the fire over. Alice turned the radio on to listen to the Hit Parade, and Jewell told her to either tune it down or turn it off--anyway, who wants to hear the Hit Parade. Alice says "Well, I do". Daddy is stirring the gravy for Mama while Caroline sets the table and Alice brings in some wood. Mama is taking up the potatoes and cornbread--gee whizz--that smells good. Jewell comes in the kitchen and breaks a corner off the cornbread, she has a Reader's Digest under her arm--she's been reading about Private Hargrove--and Miss Victoria. Mama tells her to make some slaw--shucks. . . . Somebody knocks on the door--Alice goes to the door and it's Harold Pemberton come to see if she has any funny books for him to borrow. Alice has a stack ready for him under the table. Cubby came in with Harold and came wagging into the kitchen and sniffed supper being taken up. She put him out the back door with a gentle pat. She slipped him a piece of warm cornbread. Mama wonders if she's going to have enough for supper. Caroline wants to know if she is going to have Macaroni for dinner Sunday, Mama said "no", and Caroline said "shucks". . . . Come on--supper's ready. Daddy sits close to Caroline so he can tease her. He swiped her special fork, and pinched her on the arm--he wouldn't give her the potatoes and gravy, and Caroline didn't get mad (much). He's going to hunt her pocketbook as soon as supper is over. Caroline says she put it away where he can't find it.

. . . It's Monday morning--everybody's gone but Mama and Caroline. Caroline gets a letter from Dorothy, but the funniest, craziest letter you ever heard of. Do you think she's losing her mind? (no) she just had a dream. . . . in the daytime. . . .

Love, Dorothy