

1926?

49 WEST 12TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY

Tuesday, May 4th

Laurie Darling:

I'm writing you, not from the studio, but from the Polyclinic Hospital, where Mother is ill. She was stricken with very sudden and very violent kidney trouble several days ago, and Dr. Morton had her rushed right up here in an ambulance. So far, no operation has been performed, and none may be needed. The next 24 hours will tell. Mother's had no end of hateful & painful examinations, & many X-rays, so they ought to be able soon to diagnose the trouble. But she's lost a lot of blood, and has had frightful pain - and my heart has ached for her. She's sleeping now, with a hypodermic injection,

so I've slipped out into the corridor
to write a few letters -

I wish I had your lovely book up
here with me, to counteract the smells
of ether & disinfectant and the thought
of pain! I was delighting in it last
night after I got home from the hospital.
It is so beautiful! I have wanted to
show it to Mr. Hervey, but there's been
no chance lately for any visiting. Did
you send him one? And Mrs. K?

Floss Nelson saw it just after it
came, and she was extremely enthusiastic
about it. Also Dr. Morton, who says
she wants to order some. So do I, when
I get my wits about me again. Meantime
will you please have one sent to

Mrs. K. A. Kovalsky,
22 Bigelow Street,
Cambridge,
Mass.

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She's not at all well, and I know the pictures and descriptions will cheer her and take her out of herself.

I am ashamed to say I haven't yet sent you the fairy-tale book - that's why you haven't ever received it!

I'll wrap one up as soon as I get home tonight, & mail it first thing in the morning.

I'll give your messages to Mr. Baker when & if I see him, but of course all sittings are off for the present.

I shall drop him a line to explain why I didn't call him up.

I'm of course writing Father & Shirley daily bulletins, but Mr. M. says there's no need for their coming on yet, anyway.

I should have called Maizie when Mother was first taken ill, but Maizie was in the hospital herself - recovering from a bad heart left by flu.

I have spoken with her over the phone & she feels Dr. M. is much more competent to attend such a case than she would be herself -

By the way - Mother hates to have me tell people of her illness (as though one could hide such a thing!) so please don't let on that you know - I mean, by writing her or anything -

Will write again in a day or two -

All my love -

Brendie