



807 CARTER AVENUE
WICHITA, KANSAS

Dec. 9, 1944

Dear Dr. Foster:-

Thank you very much for your letter.

You know, of course, that we only wish to do whatever will most help Betty to recover and whatever Dr. Draper thinks is best for her, I will do so far as anything I can do.

I greatly fear that Emily in a desire to send me encouraging reports has given me the impression that Betty's condition is better than it is. I would appreciate it greatly if either you or Dr. Draper would write me fully of just what her condition is. Some little time ago Dr. Draper wrote me that she showed emotional instability, but this was all he said, you speak of avoiding emotional strain. Would you give me a clearer idea of how this manifests itself in Betty? Is her instability psychological or is it a physical damage caused by the infection? If it is the latter, of course I heard nothing about it. If it is psychological, I understand it to a considerable degree having been through a bad nervous break



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down many years ago, and have not only come out of it, but have been of some help to others. I know that I can truly say that I can quiet Betty in the face of any disturbance more than anyone. I have done it many times and it is ~~one~~ reason for her reliance on me.

That I was in a highly agitated state myself at the time of Betty's illness, I am well aware, but I know too that I was of some help. That was in fact and the need of moment is calm constructive action of which I am capable.

Do them anything that Betty wants or needs at present? I want to send her something for her birthday. Now that she is sitting up a little has she a nice warm robe? Also would my Victrola and the records she likes be a pleasure to her and would they meet with Dr. Draper's approval? I will gladly send them out. Her days must be long and dreary for her.

I do hope that you will give me a better understanding of her condition and that you will advise me of anything I can do or send that would be of benefit or pleasure to her.

Most sincerely
Laura Gilpin