

July 7, 1968



Mandy, June, 1968

Beloved Nell,

A quick note this Sunday in Pentacost to tell you that we think of you constantly. I am bound up in the slavery of final draft work, which means that I am groggy to all else that occurs except the doings of my wife and children; and I wonder about you and what you are doing these days, and how Chris is, and keep looking almost daily at your magnificent new book and am more and more filled with wonder as I come to know it better...like the wonder of a truly great human relationship as one enters it more profoundly; like the wonder I feel in watching Mandy flower in knowledge and in her response to music and to affection...it is a kind of anchor, all these things, in a world where only the animal aspects of humanity are being "discovered" and emphasized to the exclusion almost of man's higher aspirations and potentials, to the exclusion of man's sanctity in a "second innocence" that is made that way by love and that has become born again after full knowledge of ~~man~~ evil. Only in such a context, it seems to me, can the animal become truly the creation of God. Viewed only in itself it is a blasphemy...and the things that are daily presented to my view would drive me to despair were it not for these other reminders, these other evidences.

All of the family here joins me in sending you our best love,

John