March 10, 1962

Dearest Nell:

I will love to see you and would dearly love to stay at your house if it is really convenient for you. The Christening is on Sunday, March 25, in Red Bank, N.J. It is much more important to me to see you ~~then~~, if possible, to say a brief "hello" to your dear John than it is to go to the Christening.

I want very much to have the trip East with Edward and Alice and their family and hope to meet them in New York for a big day on Saturday, but Sunday could be my own and I will arrange my time that day and night any way that might be convenient for you. If this is a difficult time for you, please say so without any hesitation and we will try again another time. We are not sure yet whether we will stay through Monday. I may come home by plane as my time is limited. Edward's Australian adventure is an exciting one. Please tell John to find all the strength he can and let's sail to Sidney for an adventure too.

I know the heartache of this time for you.

Lovingly,

Claire.

Our plans are not fixed, but we think we'll start (driving) Friday morning - I'll go with the car until it leaves the New York route, then take train, bus, plane or whatever's best from nearest town to New York. We'll know more when we check maps with the automobile club.

I'll stay Friday night (what's left of it) at the Stanhope, maybe. If you by any lovely chance have the free time and excess energy

On Saturday, March 24, we'd love to have you come with us on our big sight-seeing day - Alice and Edward want the children to see as much as they can pack into that day, and to go to the theater that night -

The children are Dougie (10) Ann (13) John (15) Edward (called Eber - 16) They are good travellers and excellent company. They will adore you, and it would be fun for all of us if you could join us -

However — I know how improbable it is, at this time. I will think it a very special boon from life if you and I can have even a couple of hours, just sitting, just talking.

I am turning my schedule this way and that way — and my budget - to find a way to take the four children on to Williamsburg from New York. It does seem they should see it before going so far away. Edward has to be in Cleveland that week, but maybe the rest of us might go - Any time or desire to see Williamsburg again?

Love again

C -