

talk with you.

It pleases me and comforts me that you should love the little Dave. I have had him for years, he was one of the first tokens of my awakening to my real self and the world you and I love, darling Nell. Treasure him for my love of you. He stands as a token of our beautiful friendship to one another.

I read "Mary and the Spinn" It was beautiful but did not move my soul as did "This Side of Land. Do you remember Bertram (my Mamma's son)? And the time Mamma looked into his room and he was not there, only the rustle of a dead leaf?

Nell most darling,

My thoughts have flown to you so often these past days. I thought ~~how~~ of longing that you might be here to see the beauty that has been with us of snow, ice, sunshine and moonshine. It has been a fairy world that leaves one nearly breathless at the beauty of it. Even Beltrami was ~~also~~ astonished, and added me yesterday, as she ~~looked from~~ ^{looked from} the window "How can God make it so beautiful Mummy?" Every living revery

blade and stem has been coated
with ice. The snow glittered with
it. Oh Nell, Nell could you
but have seen it two nights
past — the full moon shining
on a fairy world of ice and
snow! Sam and I could not
sleep for the magic of it.
The stillness of that night — the
utter magic. Words ~~do~~ fail
me, only you could describe
it. But both of us longed for
you to be with us and share the
beauty.

How my thoughts have
sorrowed for you knowing
you have been ill. I wish you
were here in the quiet North
room and that we could
wait on you and ~~see~~ the
light come back into your

Dear eyes, the colour to your
cheeks. I hate as to think of you
ill. Do get better — do come
to the North Country it would
cure you just to rest your
eyes on its still whiteness.

And your dear letter —
I feel as though I had only
half thanked you for all your
sweet gifts to us. If you could
but see Beltrami in that red
dress!!! My dress too is so
just right and comfortable; and
the warm pellicose. And it
would do your heart good to
see my big Darling in his
rug coat. You are too good
indeed. I have told you all this
but had to again. Oh how
I love you! How I long to

like any odd pictures of Robin
you could lend me. I have
used the two you ~~loaned~~ me
endlessly. You should see the
Land of Counterpane. Bettramy
who did not know I had photographs
of Robin so was not thinking
of him at all, looked at the picture
and said "That's Robbie!" It is
one of the best I have ever
done.

But when are you coming?
You must come soon, soon!

Please get well, I cannot
think of you as ill. Why cannot
the little dove weave some
magic spell for you and
bring you to the North Country!
I think he could if we but
know the magic words to use.
I love you endlessly
E.

Will you ever forget it. And
Mama weaving and his calling
with her. What magic there is!
If I could but draw it, but
catch it. It eludes me just as
I reach ~~it~~ it. It cannot be
couched, though almost. Some
of your pictures do it, some
of my drawings.

I do so want to hear
the sound of your dear voice
again. Sam God has had the
same wish. "Godmummy
comforts so and makes one
believe in oneself," he says.
He has been worried, poor fellow,
these past weeks as the book
sales have been dreadfully cut
by the strikes and so forth

and, we have had to pinch considerably. But I'm sure it will all straighten out somehow as long as we have the place. Hard times make one all the closer to one another do you not think. All the closer and all the prouder and more fierce for secret things that home stands for. I wish I could help Sam as he does me. I feel so utterly at a loss some times.

Seth is going through a darling time of his existence, he is so loving, so manly and so proud of all he can do. I'm very proud of my eldest son.

Beltram's scales have tipped the other way and this is

having many unhappy moments. I know I do not play with them enough. I feel as though I were always working and being cross at them or punishing them. This will pass though, it always blessedly does. Tom Tom is embracing and bound to have his own way. I am completely in his power as is Pa Darling. Beltram and Seth are quite able to resist him though, he puts forth no harm in their eyes, though Seth is beginning to enjoy him a bit.

Now I do so want you to see the book, the pictures. If you ever think of it, when you are able to get around, I would still