

Iron River march 13 1928

Dear mother and father!

It's a long time since I heard anything from home, I think it was last autumn. It would be nice to hear how you are. I hope you have nicer weather at home than we have. Here is snow over all and snowdrift so high as houses in some places, but now for some days it is thaw so it will go away this year too. This winter has been long. In October the winter began, many snowstorms and very cold, more than -40 degrees celcius. But here where we live now is calm and nice, big trees around the house and so here was nice and calm. I have not been cold this winter, because we had coke for the stove.

Carl is so big now so he has brought in all coke and wood. We live near the school so Carl has time to bring in what I need because it is too much for me to carry a bucket with coke. Aurora has to help me with cleaning and washing and all of that things. She also goes to school. Svea is working in town, it's more than 5km and she walks every morning at 0700 and comes back at 0700 in the evening. She is working in an office as bookkeeper. Greta is eight years old and she also goes to school. Aurora and Carl and Greta come home for dinner, but Svea has food with her.

They are all in good health but I am not. I suffer from this and that. This night I couldn't sleep because of stomach pain. Sure it is gout as Hedda use to say. Above this I have rheumatism here and there and cramp in my legs, very bad sometimes. I should rest and do nothing but that is impossible in a house. I have to fix our clothes and keep everything in order.

Then I must tell you that V. Holm has been terribly evil to me since I was ill. He has never been kind, but I didn't tell you before. He never allowed me to rest, not even on Sundays. When I was tired he said that I will rest in the grave. You see, that's because I have been so ill. I have been so stupid and tried so hard that he should be content, but he was never satisfied. Since I became ill and couldn't work so hard he abused at me and always said that I was lazy and rotten. Yes, you can never imagine how many such words he is capable to use. We didn't have enough clothes and food because he buys so many useless things. I have fixed our clothes night and day so that we could be whole and clean.

Now Holm has worked at the mine for two years. He has never told me when he gets the salary and how much he gets and he doesn't pay the food so now there is a big bill. But now I must have some money for clothes because we have nothing. So I must make a big noise to get it.

Now he is studying a book he bought, he thinks he will be able to force people to do what he wishes. Maybe he thinks he can force me to do things I don't want to do. I think he is a little insane. He must have lost his common sense.

Don't be sorry for me now, there is no danger for me now, my life is better now than it was since I was married. I know Holm and he is just false. I have my children, Svea is 21 soon and she is kind and makes everything she can for me. Aurora is 17 and Carl is 15 so there is nothing to worry about me. That's why I tell you how it is so you can know how Holm is. He just thinks on himself and thinks he is so clever and when he earns some money it goes to his head.

Say hello to Emma and the others. Do you hear anything from Hanna and Johan? It's time for me to go and buy food. I have written to Anna today too, She is in Chicago.

Many loving greetings from me and children
Frida