Letter from Linda Grace Hoyer to John Updike, September 23, 1950

Linda Grace Hoyer

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Dear John:

We have just returned from the Clam Box, a first fair that you may have noticed close to the Hotel Johnson Place in Greektown. Mary and I had a combination of shrimp, lobster, and crab meat swimming in a silver dish and butter. Daddy had eye in soda and filet of sole. Oma and Opa took their lobster with cheese, and you would have liked the decorations: white lace lace around the windows and vine plants on plain green walls.

Saturday Night

(7.30)
8.30| How your father and mother are returning to state lot of | candy to the drug store while | on Fran and I watch the | Jack Carter show. |

Tomorrow morning we start for Plowville where we will | shoulder all of your burdens again. I can't imagine | how we will manage without you. But we will have lots | to do and how you will too. We'll have the new yorker | sent to you and you should be getting it in about three | weeks. The blanket should be coming much sooner. One | of the Greenwich stoves had (we have) exactly what I wanted | you to have, a scalded new
woof blanket with a black stripe. But we will have to follow through on Daddy's bargain and hope you won't freeze to death before you get it. In case last shipment fails us you'll have to send twenty five dollars to Nobody and ask him to mail the new from here. I'm awfully sorry we have shown so much incompetence in this matter, but the whole thing didn't seem very real to me and even now has a very muddy quality that I deeply mistrust, and I don't mean the blanket.
9:30 I went up to Stanford and saw a football game between Stanford and Rosemont. The result was best by a score of 0 to 69. I was a little surprised at being so late, and went to bed early.

I don't know why, but I also plan to sing in the campus chorus this year. By the way, I plan to go to hear you. So soon been church-going has become the fashion.

(That is a broad hint for all those budding atheists we know.)

So, Johnny, you have usually done the right thing and you will take Christopher to church.

Good night, brother.