Letter from Linda Grace Hoyer to John Updike, November 7, 1950

Linda Grace Hoyer

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/hoyer_correspondence

Part of the American Literature Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/hoyer_correspondence/30

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the Linda Grace Hoyer Collection at Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Linda Grace Hoyer Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. For more information, please contact aprock@ursinus.edu.
Dear John:

It seems so long since we have seen you that I would certainly hesitate to prescribe for your cough. Many things cause a cough, you know. Just to mention a few: lack of sleep, cigarettes, neglected colds, lack of rest, worry, tuberculosis, and insufficient sleep. Now you think it over and do what seems best. I have a feeling that your health will be better when you have your first set of grades in hand and can stop the swimming lessons. When will that be? Granpa says this is the test of your whole career and, in a way, I suppose it is. At any rate you will learn how well you can compete with the other half per cent of the country. I wish I could be really helpful. In all seriousness, John, I'm afraid you will find that your vitality does not quite match your ambition. What you do when you yourself have been convinced of your limitations will determine the degree of your success and the length of your life. Everyone has limitations and nearly everyone has talents. It is the way a person balances the one against the other that makes one of us a success and the other a failure. So far you have done very well with your abilities and inabilities. And, difficult as it is to maintain one's balance in the middle of all the shouting and fighting, I believe you can go on doing it.

Thanks for all the news. Mary Ann Stanley isn't going with the person she was engaged to marry and wants to be remembered to you. Shall we tell her to start writing? Yes, I'd be very scared, too, if four such determined ladies wrote to me, especially on the same day. It's really not surprising that you have a cough. The Dauberts, Bartholomew, and Donald Schwartz saw Addy, too, and asked about you. Both Brickerman's death and the Lampoon business depress me. Particularly since our copy of the Lampoon didn't get into the mails.

Love,

[Signature]

November 7, 1950