

David's Letter To You

a natural death after the first day. And, after all, they've got to think about their other guests too.

Anyway, to get back to the point. . . . It didn't come as too much of a surprise when we tried to book in again at the Dorchester this time, and they politely declined to repeat the experiment! The next step was that Ruth tried a number of other big hotels in London. But everywhere it was the same story. . . . They just couldn't (or wouldn't) take me!

So, one day, just as I was about to set off for a concert date here in the States, I mentioned my worries to Ruth.

I forget her exact words, but they were something like, "Aw, don't you give it another thought. . . . I'm getting a boat on the Thames for you to stay on".

She just came out with it, like that . . . as if it was quite obviously the solution and she'd had the whole thing under her hat for weeks. I guess that, if I'd had any time to spare for mulling over it, I might have been surprised that she hadn't mentioned this brilliant idea to me before.

It was only later that Ruth let me into her secret. . . . She had only thought of the idea herself that very minute!!

I guess her big aim right then was to stop me losing what little sleep I was likely to get! So she said the first thing that came into her head. And, once she'd said it, she then had to set about turning that hit-in-the-dark into a hard fact!

I don't know what you thought of the yacht idea. . . . But I'd sure like to, if you can spare the time to let me know. You see, I'd be quite happy to keep the same arrangement next time I'm over, because I didn't feel anything like so hemmed in as I did barricaded in the Dorchester!

Somehow, with only that stretch of water between us, I seemed to be so much closer to you all. Well, at least we could wave to each other and call across from time to time. . . . That was real nice.

Write and say how you feel, then, will you? And do write, even if you think it was a bad idea for any reason. Because the last thing I'd want is for everyone to feel they ought to agree with me! I want to know what you really think, inside yourself.

Hey! I've just this minute thought of an even better idea! Why don't you write into Pat and tell her what you think? I'm sure she won't mind me suggesting this—anyway, if she does, she can always scrap this part of my letter before she lets it get into print! Then she can count up the "goods" and "bads" and let me and Ruth know. That way we'll be able to take your wishes into account when we're planning the next trip over. Okay?

And it's not all that long to wait really . . . at least that's what I keep on telling myself!

It's my guess that I'll be getting much the same sort of feeling next Spring. So I'll be with you again sooner than it might seem right now.

Meanwhile, be happy!

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE

Mickie

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