

YOU DEAR GIRL:

I have made quite sure. And if you dare to mention Parma violet girls again, I'll execute summary vengeance. She has promised to be my sweetheart, for keeps, but it seems to me that she is almost as doubtful as you are as to my stability. I deserve it, of course. But that wistful expression of hers cuts like a knife. It isn't good to feel that her trust in me will have a struggle.

Of course she cannot realize what those awful days meant . . . and I cannot tell her. I want to shut off the memory . . . but . . . if I ever fail her!

Something is troubling her — I am