

Dick Mitchell, S 2/c U.S.N.R.  
H.C.S. Class 85-1  
Norfolk Naval Hospital  
Portsmouth, Virginia

Portsmouth  
Aug 4  
12:30 PM  
1943  
VA.

Miss. Sally Loving  
5817 N. Wash. Blvd.  
Arlington, Virginia.

Wed. August 4<sup>th</sup> 1943.

Dear Miss. Loving.

I was so very happy to receive your letter today that I just had to answer it right away.

I don't exactly know how to start off this letter because I've so many things to tell you. I suppose Education that I'm receiving here would interest you the most. I have this schedule with time & teachers:

8:00 – 9:00 Hygiene and Sanitation. Ph.M. 2/c.  
A.M. 9:00 -10:00 Minor Surgery and First Aid. Ph. M. 1/c.  
10:00 – 11:00 Nursing Ens. in Nurse Corps.  
P.M. 1:00 – 2:30 Anatomy and Physiology. Ph.M. 2/c.

I sure do enjoy my classes. They are hard, concentrated studies but I find that my grade in them are actually high. I believe that for the first time in life I'm getting a little control over myself, or rather let me say I've complete control over my self and judgement. After all I do believe the navy does many things to a persons character. At least I've found it to be that way with me, But Miss. Loving I'm afraid those few talks we enjoyed (I hope) did the trick. Thanks ever so much.

Miss. Loving I would like to clear one fact up with you on the subject of my lack of making friends. It's time that I do live to my self at times; (you say that is only natural for a person of my inferiority complex) but at those times when I do find myself lonely for some reason I will pick up my best, my so called life-blood interest, - Music. I find that music will either sooth me, or emotionally please me. Now please don't think from what I just said that I'm a very lonely sort of person, because I'm very much not. I enjoy the fellowships I receive from my many friends and have the faith to believe that they in turn also enjoy my company. Yes Miss Loving I made lots of friends in my senior year but the majority of them were from the Glee Clubs, Music class, and etc. If its hard for you to seem this possible than ask a few if them. I know it would seem impossible to you because of the quietness about me in your classes.

Miss. Loving I am truly a much better person now than I was before entering into the navy. I have improved myself along many lines. For example I find myself accepting

opportunities to sing outside the Hospital Gate. It all started when my father asked me to sing at a church service he was going to preach at in Norfolk. Well I sang something which was from Handel's "Messiah" ("Comfort Ye" and "Every Valley Shall be Exalted") and it wasn't exactly appropriate as the "Messiah" is out of season, but nevertheless I'm happy because it was a success. This was last Sunday, and now this Sunday I'm going to a church here in Portsmouth (Parkview Baptist Church) to sing my old stand-by "The Lords Prayer". I hope it will be a success because theres nothing that will help that old inferiority complex more than getting over that big fear of people staring me in the face when I stand before them. I if were over that then my inferiority complex would be completely cured.

Well enough of this gab. I'm boring you to hysteria. I'll say farewell for this time as I have to fall in with 9 others to attend an Autopsy (ugh!).

Goodbye and please remember of one who admires you and your great sincerity and one who shall always remain your follower,

"Dick"