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Time is

Too Slow for those who Wait,
Too Swift for those who Fear,
Too Long for those who Grieve,
Too Short for those who Rejoice;

But for those who Love,
Time is Eternity

— Henry van Dyke

1/25/78
Dear Babe, just had to write to you - I called you tonight. I'm so thankful that you were there - I prayed so hard that you would be. It was so good to hear you! I love you so very much - miss you more than I even thought I would. Thanks for Ps 41:10 because I do get very anxious inside because you're so far away. It was encouragement to read that verse. The Lord is my strength. I'm glad to hear that you like it in Chicago and that you get along with your roommate. Happy that the people are friendly. I knew you'd have no trouble making friends. You're a good friend. I was happy to hear that you still love me a lot. When times get tough here, I can remember that and it makes me happy. Oh, I knew all the time that you love me - you show me a lot.

Tonight, I went to the mall. I bought Audrey a shirt for her birthday - real pretty, David a shirt for his birthday and Carolyn a necklace for her birthday. I like to give people presents so it was fun. I'm learning to be a real loner lately. I'd just rather do things alone than with other people. Like I said, nobody's like you. I never realized just how big a part of my life you are - I like it that way!

Henry, I would love so much to come out there for a while but it's just impossible - at least as far as I can see now. You just don't know how very much I want to be with you. I'd go anywhere to be with you. I'm constantly thinking of being with you. Boy, I can't wait. In case you don't remember - I love you. + Sorry babe, but Judy Lee left for Virginia for school so I can't get you leaves - at least not from her. I'll try to get you some somewhere else. The Zip code for Dallas is 75202. This sure has been a different year huh? - for both of us.

Your letters are so good babe. Just to even see your handwriting is neat. See, I just love everything about you, babe. You are my babe. Hope we can get together sometime. Aren't you glad you've already played racquetball with me - now you can really beat everyone else. You used to beat me real bad but I still enjoyed playing with you. I enjoy doing all things with you.

I'm thankful that all the rules don't bother you. I prayed about that. I'll also really pray for you now that classes are starting. You're a good

Student, babe. Write me all the things that you learn.

Guess what, I also found out that I have off on that Sat. of the College + Care that means I only have to take one day off (the Friday before). All these days off are out good. I have off Oct 7 (Tom's wedding) and you'll be here. I CAN'T WAIT!!! counting the days, babe. I'm glad the days will go faster for you cause ever new + exciting + you're so busy with things. I mean I know you'll miss me but I'm glad that you'll have a lot to do there so you won't be so lonely.

I have to give an in-service on Thursday. I'm doing it on 'cryotherapy' - the v. It's real interesting to study. I'm learning a lot. I pray I'll be able to comm. all that I learned, to them. Sometimes, it's so hard for me to express myself + explain things. I find this even when writing my letters to you. I know there's so much to say and so much that I have on my heart, but I just can't express it. Just like I just can't even tell you how very much I love you + you. I read your letters so many times now + I'll keep reading them. I notice how good look when you say certain things and how your voice sounds. Those letters are really precious to me and so are you.

Work is going alright. I like talking with my patients. I have real bad some of them just like you said you have a burden for the lost. It's neat how it shows both of us that at the same time. I believe we must have that burden when we say we love God + he is in us because He's not willing that any of us perish. That burden comes from Him. If we didn't have that burden, it mean we just don't care. I can see already how the Lord is working through you and I will keep praying for that.

The Lord will give us strength in our absence from each other. I'll put you there and me here and He'll bless it cause you were obedient.

'No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able; but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.' I Cor 10:13.

Whatever we go through - He goes before us and He'll be with us to guide us. I know the Lord will work mightily in you because of your obedience. I'm glad I can feel close to you now even though we are far apart.

I love you beautiful Henry,
Valerie

Isaiah 44:24