

Esperance

April 6th 96

My own dear Cis.

No doubt you will be surprised when I tell you that I have had the “blues” (as they call them) for the last two days. After the “Flinders” left with Arthur on board, I felt awfully annoyed with myself for not going with him and yet? Well I do not know? Cis I would so like to see you again dearie. And as I have said, I will hasten over as soon as I can possibly arrange matters. But my own, you must not expect me till I tell you definitely what time.

How have

you been enjoying yourself lately my own. I hope you will have a good outing tomorrow (Easter Monday) They have made all sorts of arrangements for a good days amusements here. Sports, a concert and two dances just fancy all that for Esperance. And then I forgot to mention there is to be a wedding at 9.a.m. in the morning. The weather too which has been very rough lately is now beautiful and appears to have set in June. It was so rough yesterday that the Flinders after going about twenty miles had to put back, getting away this morning.

I have not made up my mind what I will do tomorrow but as all the surveyors are in again I will probably go over to the Sports with them in the afternoon. What would I give to have a day out at St Kilda with my little girl! Ah.

I was rather surprised about that “Me” affair in your diary Cis. But when I read it over again I felt rather foolish and could not help laughing at my stupidity. However we will all have a lot to talk about when we are alone together. Wont we my darling.

Now I will ask you to remember me kindly to all and with Love and Kisses say “Au Revoir “to mine alone “Au revoir” dear

From Yours forever

Ray

Monday My dearest Love here I am once more. We have had glorious weather here for the holiday at 7.30 this morning Foy & Riches came down and asked me out for a drive, I went and enjoyed it thoroughly it was a beautiful fresh morning and we returned for breakfast at 9.30 after which with Canning & Brockman the four men we sat yarning till midday. Oh I forgot to tell you that on our way back to town we called in and had a look at the wedding—which was a very great success the building very crowded.

After dinner we all strolled over to see the Sports which were rather slow, but still not at all bad for a little place like Esperance.

At about 4 o'clock Foy Balding and myself went for a drive, thro the scrub, and over the sand hills returning at tea time, after which they all went to the Ball and I came home to write a few letters and finished a plan and now my little sweetheart I am anxiously awaiting the "Helen Nicholls" arrival tomorrow because I feel sure there is a letter for me on board.

Before you receive this dearie you will have seen Arthur I hope, he must be having a splendid passage as the sea is as calm as the proverbial mill pond. And now I will kiss my little girl good night. By the way Cis I am going to get Foy's camera tomorrow and shoot

off that photo of yours - Cis I like it more every time I look at it -it is charming you dear old girl good X night au revoir X with love to all from

Yours only

Ray.

Tuesday

My Darling

I received your dear dear letter today and it did cheer me up. The Surveyors went out again this morning before breakfast and I felt quite lost until I received your letter I don't know why but I have been out of sorts today I have a bit of work to do but could not get my mind to it. Then after lunch I received yours—I did enjoy it Cis but could not help feeling annoyed to think I had disappointed my own and you so dear and kind to send me

Me those beautiful flowers. Cis the perfume of the violets is delicious.

And so my dear little love is going to tack me dancing (eh). Very well pet I will look forward to those lessons, but mind, you must keep them up till I am perfect. You will find in teaching me a little more difficult task than you have been having with the little ones. Let me know how many lessons a day Cis? You will find me punctual for them, you dear love won't they be lovely? And we will enjoy them – The latest dance in Esperance is the "Kretz Polka" do you know it? Something like a combination of the polka and minuet.

Now my own I must not take up too much of your time while

Arthur is with you, as I know you will like to make the most of him but you will spare a few minutes to write a little, just a little letter to your Ray and then, while he is in Sydney you can write me a long one. I am really pleased to hear that you are so happy Cis It makes me feel quite happy too.

I will not bore you with that. I have been thinking of the last few days, my own but will tell you when I come over, so don't forget to remind me should I forget.

As I must post this tonight I will say "Au Revoir" once more to my little one with kind regards to all, not forgetting Arthur, and love and a big kiss for Cis from her own

Ray

P.S I have had a letter from the other Sis and expect another tomorrow. She is back at the "Villa" and wishes to send her love to you dearie. Goodnight.

Ray