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5-11-1941

## Letter, Virginia Brainard to Merl Brainard [May 11, 1941]

Virginia Brainard

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May 11, 1941

Dear Mother,

I was so surprised about your operation that I hardly knew what to do. I was scared at first but glad that Daddy added a note to let me know that everything is all right. I'm glad you'll be able to rest and take it easy for awhile now. But I ~~so~~ think its terrible that you had to have an operation in order to get a rest. It sounded more serious than you thought - a regular - three-in-one affair. I'm glad its over and I hope everything will be all right.

Today, Mother's Day, I'm thinking of you so much. I'm pretty homesick. There's so much that I want to say. There are Mothers who try to be their daughters "best friends," and then there are these so-called modern Mothers who think they can go their own way, and then there are the real Mothers who have created all that that word stands for. We three girls have a pretty good example to follow. Mother, if I can ever begin to be the kind of a Mother to my children that you've been to me, that's all I'll ever really want. I hope I can prepare my children to be Mothers the way you have prepared me to be a Mother myself. And now I know, too, the kind of a wife I want to be to my husband.



You asked me some more about Bob Norland, this man of mine from St. O. Well, he's a junior in General Engineering. He went just one year at St. O. because his scholarship lasted for only one year. Anyway, he was tired of it and wanted a change. I think he wanted more independence than that which St. O. gave him. The school is pretty strict and narrow, as most denominational schools are. He was rushed here and seriously considered ~~pledging~~ pledging Sigma Chi, because he likes "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," is he says, but finally decided against it because he wanted his independence more. He's vice president of his dorm, Men's New Hall, newest one to be built. I had another date with him Friday night, Veshe's biggest night, second of the only two 1:00 nights we have during the year. We went to "Stars Over Veshe" and then the Veshe Dance. I guess I'll take him to our dorm formal in two weeks if the tickets don't cost too much. He's an awful lot of fun.

We got our Bombs yesterday and they are really super. 430 pages.

Veshe is over now and it really was wonderful. I worked Friday morning and afternoon as a hostess in the H.E.C. building and Journalism Open House. It was fun. Then I tramped around looking at the other Open Houses. I bought cherry pies at the H.E.C. building.