

1/15/33.

Mars  
Kissinger  
night diary

"Morning Day"  
"Morning Diary"

### GOOD MAN

It was growing dark as <sup>my brother</sup> Paul and I walked along <sup>the road</sup> <sup>down the town</sup>. Each of us <sup>was pretty busy eating choki cherries from the branches</sup> carried ~~at least~~ <sup>some</sup> branches, eating from which we carried. Occasionally, we would smile at each other, so that we could see how blackened our teeth were getting from the cherries.

Paul was <sup>younger than I.</sup> <sup>the night before</sup> <sup>last night</sup> my little brother, and I told him how I had read that savages in wild places would chew <sup>betel</sup> ~~nut~~ nut and blacken their teeth. This made Paul feel pretty good and he <sup>dropped behind me, eating</sup> ~~ate~~ more than ever. Then he ran up to me and asked me if I thought we would get a whipping for going swimming.

Since mother had gotten so sick, and the new nurse had ~~to~~ come from the city, she didn't seem to mind our going swimming so much. Before <sup>that</sup> she wouldn't let us go swimming, except when we were on a picnic or something, and father was along.

So I told Paul that if we could keep out of father's way, ~~and not use~~ <sup>it</sup> we would probably be ~~safe~~ all right.

It was getting pretty dark, snow and I told Paul to hurry ~~up~~ or we would be late for supper. So Paul hurried up to me, and had to sort of hop and skip to stay up to me. ~~He was to go to be a scout, and he~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~place where you turn onto~~ <sup>had taken up the road</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>They turned it into</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~road~~

The road was straight for quite a way.

We got to the old railroad right-of-way <sup>horse and</sup> and I saw a buggy coming towards us, so I grabbed Paul and we ran behind some hazel-nut bushes on the side of the road. Paul ~~still~~ sat down and began to eat my chocolate.

Pretty soon I could hear the <sup>wheels and the</sup> horse's hoof on the ~~soft~~ sand and I looked and there was <sup>our</sup> father and the new nurse in the buggy. Father had his arm around <sup>she was smiling and I could see her strong, white teeth.</sup> the nurse ~~and the~~ <sup>buggy</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~around~~ <sup>around</sup> the dash-board.

Just ~~then~~ as they got by, Paul giggled out loud and father looked back and saw us behind the bush. He said 'Whoa' to the mare, and got out and walked back to us. Paul began to cry, and <sup>he</sup> lay on the ground.

As Father came <sup>back</sup> ~~to~~ us and he was smiling, ~~and~~ <sup>that day</sup> we asked <sup>me</sup> ~~if~~ <sup>if</sup> the water was ~~good~~ <sup>good</sup> for swimming. Paul stopped crying and father picked him up and said that his, Paul's, teeth were blacker than mine. ~~Then father gave us each a silver dollar and told us to~~

Then father told us that he was taking the

new nurse out for a ride so that she could get some  
fresh air, <sup>before going on night duty; that she</sup> ~~so she~~ was sort of faint from working so  
hard caring for mother. <sup>Per.</sup> Then he gave us each  
a silver dollar and told us not to tell mother that  
we had seen them out riding, because it would only  
make her feel worse to think she was too sick to go  
riding in the fresh air. <sup>Some promised him and</sup> He told us he would not  
whip us, and <sup>that</sup> he had been thinking <sup>late that</sup> I was getting old  
enough to <sup>go</sup> <sup>run</sup> <sup>my</sup> <sup>own</sup> <sup>business</sup> alone and care for ~~the~~ Paul, too.

Paul and I were so glad we ran  
down the road and when we looked back  
father <sup>and the mare</sup> had gone. I told Paul that it was  
pretty fine of father to take the new nurse out  
for a ride, and <sup>that</sup> it was too bad <sup>that</sup> mother <sup>couldn't</sup> couldn't  
go along, too. Paul opened his fist and looked at  
his dollar.

Amanda, our hired-girl,  
~~Mr. Shaeffer, who was a neighbor,~~ had  
supper <sup>on the table.</sup> ~~ready for us and~~ <sup>had eaten,</sup> ~~after we ate,~~ Paul and I went up  
to see mother. She was awake and sort of propped up on a  
pillow. The gas-light was turned low and the window was closed, <sup>though it</sup>  
It smelled like a hospital in there. Mother's <sup>hands were lying outside</sup> ~~smiled at us and~~ <sup>was</sup> **Sumner.**  
of the covers and they were very white, like her face. Mother's hair was  
tied in two braids. ~~and~~ She smiled at us and she looked so  
young and beautiful I wanted to cry.

~~Then~~ Paul and I knelt at the side of mother's bed and said our prayers, and <sup>mother</sup> put her hand on my head and on Paul's head <sup>then on</sup> and <sup>mine</sup>. ~~Then we had finished~~

~~we~~ I asked mother how she felt and she <sup>whispered</sup> said she was feeling better; ~~today~~ that she was feeling better ever since the new nurse had come from the city. Then we kissed mother's hand, and <sup>and she said it would be all right for me to kiss her on the face tonight, she felt so much better.</sup> Mrs. Schaffer put Paul to bed and <sup>then</sup> I went down stairs and read for a while out of the book about savage that chewed betel nut. Then I went to bed and <sup>Paul was asleep.</sup> thought of how fine father was, and the new nurse who was <sup>helping</sup> mother to feel better.



~~The next~~

Miss Amanda came in and took Paul to put him to bed. Mother asked me to lean close to her. She <sup>looked at me for quite a while and then she</sup> <sup>whispered</sup> that if anything should happen to her, I should look after Paul and mind father; that father was a good man, and knew what was right. <sup>I said yes, father is a good man.</sup> Mother's eyes were filled with tears and I asked her if she was feeling worn and she said no, that she was just happy <sup>that she</sup> had two fine sons like Paul and me. ~~By I kissed mother again~~  
Mother kissed me again, and her lips were wet, she was so happy.

I heard the word "over-dose"

~~The night~~

In the morning when Paul and I came down for breakfast there were a lot of people in the sitting room and <sup>I could</sup> ~~we could~~ see the Marshall <sup>the new</sup> was there and Dr. Andrews and another doctor <sup>with the long name.</sup> The new nurse was sitting in a rocking-chair and they were standing about her. ~~Under~~ <sup>in</sup> the kitchen ~~Amundia~~ <sup>the hired girl</sup> Amundia <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>sitting down</sup> crying and <sup>her eyes were red.</sup> ~~Our neighbor, Mrs. Shaeffer,~~ <sup>Our neighbor, Mrs. Shaeffer,</sup> was getting ~~breakfast.~~ <sup>She</sup> Mrs. Shaeffer came and put her arms around me and led me <sup>one by the clothes-reel -</sup> into the back yard and told me that mother's pain was all over - that she had died during the night. When we came back to the kitchen Paul was sitting on Amundia's lap and they were both crying.

~~That night day the new nurse came to us and kissed us and said that her work was done and that~~

<sup>ate supper</sup> That night we ~~stayed~~ <sup>ate supper</sup> at Mrs. Shaeffer's house and she gave us all the cookies we wanted. Then we slept there. The next day the new nurse came over to Mrs. Shaeffer's and <sup>told her</sup> ~~said~~ that the <sup>that mother had taken an overdose while she, the nurse, was down stairs. The nurse said</sup> request was over and she was going ~~away~~ <sup>back</sup> to the city. <sup>that night</sup> She kissed Paul and me, and then ~~she~~ put out her hand to Mrs. Shaeffer

"Suicide by overdose"

and Mrs. Shaaffer folded her arms <sup>over her stomach,</sup> <sup>which was fat,</sup> and said 'get out of here, you cat - you brazen hussy'. And she called her a slut and the nurse went.

That night we stayed at home and, <sup>neither</sup> Paul nor I slept very much. Paul kept asking me what an 'inquest' was, and I said I didn't know. Then he wanted to know what a 'brazen hussy' was and I said I would tell him in the morning. <sup>I didn't ask me about slut, and I knew that.</sup> After that Paul told me all the things he was going to get with his dollar, and then we fell asleep.



~~There was~~

We never saw mother again, because she was buried the next day in the rain.

Paul and I ~~both~~ rode out to the cemetery with in a big carriage driven by Paddy ~~by~~ Tom Conlon's father. Father and Uncle Joe rode with us.

After the funeral Paul and I went down town

~~After that~~ and bought some candy with part of our money.

After

In the days that followed ~~we~~ Paul  
and I <sup>went swimming a</sup> ~~swam~~ a lot until ~~it got~~ it got too  
cold, and anyway, school was just <sup>about</sup> ready to  
~~reopen~~.

One night <sup>after supper we had gone out to play for awhile. When</sup> we came home ~~and~~ father was  
<sup>sitting</sup> reading <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>mother's</sup> ~~parlor~~ the sitting room. A picture of  
mother <sup>I had not seen before</sup> was on the table. Paul was crying and father asked me what was the matter.  
I told father that ~~we~~  
we had <sup>just</sup> been playing with the ~~children~~ children

Mrs. Doney's children in their yard ~~that day~~ and Mrs.

Doney ~~Mason~~ had come out and chased us away and told us  
not to come near her children. She <sup>said</sup> ~~called~~ <sup>we were</sup>  
"spawn of Bluebeard". I told father that <sup>I didn't mind the names, but that it</sup> ~~this~~ made me  
feel sad, <sup>because</sup> ~~to~~, because <sup>the Doney's were good playmates and</sup> mother and Mrs. Mason used to be such  
good close friends. ~~Then I began to cry, thinking about it, and~~  
Then father started to cry for the first time in his life that  
I had seen him. Then all three of us were crying.

Father took Paul up on his lap and put his arm around me and said that he had been thinking <sup>lately</sup> of moving away - it was so sad <sup>there</sup> without mother. He asked ~~me~~ how I felt about it and I said I would be glad to move away; <sup>that</sup> Mrs. Doney wasn't the only <sup>woman</sup> to forbid us <sup>playing</sup> ~~to~~ with ~~their~~ her children.

The <sup>morning of the</sup> day before school <sup>was to</sup> opened, father said we were going away. Only Uncle Joe went <sup>at</sup> the train. Paul and I were glad to go - and we <sup>both</sup> had ~~each~~ a new suit and Paul had a new pair of shoes, too.

We rode ~~for~~ all day, and there was a lady who gave us candy. We slept in a berth that night and the next morning we came to a big depot and went to another train and rode again all day.

That night <sup>before</sup> we came to a new town. The train stopped and I could hear milk cans rattling. ~~When we got off~~ Father and Paul and I got off and the new nurse was there. Father said: "Hello Clara". She said: "Hello George."

END.



The nurse that had cared for mother was  
sitting in the house. She came over ~~and~~ <sup>shook hands with father.</sup> kissed Paul <sup>He said,</sup>  
and me and ~~said that~~ <sup>"Hello, Clara."</sup> asked us whether we would like  
her to care for us as well as Amanda. I said I would  
like her better and Paul laughed. <sup>Then she</sup>

So we started school and met some  
fine boys and <sup>It was winter in the town.</sup> we could go swimming all we  
wanted. One day before Christmas father <sup>asked.</sup> <sup>could choose</sup> <sup>other</sup>  
<sup>is whether,</sup> if we ~~had to have any~~ <sup>mother</sup>  
~~we would~~ <sup>if</sup>  
but mother, who we'd like best. Both Paul and  
I said "Clara", and father smiled and kissed us  
and gave us each a dollar and said that he  
had married Clara that day.