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0455: Brigadier General Chuck Yeager  
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Summer 1944

### 1944 Letter to Glennis from Hospital

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24<sup>th</sup>

My sweetest sugar:

I'm getting pretty restless 'laying around doing nothing' in this old hospital. The nurses are pretty nice but I never did like to stay in one place very long. The "doc" said I would get out of here in the morning but I won't get to fly for quite a while. Not until my back loosens up. That was really a beautiful sensation floating down in my parachute. I'll tell you all about it. We had been having trouble with the ship I was flying for quite a while. In fact it was my ship.

(THE GLENESS) I flew it in a formation for about 30 min. and then we seen a B-24 flying along under us. We pulled off and made a pass at him. The first pass was OK but the second one I was coming straight down at it after I had gone by and started to pull out the cockpit filled with smoke and then the thing just seemed to blow out from under me. The doors flew off and all the tail section came off. I was going around 350 and I jumped out. I didn't know <sup>how</sup> high I was because I couldn't see for the smoke in my eyes.



as soon as I got out I pulled the rip  
cord and I seen the little chute pop out and  
drag the plug one out it stretched out in front  
of me and then "boom" - that thing really spread  
out in a big hurry. I saw more stars than  
than I ever seen in my life. It knocked all  
the wind out of me. When I was floating  
down every thing was so quite and peaceful.  
Its just like sitting in a swing on a  
great big long swaying limb. I could hear  
the shells going off in the ship. It just made a  
big hole in the ground and the gasoline exploded  
when it hit. there wasnt anything left but  
a big hole where the engine buried about 10  
feet in the ground. There was about a 30 M.P.H.  
wind blowing when I landed and before I could  
spill my chute it dragged me through some  
rocks & ditches, it was up in the mts. I  
banged my head against something because I dont  
remember anything for a few minutes anyway I  
come to just about frozen stiff. there was snow  
on the ground & I didnt have anything on but  
a flying suit like you had on that nite. I  
got up and I couldnt find any bones broken so I  
gathered up my chute and started walking a rancher  
come riding out when I was and loaned



me his big foot. my back was hurting pretty  
bad so he carried my chute & let me ride the  
hose. about 1/2 hr later Doc. tramp & Hiss  
Come out in a truck they Gave me a  
shot of morphine and carted me away to  
the hospital where they x-rayed me all  
over, gave me a drink of hot tea & whiskey  
and tucked you honey in bed - I love you  
sugar. I really slipped up and told you that  
time didn't I? Well I don't know sug. but I  
don't know how to tell you this but I'll  
try. I would rather have you more than  
any thing in the world. and maybe it  
will be that way after the war is over and  
I will Come back and take you to W. Va.  
where we would get us the kind of a home  
that we like and we could have our children.  
Gee! wouldn't it be swell darling? would you  
want to? Just thinking about it almost makes  
me burst with pride. You would be such a  
beautiful wife and boy! would I be Ducky  
having such a sweet little tick as you.  
Well "sug" I'll see you soon. ans. soon.

all my love

Chuck.

P.S. That was really a Sweet Kiss.

P.S. JR. I WANT MORE.

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WIND