

February 17th, 1928



Dear Beth,

As an old friend of yours -- defining friendship as the good book defines brotherhood, I am much interested in you and your work.

International peace may be a good way off, and in my opinion other occupations offer surer and more tangible results, Yet I have such a respect for sincere effort that I am apt to be more interested in the worker than in the work itself.

You have lived finely and fully, and now that the blind Goddess Chance has dealt you a poor hand is no reason why you should suffer -- in fact is every reason why you should have comforts and sympathy and friendship. Illness, the death of ones Mother and a slow convalescence with a problem in readjustment is certainly enough, without the discouragement of actual poverty. But that is the way Nature seems to play her cards -- "To him that hath shall be given, and from him who hath not shall be taken, even that which he hath."

But I have an antidote, first a little check which I am enclosing to act as a solvent and soften the tissues, and then a rabbit's foot, which is more penetrating and destructive to malevolent times and conditions than radium is to cancer germs. I am waving that rabbit's foot in the air, and pronouncing you cured of all ills of the flesh and spirit. All you need is to believe, and the winds of Fortune will change, or next best, try hard to believe, and the same result will come.

Use the check for some little thing you need, but don't forget the talisman.

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. T.', written in dark ink.

Please acknowledge
c/o The American Trust Co.
209 Montague St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

A PLEA FOR COOPERATION

If there be any inspiration in this message, my greatest reward would come from learning of its translation into some specific action, something you might not otherwise have undertaken—the giving of yourself in some new way. Thus would the potentials of my mediocrity be increased by the multiple of the abler mind or finer soul to whom the words contained herein are written. J. T.