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6-4-1893

## To Harry de Forest Smith - June 4, 1893

Edwin Arlington Robinson

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TO HARRY DE FOREST SMITH

**Harvard University,  
Cambridge, Mass.**

June 4 - '93

My dear Smith,

You have probably, for something like the twentieth time, come to the conclusion that I am a rather uncertain correspondent, and I have no good excuse to make this time, either. I could not write last Sunday, but I might have Monday or Tuesday. I did not however, and then thought I might as well let it go until to-day. It is a

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pretty tough job writing now on account of the heat, but I will put it through as I know you will rather look for a letter on Tuesday. I like letter writing on general principles, but sometimes the performance is hard. You know that of course and will not lay up any hard feelings against me for my negligence.

The chief thing I have to say to you to day<sup>a</sup> is concerning your coming to Cambridge. The Yale-Harvard Game comes off the 22'd. Can't you

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arrange it to come up somewhere ~~of~~ on the 20<sup>th</sup> and ~~come~~ go back with me. We could have a great time here together for a few days at a small expense. The "pop" concerts are in full blast with music and beer galore. Or anything else

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<sup>a</sup> WA has "to-day".

you like—light opera or a good  
 cigar on the common. I would not  
 urge to [=you] so much were I not sure  
 that you would be glad you came.  
 Just get started once, and you will  
 see that I am right for once  
 in my life.

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To-day is hot and rather muggy  
 but the Lord thought to add a good  
 breeze. Were it not for that, the day  
 would be unbearable. It is doubly  
 unwelcome as I have an examination  
 (final) in German to-morrow forenoon  
 and I find it positively impossible to  
 prepare for it to-day. All I can  
 do is lie around and cuss. It is too  
 hot to smoke. Cigarettes would go, [but]  
 I have become so disgusted with  
 them that I can hardly tolerate  
 them. The more of them I smoke,  
 the less I like them. For which

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I am duly thankful.

About half an hour ago I drifted  
 into Butler's room (next to mine)  
 and he was counting over dining-hall  
 checks. He had a bunch of twenty  
 5's, good for a nickel at the Hall,  
 and I proposed matching coppers for  
 them. By a curious run of luck I  
 won them all in less than fifteen  
 minutes. All of which was very  
 wrong, but pardonable on account of

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the temperature of the day. Such  
 mild viciousness must be overlooked  
 by the powers that run the mercury  
 up to 98° when a man wants to  
 read German. And besides, I have

the checks, which will come in handy at the Hall to-night.

I have not read much of anything lately except work ~~up~~ bearing upon Fine Arts. I forget much of it—especially Greek History. I wish I could remember things of some account, but it seems to be im-

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possible. <sup>b</sup>Well, I have written four or five pages without saying much of anything—except the invitation, which I hope you will consider seriously) and will stop right here.

Will send another wad of papers to-morrow.

Sincerely

Robinson.<sup>c</sup>

HCL US, 99-100.

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<sup>b</sup> WA omits this space.

<sup>c</sup> WA omits the underline.