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To Harry de Forest Smith - June 11, 1893

Edwin Arlington Robinson

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TO HARRY DE FOREST SMITH

**Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.**

June 11, '93

My dear Smith,

Here it is Sunday morn-
ing again, and hot enough to

thing
roast heretics. There is no such as
comfort on such days, and as for
writing letters—well, you know a
man can do almost anything if
he sets his mind upon it. I^a
know that if I do not write
to-day, the probabilities are that

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I shall let it go until Wednes-
day or Thursday; and as for wait-
ing until this afternoon—I have
done that before. This afternoon it
will be so hot that I shall simply
sit in the darkest place I can
find and be miserable until a
change comes, which will probably
be somewhere about 3.00 A.M.

I have two more examinations
yet to take, French and English,
and then my Harvard career will
be at an end. I have no par-
ticular desire to come another

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year, but I would hate to part
with the experience of the past two.
I have lived, upon the whole, a very
quiet life, but for all that I^b
have seen things that I could not
possibly see at any other place, and

^a WA has "It".

^b WA omits "I".

have a different conception of what is good and bad in life. From the standpoint of marks, my course here has been a failure, as I knew well enough it would be; but that is the last thing in the world I came here for. Grinding for marks is

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does {sic} not command my admiration except in case of pecuniary necessity. Under those conditions, it often borders on the heroic. You have no idea of what some men go through here, unless that little book on "Students' Expenses" worked upon your imagination to a considerable extent.

I shall look for a letter from you to-morrow or Tuesday telling me whether you intend to come this way or not. If you are sure that you are not, I may come home before Class-day, but would rather not.

Sincerely
R.

HCL US, 100-101.