

Spring Villa,

195 Springfield Rd.,

Belfast.

22<sup>nd</sup> October '42

My darling Frank,

On Monday last, October 19<sup>th</sup>

arrived your precious postcard giving me all the news that I have longed for these past 8 months — you told me in your own dear handwriting that you are a prisoner of war, (that you are in good health and being treated very well) Nothing on that card escaped my hungry eye even that little kiss and all the love you sent with it. God bless you my own darling Frank. You know that all the love my heart can give is yours, has always been yours and shall always be yours. I long to see you again and I know that we shall meet again in God's good time. All this waiting and suffering has only made me surer of my love for you.

Everyone is remarking the changed Eileen I am since your marvellous news came. My weight is beginning to increase and the colour coming back into my face. I know I have been looking like a scarecrow this past year. Now with a relieved heart and mind I can sleep the night through and eat as never before — in a word I am walking on air. Hasn't God been very good to us both? I know we have a special little corner in His heart.

I brought the card over to your father immediately it arrived. There is no need to tell you of the delight he felt as he read it — it brought the tears to my eyes. He loves you, Frank above all else.

in this world. From the Shop I went to Margaret's School and there was pandemonium there while she, the nuns and children devoured the good news. After this I wrote to Anne and Una. So now all are in possession of the good - the very wonderful news. Yes, I also called with Gerry and he has been up to see me since. He is a true friend Frank and they are few these days.

I have recommenced with renewed zest into the preparation of our bottom drawer. I am so happy now darling that I want to sing the day long. How are you? All my prayers are for you. Keep yourself well and strong. Do not work too hard but dream of our future together. Won't it be a wonderful life - to have each other for always? With God's help, all your dreams which you confided in me in your last letters, will come true. I have had those dreams too darling.

Frances and Roland are as happy as King and Queen. We see each other very often. They send you their love and that goes for all at home. Spring Villa is a changed home since that card arrived. I constantly visit Beechwood. Last time I had to mount the step-ladders to survey the newly slated out houses.

God bless you, my own darling Frank

All my love

Your loving Eileen.