

"The Limberlost"
49 Meadows
Aug 13, 1911

Dear Everyone:

Well just think I have been out here two weeks tomorrow. My it doesn't seem that long to me.

Art Larson came over and made Iona the nicest little garden and fixed her cabin so it don't leak. He made a new trail from the Boomer cabin so the horses don't have to go through the mire. He went up to the old cabin and spaded up Ionas old garden and planted lettuce, radishes, onions and beans, turnips and carrots so she has two gardens now.

I like it just fine out here and I don't want to go home a bit but I guess I will have to when school starts again.

The mosquitos are just awful. There is a regular grave yard laying around me.

Carter came out last Monday and he is going back tomorrow. The Cornwall boys left the eleventh so they took out my other letter. The last night that Art was here the Cornwall boys came over and stayed all night and we had a dandy time. They brought over some meat that was neither fish, bear or bacon but it was mighty good. Now can you guess what it is? Don't mention it 'cause you might get some one into trouble.

The huckle berries are so thick that we have more than we can make use of. We have them every meal either fresh or in short cake.

Carter, Mrs Torsen and Henry Mrs. Durham and Myrtle Enos and Earl Cornwall and Iona and I went out on a fishing trip down on the little North Fork past Arts. Some picked huckle berries while the others fished. I was going to be real careful and step on the rocks so as to keep dry but I slipped and in I went so I got real brave and went splashing down stream with the rest. They caught some forty of the nicest trout. We went up to Mrs. Torsens and had a feast on fish and a five storied huckle berry short cake. Nm! Nm! but it was good.

Say, Mamma, have you written to Mrs. Chedsy and to Aunt Emma asking her for those pictures? Did papa get the Head Physician position again?

If you haven't sent the Kodak films to Avery yet send them to Clarkia 'cause Bill Griffin will be comming in from there pretty soon and we will get them sooner.

What are Cousin Lu initials? I wanted to write to him but didn't know his name. I have written to Lulu, Jennie, Jesse and Fern, Harold Lucky, Auntie Layman, Auntie Luton, Evelyn and Mrs. Fertig.

Before we left Clarkia Mrs. Fertig gave me a little lunch to eat on the way so I wrote and thanked her for it.

Well I am hungry so will quit and get something to eat. Iona baked yesterday and had dandy bread.

Now write real, real, soon so I can get it. Love to all Aunties Uncles and Cousins, including Larry.
From Bernadine

The Limberlost
49 Meadows
Aug. 20, 1911.

Dear Homefolks:

Mr. McPeak came in tonight and brought your letter. I was out in the yard yielding the axe with my mighty arms when I heard some one say, "My! but you're getting handy with that weapon," and there stood McPeak laughing at me.

We were the awfulest looking girls. I forgot it was Sunday and started to wash, so just put my clothes to soak. We got out of wood so Berna and I put on the oldest things we could find and hustled for wood. We were so dirty and horrid looking. McPeak thought we were tramps.

Ring nearly had a spasm when she saw a strange man coming to the door.

We have had some dandy rains on my gardens. Every thing is up. If it continues to grow so rapidly in the next three weeks I'll have fresh vegetables enough to flood the market and oh! the navy beans! I'll have enough to float the U.S. Navy. I had most of the garden at the old cabin planted in beans. I had more beans on hand than potatoes, and every bean came up.

Bernadine and I have been fixing the cabin up. We look real swell. I'd give any thing for some good late Kodak films to take pictures here before I come in. 3 ¼ by 4 ¼

Art Larson went to Clarkia and got the mail for us. Myrtle and I took Hansens old horse "Billy" over to Hansen's for Art. He was packed and a great looking pack it was. We came swinging down the hill to Hanzens, with a truly mountain stride when we stopped short to look directly into a kodak, two kodaks in fact. We had called from the top of the hill and Hanzens and Mr. Rock were ready for us with the kodaks as we entered the clearing. We had a fine visit with Mr. Rock and his fellow Ranger. (don't know his name) He expects Mr. Spaulding in some time this week but says he will not be in to any inspecting at all.

Now, as to coming out. You have my letter, by this time, stating that we are going to stay in until time to come out for school, I expect. So here we stay?

If you hear from the gov't before that time, bring a man and come in, or send him in. I'd like some one to stay with me if it is possible to get some one for a time. That is, if I have a man in here. I thought of Olive Handlin the other day and wondered if she could come after Berna went home.

If you don't hear from Washington before time to come in for school send in for us any time that you think best, but better for us between the third and the seventh or eighth of Sept. We will always have things ready to leave on a short notice. If we only had another horse we could come out ourselves and wouldn't have to be sent for. There might be such a thing that we could Art's horse or Hanzens, but you see we have no way of getting it back to them, and they will be packing and need them. If such a thing should be possible I'll write and let you know in time before hand.

I'll just have Bernadines things to bring out, unless you think it best for me to bring out my best blankets etc. to Clarkia. I don't hardly believe it necessary, but if I should come out for good soon, what should I bring out. If I knew any way soon I could sell my stove and a number of things to Art. Would you bring in any of those little cooking pans?

Mrs. McBryde wrote me that she might come out and see me for a time if she could get some of you folks to come with her. How I wish you could. Do you suppose you could ride it in if you came through in one day. We make it through nicely if we start early.

How I wonder what dress you sent me!!!?? My freshly burned face and heavy shoes and no hat would look funny with a white serge suit wouldn't it? ha! ha!

Give Aunt May Hannah and Mrs. Swadner and Mrs Owings etc all my love and if you darest do it a great big hug.

I expect Marjorie is having the time of her life in Spokane. Does she draw pictures on her letters from there?

Mrs. Durham is much better. She can eat some now and is improving rapidly "Thanks" to Lydia Pinkham. They have never heard a word from the land office, nor rec'd notice of the date of proof. Isn't that a strange state of affairs? We saw five or six birds out by the spring last night but were so surprised didn't get any of them. We were on our way to the house from huckleberrying and didn't have the gun. Berna had one tree'd and nearly barked her head off trying to make Ring understand and bark, but Ring was too late to see or scent them and acted as if she thought Berna crazy. She went crazy herself after she discovered what was wanted.

Well write soon, either or both Avery or Clarkia. The boys will be back and forth to Avery and Mr. Cooper and Mrs Taylor will be in from Clarkia.

Lovingly Iona

If I get any mail forward it out here 'cause I want it until I go in.

"The Limberlost"

49 Meadows

Aug 20, 1911

Dear Mamma and Daddie

Well! mabye you think there weren't two surprised girlies this afternoon when Mr. McPeak walk up to the door and told Iona he had her death warrant. We had been washing and were togged in in all the old awful looking things we could find. Iona was out in the yard splitting wood and up walked Mr. McPeak with your letters. Iona ask him why he did not call and he told her he liked to see her swing the ax too well for that. He is going to stay here tonight and go back tomorrow.

Art Larson went out to Clarkia on Pat and got us some sugar and butter and brought the mail in to us. I got a letter from Carrie and two from Catherine. One of Catherines had gone back to Indiana and then way out here. I suppose Carrie is back by this time. She said she had been over to see Lulu.

We had the best time while the Cornwall boys were in here. I wish one of them would come in for us 'cause we know them so well.

My but the huckle berries are thick out here. There are so many and we have had so many that I am getting kind of tired of them.

If we just had some jars we could can all we could get out. Mrs Durham had quite a few jars and she gave Iona one to fill and take out.

Iona's spring was getting so muddy that the water didn't taste good so we dug it all out and sanded the bottom and now it is just dandy.

Mamma won't you send out some Kodak films because I haven't had my picture taken and Iona wants some taken of herself. It is an Eastman 3 ¼ by 4 ¼ get a couple of rolls of twelves and send one to Clarkia and one to Avery because Art goes to Avery in about a week and Cooper comes in here in a week. If you could give both of the rolls to Cooper to bring in from there then we could surely get them before we go out.

Iona's garden is about two inches high now. It rained last night and this morning you could just see it grow. We woke up when it was raining to find our feet getting wet. The cabin had sprung a new leak and we therefore had to change our abode.

Cora and Mrs. Hanzen are coming over tomorrow if it quits raining and stay a day with us.

We were going to send mail out by Carter. He was going to leave at seven and we were going to get up at four and take it over but we didn't wake up until after eight so Art took it out the next day to Clarkia.

Mamma will you have my light coat dry cleaned at the laundry so I will have something clean to wear?

Say did you send Aunt Abigal a picture of the Methodist Church as you promised? I haven't embroidered any at all yet. We have either had company or else we had something else to do. We made a very necessary unmentional the other day. Iona spent her evening making the seat nice and smooth with a knife? Do you get it?

Now write real soon. The Idaho paper looked mighty good to us.

With Love

Bernadine

Envelope with two green one-cent stamps addressed to Mrs. W. A. Adair, Moscow, Idaho, and postmarked CLARKIA, IDAHO. AUG 22 A.M. 1911

Back of envelope reads "The Limberlost" 49 Meadows, Clarkia, Ida. and is postmarked MOSCOW IDAHO AUG 23 12-30P 1911