

25<sup>th</sup> July 1779

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typed

My dearest dearest dearest friend,

I have now but a moment, therefore I will say what little I can to you <sup>now</sup> the rest must be deferred till 6 o'clock tomorrow Morning. I have not forgot the situation Providence has placed me in, I can not help however help lamenting that I am of such rank as to prevent at least for ye present, my being united to her, whom alone I can love. I should look upon myself as the most execrable wretch upon ye face of ye Earth, if I was wanting in ye smallest little to ye best of Parents. I would not be ye cause of a moment's happiness to them for all the Earth's pleasures. I impetuously, and, no word is too strong for my present sentiments. I see Beauty Person, accomplishments, every thing in front

in you that could make my life. <sup>Happy</sup> But after  
tomorrow I will forever close my lips upon  
that subject, whatever my feelings may be  
as it seems to be disagreeable to you. It grieves  
to you call it for me to feel such sentiments  
for you, I look upon it as the glory of my life.  
I conjure you by all that's sacred to explain  
yourself what you mean when you <sup>say</sup> whatever  
appearance things may carry with them, or  
however affairs may turn out you will keep  
to the character of my friend, ever dear  
ever precious name. You drive me to distraction,  
I wish not I conjure you of ever going, if you  
do. At present, you will drive me notwithstanding  
standing all ye. strong principles of  
Religion I have had installed into me, from

my earliest Childhood, to commit some period  
attempts upon myself, if hereafter I  
will leave my Country, Parents, family  
in short every thing that ought to be  
dear to me on Earth, merely to follow  
you in order to have ye happiness of seeing  
her to whom I am so firmly attached. But  
after tomorrow I again declare, I will never  
for ye. future open my lips to you upon  
that subject. Cause I distrust of  
you the violence of my tears, it is upon a  
subject so much connected with my happiness  
for me to speak otherwise upon it. You  
will ever be my friend, & I hope you  
never will find any reason to think me  
otherwise than yrs. Adieu

My dearest, dearest dearest Friends  
P.S. Excuse my writing for I am in predigious heat, as you see  
P.S.

26 July 1799

I will not go at present, ask  
no further explanation.

I am your friend & as such  
shall adopt every proper method  
to keep up to that character -

Your honor is dear to me as my  
own therefore I shall in  
whatever I do be guided by that  
consideration & that consideration  
will lead me to make every  
proper sacrifice.