

(5)

Sunday, Jan. 13, 1963

Tamara:

(Page 1)

I write you this letter not because I am in the mood to, but because I can think of nothing better to do. Most of my letters will be, consequently, more valuable than this, the first. However, I want you to keep all of them, don't lose or destroy any, and when you leave home I want you to give them back to me. You may be surprised to see how they will show my development. I know this because I have often kept a journal, and looking at it later was pleased to see myself unfolding within its pages. It's very interesting. But enough of this semantic nonsense. Bullshit. Bullshit, bullshit, bullshit. Did you ever feel like uttering some expletive over and over? I know you have. One thing you should know, I will never put exclamation marks at the ends of sentences. I may feel like making a wordless point by putting something like this: ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! !, but I think that

an exclamation at the end of a
thundering, angry sentence sort of
detracts from the sentence's power.

My exclamatory sentences have their
exclamation tilt in, and there's something
fairly plain about having to emphasize
your emphasis with exclamatory points.
I remember that.

Looking over this letter so
far (well, not rereading it but reading
it in my brain), it seems to resemble
the beginning of many of my un-
finished novels. I am a liar at heart,
I guess, but honest in soul. If you know
what I mean. What I mean is that I
am an honest liar. Or honest hypo-
crite. No, !!!!!!! (Now I'm all caught up
in a semantic tangle) j even worse, ; ; ; ;
; ; ; ; (not is, but upside down question
marks (?). (I ((love ((you (((lean (((and
ly)))))))))). (!).

I (RATHER) PREFER this TO
ORDERED, EVERYDAY prose, DON'T YOU (?)
WALLEN to the IMMORTAL e. e. cummings!

But seriously, looking, bent you across the page, like this.

at least to make more of a regular pattern that just runs

I have invented picture poetry. For example, turn over →

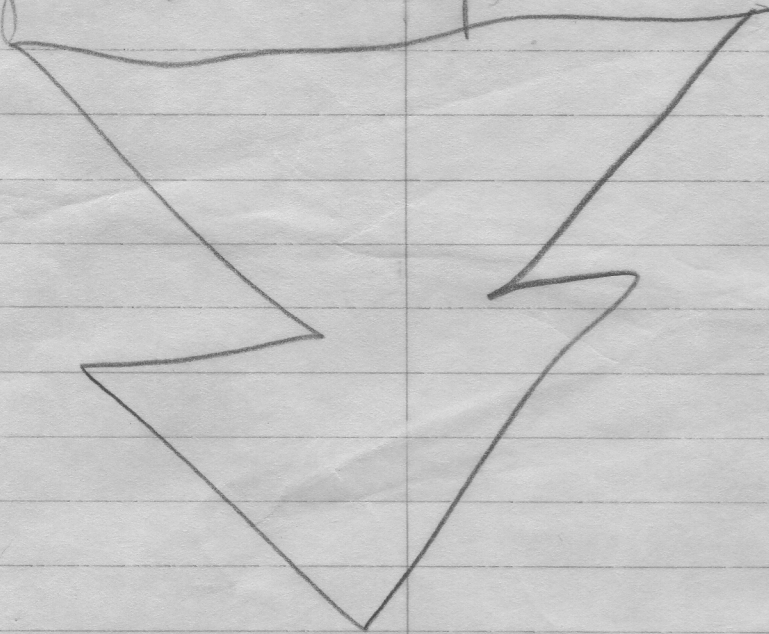
Democratophony
shining golden in the sun from
beautiful it's sweet?

Democratophony
shining golden in the sun from
beautiful it's sweet?

I HAVE IN YOUR PICTURE FOR
EXAMPLE TURN OVER

Isn't it fun to be self-conscious?

Love (shubop)
makes (shubop)
the world (shubop)
go (shubop)



I
ON
LYH
OPEO
EARTH
ATYU'L
LREPLYT
OTHISLET
TERIMMED
LATELY!!!!

your foul weather friend (shubop)
Lester