

Bridge Five

Her Voice Immediately Sad

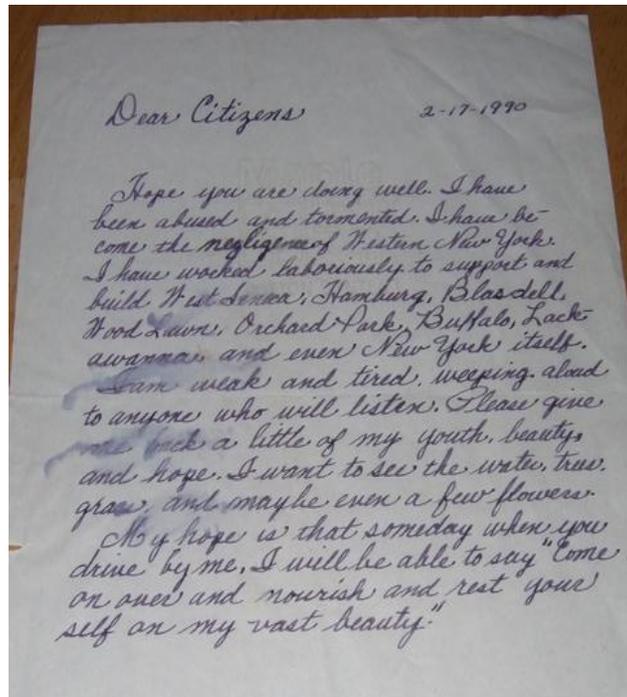
A time later I called her on the phone, her voice was immediately sad. I ask if she let me see her, she said "yes". I ask when can I see her. She wouldn't tell me when. We ended the call, saying to her as usual, "take care". I wondered if I should say those words at times. I felt like I again hurt her. Thinking perhaps she was seeing someone, and I was only bringing back bad memories to her again, making her sad. Wondering if the flowers I sent to her was hurting her? I felt a guilty feeling, that I should stop the flowers. I didn't want to hurt her with flowers if she was seeing someone. She may have wanted them to stop. I stop sending her the flowers. I thought, I did everything I could do, afforded me by God, that anymore wasn't right. If she was seeing someone, she should have the best chance of marrying him. I had also worried at times that perhaps she just doesn't have the passion for me, I had for her. Making me feel as if guilty of trying to force something that perhaps wasn't there for her.

At some moment, I remember my older sister was crying to me in the living room. She wanted me to drive her to a truck stop, to see her truck driver husband at the time. He may have been trying to leave her. I been thinking about their relationship for many years. Likely he was already married in God's eyes, since he had a legal marriage previously, before she ran away from home to be with him. I remember, sensing perhaps one factor in her running away with him, my parents made her work so much. I told her, I couldn't drive her. Because of what I thought she was likely not truly married to him in God's eyes, according to what I found in the bible. Even though she cried more, I couldn't force myself to take her. She eventually got back with a boy she met when much younger as a teenager and married. I still don't know, if I was right about the so called marriage she was in or the so called marriage she is in now. All I do is hope the best for her.



August 28, 1989 at my parent's summer place

In 1990, I began to be interested in the waterfront of our City Lackawanna, where once stood the Bethlehem steel mill, employing 20,000 people. Most of the plant closed down in 1983, except for the coke plant section. The politicians got to together with business men and planned to build a tired burning plant on our front door, our waterfront. The name of our city "Lackawanna" was an old Indian name meant forks or union of waters. Two streams enter Lackawanna and they become one stream entering into the lake. I wrote a letter, made a drawing and wrote a poem, presenting to politicians and organizations of the area. I had my mom write it, being she has the best penmanship.



Smearing, from my tears years ago is my best memory

Presented in person to the office of Senator Patrick Moynihan, office of Henry Nowak, sent to governor Como, in person to Gorski (Erie County Executive), mayor Griffin of Buffalo, Mayor Radich of Lackawanna, Mayor of Orchard Park, City hall of Blasdell and Hamburg, City council of Lackawanna, Environmental Protection Agency, Army of engineering Corps., Tift Farms, Channel Seven, Six and Three, Buffalo News and Horizons Waterfront Commission in 1990.

I talked to them about building a park, cleaning up the waterfront.

John Jerome Nowak

Thank you for your time and consideration

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