

SAMPLE ANNOTATION

Knows Lawrence but ^{THE YEARS OF ADVENTURE} ^{Looking for or more details} why? Give him a kiss for me, and tell him I'm glad he's home again—I don't like to think of him out there in the land of strawberry-flavored coffee. ^{Command to send love}

Elinor M's party sounds as though it were at least a little amusing: that precious Lee Wiley and Phoebe says Jordan [Masseel] has been in town: how did he seem and why was he there? I had two accounts of MILA's soiree; Phoebe's, and another from Malcolm—he was full of praise for you both—says you are charming and intelligent—calls Phoebe "wonderfully keen and wildly attractive." Poor Malcolm. His romance has busted, and he is very unhappy. ^{Spicy} ^{Focus on gossip}

I think the title of Phoebe's new story lovely: A Fall of Rain. And you, sweet magnolia, what are you working on? If you have done a new story, please send it to me. ^{Looks forward to reading lengths of it}

My book has changed somewhat since I outlined it slightly to you: I feel very much that my writing has grown (though this may be a delusion), and the time has come when I must shoulder some real responsibility; that is, I want for once to pose a problem and provide an answer, too. I do after all profess to some sort of style, and that is something I can hope only to improve upon; but the material and my own view toward it are different from anything I've attempted before. God, what a revolting mess it could be. And may I had a letter from Newton yesterday: midway in the text, and with his usual cunning, there were inserted a few lines to the effect that he was dedicating his book to David Lillenthal [Lillenthal]? Pretty extraordinary, when you think how often he has inferred the honor was to be mine. Our present circumstances have nothing to do with it; I realize now that he never intended to dedicate the book to me: honestly, I don't care about that, but somehow the symbol is so profound I can't dismiss it. Poor man, he is a true coward, and what is worse, a moderate coward. Moderation is the key to his character. I should be a fool to despise him: so I don't: but I would be a greater fool if I did not despise myself: how pitiful it was of me to have put that vast love into such feeble hands—hands that never closed over it but let it dribble through the fingers like water. ^{Feels betrayed} ^{Self-reflection of writing style}

Have you glanced at the new John Horne Burns book? ⁴ Seen South Pacific, Detective Story or a movie called The Fallen Idol? Did Diable Au

I think he (Capote) ^{freshly} ^{knows better} it's his own fault for ^{not realizing or misunderstanding} ^{of book}

¹ Masseel was Carson McCullers's cousin.
² Summer Crossing.
³ Arvin dedicated his biography of Herman Melville to his old friend David E. Lillenthal, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission from 1946 to 1950. Capote, by contrast, had dedicated Other Voices, Other Rooms to Arvin.
⁴ Lacjfer with a Book (1949), a novel about postwar life at a coed American private school.

Feible: lacking strength of character
 Change in topic to recent media/books, or other current interests

What does Capote do?

(List of my observations)

- Use of colons followed with ?s or important statements/announcements
- Send love
- concern for friend in "strawberry-flavored coffee"
- metaphor for a place that feels manufactured, not real, fake
- Praise vs. Criticism
- interest in what Andrew is reading/seeing/doing
- reflection of writing style and growth
- worry/stress about how it will turn out (success or failure)
- upset that Newton seemed to imply his book was to be dedicated to Capote, but it wasn't
- comments on one's moral character/ trustworthiness
- Fails himself for over believing in

Some thematic topics: self-improvement, concern about success vs failure, feeling important or worthy, Trust Authenticity