

mead

*Daily thoughts #5
Ruth Rosenstein*



notebook

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05002 The Mead Corporation, Dayton, Ohio 45463 U.S.A.



February 23, 1983

The very first thing this morning that wrecked my entire day was --- I thought I'd call Gene about 9:30 AM before he went to sleep - I knew he was coming over Friday to give me a receipt from his bank deposit so I thought if I could get him to drop off some papers Kenny needs to look for for Gene on Thursday, Ken would have the information for Gene on Friday. I never call Gene - so when he answered happily "Good morning" I knew it was father - she probably calls him every morning - That's the same kind of "Good morning" he said to me over the last 9 years that I worked - It hit me so hard to hear him speak like that - I know it sounds stupid to be jealous of a little thing like that - but all it does is make me hate Gene all the more, for what he's put me thru - he doesn't even relate to the family anymore - he's so selfish - I can't believe he's the father of my children - or how I thought I loved him - I needed him but you can't really love someone who doesn't know how to love in return - he doesn't love - he needs and uses people - he must be more insecure than I ever was.

Nothing really special { February 24, 1983
these two days except Ken is { February 25, 1983
looking into a new car for Linda - a cult - 4 door -
Something I'll be able to drive. - Someday

February 26, 1983
Jessie and Anne came over today so Linda
and I watched them while Ed and Trish went to
the eye doctor - They were so good today -
Anne^{1st} just starting to grow into a little
girl and Jessie is definitely too smart for her
age - and so beautiful and so fat - EDDIE is
going to enroll her in a workshop for some sort
for overweight little ones - They'll learn about
the quality of foods thru color association - She'll
probably tell us all about it herself - one day.
My house was pretty well messed up by the
time they all left - but I enjoyed them very
much - They I want for my Sam and a bite
to eat with Linda - We've been together a lot
this year.

February 27, 1983
Today was really a very traumatic Day! I
called Tex at his apartment in the afternoon
to tell him about a problem with my
humidifier again and we talked about the
grandchildren & other normal things. I asked

him if he deposited money on Friday for the bills and
he went to get the figure and when he returned
he said he deposited \$20 more because he charged
his room the last time he was in Phla. and I said
I wondered why he built up his bill when he got
money from JWL for his room and he said he was
in Atlantic City again with EDDIE (Galt) from Phla,
who was at the meeting and I asked him if they
went by themselves, hoping he would say yes, but
without any hesitation at all - he said he took
Emma Lou & Eddie took his girlfriend (Eddie
been married twice and divorced twice) and what
really broke my heart was that Emma Lou was
in the apartment with him as a relative this
to me! - I said "you're telling me this
while she's listening?" He said yes - I told
him, without even trying to cope, I better never
see him and her together any where, because
I don't know what I'll do - He said I'll talk
to you tomorrow when I come over - I got off
the phone - I had to tell Linda - I cried and
cried - won't this ever end - I know I deserve
more than this - he has no regard for me at
all - He's so disgusting - I just hate him -
Kenny always finds my faults - he doesn't care how
much I'm hurt - he'll always spout sayings. I was

so upset - that I called back and who gets on
but her - I said "I want to speak to my husband,
you pig!" and she sweetly gets off and probably
told him and he gets on real angry - I yelled,
"Don't come over tomorrow or any day - and don't
open ~~your~~ the front door to my home" - of course he
retaliates and Linda got on. So nervous -
and asked him not to come over any more -
He settled down and said he would not. I
can't tell you how broken hearted I am -
he choked over me - She's escorted him
everywhere this year - He tells us he doesn't
want her ever - but he's not doing anything
to show me that he's telling the truth -
I still cry and cry - He had no right
saying all these years with me if he was
so unhappy - He never opened his mouth
to solve any situation - Now he's giving me
all the hurt he can inflict on one human
being - mentally - I hope I can get thru
this humiliation and I hope he ends up
suffering for this, instead of me - I've
suffered enough! Kenny ultimately finds
reasons for what his Dad is doing - but
that's enough - I can't take him anymore
but I never thought we'd come to this end.

February 28, 1983

I decided again to commit myself to losing this weight - I might be hurt now - but I'll hurt him in the end - I'll become stronger than him - I'll make it yet - I'll lose that weight & then learn to drive - and then I'll forget him forever - He can have anyone he wants - Most likely I feel bad because my Mother will see them together for a long time and I never wanted her to live in the "Home" under those conditions, along with her headache about Gloria.

P.S. Linda got the car today
We're all very happy about it.

March 1, 1983

thru March 4, 1983

Nothing much to write about these few days, I haven't talked to Gene - he did call Linda for breakfast Saturday morning but she told him we were watching the grandchildren. He has his own life with her now - he chose that and I'm sure he's happy with it.

March 5, 1983

Little Jesse and Annie came over today, they are really very good, but because of my asthma and weight, I find it very difficult at this time to really enjoy them - but things went smoothly and the place was a mess when they all left after lunch.

March 6, 1983

Today after Mother went to her Juvra meeting, Bob was kind enough to take her to Squirrel Hill to buy Passover supplies - she's having a dinner very soon for all of us - second fear Gene won't be with us and negatively thinking - maybe never.

I'm so sorry I have to bring so much sadness to my mother and family at this time, I wanted everything to be so right - my disappointment in Gene is overwhelming!

March 7, 1983

It's Monday, I'm going to Dr. Lina for my shot. Bob will have a small breakfast, then I'll go to see Dona. I really don't know if therapy is helping me right now - maybe I thought things would change if I went & understood more of myself. But things went from bad to worse with him, still seeing her and getting a new apartment. It's hard to really tell how happy he is - because he's very goal oriented for himself - using what is necessary to achieve whatever he wants for himself - even if others are hurt - I can be goal oriented to a degree, mostly for others to achieve their goals, putting mine aside, but I guess I did everything wrong, because now I'm behind and suffering for it. What a lesson!

March 8, 1983

Today is Gene's 55th birthday, I left him a card yesterday, that he picked up and when I called him yesterday to ask him a different question, he thanked me (like a friend) and of course as soon as I asked Kenny a few questions about his feelings about Dad and Mrs Bass, he jumped all over me telling me that I'm not good for his Dad and Vice-Versa. & his Dad is better off living for himself, etc. - He hurt me so - He thinks his God and is so perfect - but has never really lived life with a woman, so just know what he reads in books - which tells one how to live life to the fullest with a mate, but people don't come out of books - things get in the way, problems develop - God decided not to talk to him too much - He hasn't experienced enough rejection from a woman yet. Someday he'll know or maybe he'll be like his father and hurt someone else. I mustn't have been as unhappy as I thought with Gene or I couldn't have hung on so long and he mustn't have been either, because he could have left long time ago as soon as the kids were on their own. He just wanted Sex more than me and his family. It was his out!

March 9 and 10th - 1983

Nothing very much happening. I wasn't talking to Kenny for a while, but we are again. I just hate being angry at people, especially family, you have to see & be with them each day and it's too hard not to be talking. I talked to Gloria's psychiatrist and he feels Gloria is doing much better but in his estimation, she can never live alone or have to do for herself per day without the help of someone else - Reality gets to her and it is too much for her to handle. It's hard enough for me so with her disability, she has it much harder. I want so much to help her in the future but I don't know how, just yet. Kenny wants to treat Linda & I to a dinner from Friday's for tomorrow night because Linda and I will be watching an HBO movie at 8PM. He gave us their menu and all we have to do is choose some things. What a menu they have - It's unbelievable! Tonight when I got ready for bed I was feeling so depressed - I had talked to Sam earlier today and he seemed so cold to me - I think he's worried and so overworked - but he won't admit it to me - we get into arguments so easily now - that's because he answers me back instead of being silent and angry.

March 11, 1983

Gene came over to give me the deposit slip
as he always does - He seemed more friendly
than usual - must be he's happy with his life -
I really don't know - maybe he's glad his term
is almost over - who knows. We talked nicely
for about 2 hours - about Kenny - Gene's work -
he fixed my picture frames with hooks - that's
about it! He doesn't look as good as he used
to - getting older - a bit paunchy around the
middle - I should wish - I have to lose 90 lbs.
When he left - he kissed me nicely and asked
me to take care of myself - I felt good when
he left - I'm still not sure what my future
will bring - nothing - If I don't get this
weight off - Starting tomorrow, I'll try once
again - I can't stop trying - I must go on.
When I look at Gene I'm not sure I love him
as before - I have to see him as he really is,
not as I made him to be in my eyes.
Maybe he'll still be good to me someday -
If I do my part - I have no one else right
now to measure against him - He has "her"
to measure against me and he may just want
her more - time will tell - I would like to be
the winner - It would build up my self-esteem.

March 12, 1983

Linda and I went to see Dr. DePierro today - she got her teeth cleaned and I'm sure she hated that (she left them go too long - she admits to that) but no cavities! The Doctor fixed my broken tooth (I bit into a chicken bone - no more of that) and he built my bottom 2 teeth wider with a new kind of plastic. When I smile now the gaps don't show. I'm real pleased with it - If I watch that I don't eat things to stain them, they'll stay nice (I hope) and I have to be careful what I chew on or they may chip. My dentist has so kind of high now because I had a root canal done a few weeks ago. We also stopped at my mother's for a few minutes before the appt. to brush our teeth, because we had breakfast. My mom was waiting for EDDIE and her great-grandchildren to come over for a while today. Then after the Dentist, Linda and I went shopping, had coffee, then to my hair dresser. I'm going to wait Linda's clothes for her per week because she spends a lot of her time on the weekends with me. She's going to take me to Doris starting in April - I have so much to accomplish yet - weight and driving!

March 13, 1983

I did poorly again last week in my eating habits - I'm just not accomplishing as much as I could - I'll fail in my life again if I just bluff thru it - Gene has accomplished something - he's gotten freedom that he wants, sex that he's wanted and he got thru his State commandership without me - This is suppose to be a lesson to me about what I'm not doing with my life - I can't just go coasting along, it catches up to me - I must accomplish 2 things this year - I just have to!! I pray to God to help me but I know I must do the work. I made it thru mother-hood and my job at Pitt - but I should have kept me in good shape mentally and physically, I'm paying for it now - I have a chance for a good future - I don't want to blow it!! I feel if Gene was here and loved me it would help me - but he was here and I felt at the time, he loved me, but I never did enough for me and now that he's not here - I'm sad - and I still can't get a handle on it - but I'd like my life to be good again (with Gene) so I just have to get going and prove to myself that I have the strength it takes!

But as night comes upon me, I have different thoughts, Everyone is out and I'm all alone again, and it really gets to me, I always had Gene with me physically or mentally, I was so afraid I would lose him to death and I worried so, that I always ate to alleviate the worry. but it added other worries and fear and stresses to my head, then it finally happened, I was virtually without him, in fact I am now, what shall I do with my life, I must go on, I can't let it get to me and end up as my poor sister is, afraid of reality - I feel so for her - as I said before I hope I can help her someday - but she must make an effort herself to beat this fear we seem to have. Gene is fearful too or he wouldn't hold so tight with the first woman he has met since he left me. Could he make it all alone as I am, without someone my age to talk to, It would drive him batty - That's why he stays with me until someone comes into his life - he is insecure also - He hangs onto whomever does the most good for him, he better find some answers for himself - he holds on to two different loves until he decides what's best for him.

March 13, 1983

It's Sunday. Nothing much doing with us today, Bob is still in Ann. on his mini Vacation, Ken is working.

March 14, 1983

Now it's Monday. The day has passed as usual, Bob called me tonight, he'll be home later than usual, an accident about 2 miles in front of him will delay him. I'm so glad he's alright.

March 15, 16 - 83

Nothing special. Gene doesn't even call me. We'll ever get over this terrible feeling I have in me - It's so unbelievable even a few later, that this man I lived with and loved, is leaving by himself and seeing another woman at least 4 times a week! Everyone can't get over that I'm not over it - I'm better than I was, but I can't feel as they do or Gene. I'm me. I'm very sensitive - no matter how unhappy I seemed to be with Gene and his lack of attention, physically, from him, I would sit there. And he stuck it out for a real long time too - that's why I take so much of the guilt - he put up with me too - but he was afraid to tell ~~me~~ ^{me} what was bothering him and I was stupid or uncaring to see it myself - Oh how I must this year end favorably for me.

May 17, 1983

St. Patrick's Day! Linda is to have lunch with Gene today because he had to stay in Oakland. She said it was OK - nothing too much said, because Gene knows Linda will verbally attack him. I know that it makes me feel sad that he doesn't call me, but he knows that I know he and "her" and his so called "friends" (excluding the Michelsons, who don't mix) are going on a long trip Sat-Wed - last meeting for Sherry & Bob - then to Atlantic City for a couple days - then back to Philadelphia for dinner - how I wish things were different. I know I would have been at his side - but maybe I would have been a thorn in his side - because for his ego - he wanted a thin woman there - that's what breaks my heart the most - it's his selfishness - I always feel that he was so much fun, because he did so much for all of us - I guess if we ever get together he'll have to display some selfishness to me so he'll be well rounded - I probably showed mine, by not caring how I looked! Maybe we never would have changed for each other if this never happened. I'm sure his time away from me and the family wasn't as great as I imagined, cause it wasn't for me that's for sure - but I must accomplish at least my one goal - weight loss!

May 18, 1983

Am doing very well on my eating habits the last couple of days but I'm screwing it up a bit today - Bob is taking me out to dinner - Twilio's I'm really looking forward to that - but I ate a little breakfast - a little lunch - a small snack during "Guiding Light" and I shouldn't have done that! I had a beautiful meal of scallops with Bob then came home and should have gone straight to my room but I turned on television & did it again - ATE!

May 19, 1983

Had a sleepless night - overate - failed at it - thought of Gene going away (never talking to me) (Probably never even had me on his mind) then I weighed myself - yes I gained back 3 lbs, but I'm going right back on my diet before I get too despondent! I'm sure when Gene sees me, I don't look like I can achieve anything in life for myself - that's what he likes in her - She's self-oriented like him - she can go on in spite of anything - that's what makes me feel so unworthy for him - he doesn't love me for what and whom I am right now - he wants much more - but I want more from him and he says he has to be who he is - Can you beat that!

Instead of being so despondent - I must I could
retain what Dona, Linda and Kenny tell me -
be what you want to be - whatever makes
you happy - If that isn't enough for Gene
he isn't right for you - If being thin and
driving will make you a fuller person -
do it - try not to falter - be positive -
something in me doesn't drive me hard
enough - If I want this life with Gene
or even someone else - it has to be - It
just doesn't come by itself - What screws
my head up is, I see other married folks
and they're still together without
realizing their full potential - maybe
they're not 100% happy - but really who
is - Dona is going to get into how 2
people can be individuals but must
together - It probably seems from her but
Gene may not (if we get together) he may
not do as much changing as I will - but
naturally, I'll be a martyr and accept it.
But that's a long way off if at all - I'm
seeing Dona this Monday.

March 20, 1983

When I realize what I wrote in the
Paragraph before about what Kenny tells me -

Sure he does what is right for him and Gene does what makes him happy, but when I do what makes me feel happy (like eating) everyone leaves me (that's not really true, only Gene does) so I'm a person who stays with people even if they have faults, (a better or for worse, as they say) yes I'm real hurt that Gene left me for so many reasons that he can quote, so he going to leave some one else for other reasons, should I really want him with all his faults, I'm lonely, yes, so that a crime, should I want till someone more suitable comes around. Someone who'll love me, alone, with my faults, I'd really like that, I'm so sick about everything, I could cry and cry, and I do, my eyes are so puffy - If I get angry at Gene, he'll never come back, but I'm so hurt - he's degraded me so by seeing another woman for so long. I don't know if I could ever sleep with, or be with him, I feel so nauseated by it all - Maybe if Gene makes a concentrated effort to show me he'd like to be with me the rest of his life. I could get over this feeling, but I have to show a concentrated effort to lose weight and I'm not doing a good job at all - I'd love to wear nice clothes & look pretty at my age - It's up to me.

March 21, 1983

Monday, first day of Spring, but it's freezing and snowy out, this winter and the last one have been very warm, it's great for drivers and those going to work each day, but for me with asthma, it's not so good, from what I understand all the mold & pollen outside are usually killed by cold weather, but now they still exist - thru the warm weather into the summer and fall. I haven't felt my best, with my lungs or without Gene. I like having a companion to talk to and go out with, I guess Gene didn't find me a good enough companion, what a revelation after 30 years!

March 22, 1983

Trying to keep busy, Haven't really slept good in months - my dreams are getting worse, If I ever get really happy again, I'll resist it.

March 23, 1983

Oh, if I could only have happiness back again, I mean with someone just for me, I'll never take it for granted again, I'll always work at it - I won't be bored again - How I wish Gene felt as I do - but I know he doesn't - he couldn't possibly be so happy with her or his friends "if he felt as unhappy as me" - altho I thank God for what I do have.

March 24, 1983

Today wasn't too bad, nothing spectacular, but I was busy in the morning. Then I got a call from Rene. Then Linda's friend came over (Marjie) waiting for Ken, who was out, we had a nice talk, I did most of the talking. Her mother is experiencing the same thing as me (almost) married 22 years, husband living with another woman, she sees them together sometimes, she's in therapy. You never heard of this stuff 30 years ago, nothing was so open, wives hardly ever suffered with "the other woman" life together was until God took one of you - This is more devastating than death, but I guess if one never experiences infidelity, death seems worse - It probably is because infidelity may not be forever, or it could. Then later I talked to my Mum. She heard from Gloria, but my Mum can't really ever be happy till my life is resolved and Gloria is out of Woodville, safe elsewhere. That's why I can't show her how unhappy I really am, I can't put another burden on her shoulders, I have to keep the burden off my kids shoulders also, but Ken & I always get into it, and I hurt him & he hurts me, without really wanting to. I love him

and I loved and still love his father, I hurt them with my verbalization, It's because it seems to be the only tool I have, just as Ken uses his words to hurt me and Lou uses his running off and (always with another woman) to hurt me, I guess we should all learn to use other methods or to eliminate the hurt entirely. I guess it does come to a lack of good communication. I'll have to talk to Don about that next time.

Nothing new to write

March 25, 1983

March 26, 1983

March 27, 1983

March 28, 1983

Today is the first day of Passover, the second without Gene. He's out of town again, JUV and who knows what, with her - This relationship means more to him than his last one - 10 yrs ago she does much more with him and for him to sustain him than the one he knew last time. If I ever come out of this smelling like roses, I will never let myself down, mentally or physically again. His ego must go down as mine does, like turning feet each other's pain - He develops my negative sickness - that just came to me - I have to develop a positive attitude not only for me, but for him! To get back to Passover,

we had dinner at Grandma's, an annual affair, she didn't sweat as much this time, the dinner was very good, but hectic as usual, Eddie, Truett and the kids were there, along with Linda, Bob, Ken, Sammy and me. I went as sed without Gene this year as last, but who knows if it will ever be as before.

March 9 thru April 1
Nothing really special happening.

April 2, 1983
Went with Linda to a new "gym" in Moreauville today, told me that my blood pressure was up a little, I have to try to get this weight off. We saw Gene coming home from work, going into Devin, Linda Ronke and I waved. I still can't accept it.

April 3, 1983
It's Easter Sunday. Gene was supposed to come over for his mail today but he was too tied up with his JUV work and her.

April 4, 1983
Gene called this morning. we talked cordially enough about the house. but I couldn't handle my feelings & I questioned him on his behavior and what happened to his feelings about everything and naturally he said he was happy and that hurt me so - because I'm not - I want a companion too

April 5, 1983

I'm doing my normal chores around the house. Linda and I are going to Don's home at 6:30 PM (a new time because Pat can't take me on Monday morning, because he is overloaded at work & also has to go to classes, then he intends moving into his own apartment in a few months, closer to his job). But as the day progressed Ken & I got into it and he went to work & when he came home (just before Linda & I went to see Don) He laid his jacket & shirt on my TV and as I looked at it, to me it was in disrespect of me, because he knows I hate that and then Linda, not being angry at him for anything, conversed with him & by the time I got in the car, I was so angry at her, him and everything in my life - I was ready to throw myself from the car! But I cried a little & that vented my anger & we continued on to Don's. Linda & I talked a little in the car before my appointment began & then by the time I talked to Don I was calmed down. She told me, was anyone in life that gets under my skin, I have only two ways to go, leave them somehow or learn to cope. That's what I've did, he found leaving easier than coping. But he never would have left if it wasn't that sex was waiting for him. He never dealt with the problem at home, he just

never acknowledged me as a woman, which caused my anger, I knew it was my weight that caused him to neglect me, but instead of dealing with it, I just overate, and over-fought, with everyone. He knew the problem, but he wouldn't handle it by telling me the truth, that he didn't care for me, so he over compensated by doing everything else for me and I took that to mean love. Even if I get thin, I'm not sure we'll have love for quite a while (if he comes back) it has to be built, I seem to still have it for him because I never shared a closeness with anyone else, as he did. To get back to Ken, Dona said there is no changing him, either he leaves or I cope - I haven't let anything go to me, for my own peace of mind, Ken will have to fend for himself, while he lives here, or treat me respectfully if he wants anything done for him - he will have to ask me - I will not do it freely for him - he doesn't seem as nice to ~~me~~ when I do things for him as he is nice to me when I do nothing - isn't that ridiculous! Would him he knows a lot from books but he never really has to relate to a woman, in a home setting - but me - and he does a poor job of relating to me, because he doesn't care how I hurt!

April 6, 1983

I feel rather calm today - I'm just doing for me - just as everyone is doing for them! Gene came over and naturally I miss him so I kissed him, I don't know how he perceives me at all, being he has someone else - but he was very nice. He loved the pictures I got of the grandchildren - and we spoke kindly to each other - He hung a ~~long~~ bunch of pictures for me - fixed the ~~hundred~~ pictures about some bells - then after talking with Ken - he kissed me goodbye and said he'd see me Friday. Then Ken went thru his routine for me - "If you do every thing you must do for you, things will be fine." I know what that means - If I get to like myself better - becoming independent - getting thru with learning to drive - Gene and I would be able to start anew - I can't talk to Ken - he knows everything - Yes I know I have to change - but what if Gene never realizes his hang-ups - what chance do I have being happy with him?

April 7, 1983

Nothing special today of any importance.

April 8, 1983

Friday. Gene stopped over. Hung a few pictures. We didn't converse too long, because I was getting perturbed with him. And he wanted to leave and I really felt terrible and wanted to converse. No luck!

April 9, 1983

Linda and I went out today and did a few things but I had a terrible nite - all alone - and eating again!

April 10 & 11th

A new week, I'm having a dinner party for Bob next Sunday for his Birthday. Have to clean a bit this week & make a cake & freeze it. Maybe I'm good for something & for somebody. It'll be so hard for me to forgive Gene for what he's done, especially because it involves another woman & that hurts me more than his being away. He'd never forgive me - I just know!

Nothing new to report except that Gene is going on his trips to Rochester NY (bowling tournament) then to Philadelphia for County Installation - She's accompanying him to both - And I have to forgive and forget!

April 12, 1983

April 13, 1983

April 14, 1983

Had a fish cake for Sunday, turned out nice!

April 15, 1983

Got my hair done, going to straighten up a bit for tomorrow.

April 16, 1983

The dinner turned out reasonably well. Had nine people all together - We had a real good time. Have to do the dishes tomorrow - too tired tonight.

April 18, 1983

Washed clothes all day and did all the dishes,
and I'm really tired and feeling kind of blue.

April 19, 1983

Bob's 22nd birthday today - he's real happy -
He got some nice gifts from everyone, mostly
money - a money certificate from his boss - Ed -
A beautiful sweater from Jimmy Dean & his mom -
Linda and I are taking them out to dinner
Route to M/GROS - to eat ourselves fat again -
Ken has to work - Gene came over for a bit -
dropped off a card & money for Bob - then he
had to go fowling - Can this possibly be the
same man I loved so and loved with so long?
What a hummer!

April 20 and 21st

Just the normal!

April 22 - 1983

Gene came over to give me the deposit slip,
and we talked about mostly the family and
home and "cigars", nothing in the "grey area"
He never really tries to kiss me, I always
show my affection first - I really don't know
what he feels for me - probably no more than a
good friend - I gave him a container of the potato
Salad I made for a party that Bob's going to today

he also took our lawn mower to be repaired and about 4PM he was still up & he called me to thank me for the potato salad, he liked it a lot - and stupid me, getting sentimental again told him I loved him & he said he felt very badly when I tell him that - then I got off the phone. This is the second time in our life, I had to pay such a heavy price, It really doesn't seem fair, there are so many worse women than me & they still have their spouses.

April 23, 1983

It's evening, nothing to do, Kevin still working, Linda went out with a girlfriend & will be stopping by later, Bob is at a meeting for his job and Gene is with her, as usual, And I have to concentrate on not eating any more Vite - but Oh how I'd like to - but I'll cry tomorrow. Bob, mum & I are going to see Gloria tomorrow, I haven't seen her since October 1982 - she was so bad then it didn't seem worth it, I sent her cards of encouragement all the time and it was winter & very hard to travel & I didn't want to burden the family to take me - and my spirits weren't too high anyway. I wish I could tell Gene how heavy my heart is, but it wouldn't matter to him anyway.

April 24, 1983

It is raining cats & dogs today. What a crummy day to travel to of all places "Woodville". We picked up Sandra about 11 AM just about the time QUV 718 & QUV 718 was having their installation. The Workmans are both going into office, it's unbelievable they can be so happy & forget all the time & Gene & I, who had such nice dreams for the future, have to be split up. I know now that I'm not all to fault, he's so selfish, he could care less how he hurt me, going right to her", who only cares for herself also. I'm so disappointed that I had such love for him, I would have stayed with him forever, or if he only would have been more truthful & forceful, I would have changed. I know now, to listen more closely to my mate, if I ever have one again. Bob, Mum & I went to breakfast first, My Mum always has to bring some information about QUV to me, which upsets me terribly, because I'm not part of Gene's life, I still cry when I think how removed he is from me, like she's his wife and I'm someone he once knew, but never really loved. I just never believed Gene was such a manipulator of people, so he so insecure & selfish that he only does what he wants for him, all the time? Was life

so unbearable that he could stay with me for
over 30 years & be that unhappy? Maybe he had
to have this to look into his soul one more time,
at my expense! I'll get my act together this year
for sure!! To get back to visiting Gloria,
we finally arrived & she was so glad to see us.
She still looks very bad, but not any delirious
as before, they are keeping her & she seems
more satisfied. I promise her as long as
I'm alive, I'll find somewhere for her to live
& be taken care of. Then we stayed about 2 hrs
Bob was so nice he let her hold his arm and
took her upstairs to her ward. Then we came home
in the down pour again, and Linda had a
meal waiting for us, let for a King or Queen,
whatever be the case. Thin steak that I had
caught once before, with mushrooms & onions and
mashed potatoes & broccoli, and she even baked
a carrot cake which we had later with coffee.
She was thrilled that everything turned out so well
& she did all the dishes, then she 'kicked out'
when she went to her room. She hadn't really
cooked too much, since she was married &
propt to herself she still could - She's going
to repeat this on Mother's Day - which makes me
happy - This is my second Mother's Day without Gene.

April 25, 1983

We're having two tiny visitors today, our Jessie and Anne. Ed and Trish have appointments with Dr. DiPierro & then they are going to dinner. Our little ones came over about 4PM looking so beautiful in their outfits, the cutest little sneakers! Anne talks all the time, I put her in the playpen, which is so new to her & she has to go all around - I'll feed them supper when Linda comes home, because I don't like to leave beautiful Jessie too long by herself. She is so gorgeous & so smart - She said the food was "delicious"! Ken came home also and she knows him also - If I ever get rid of this weight, it will be much easier to watch them!

April 26, 1983

I have my appointment with Dona Forté, Linda & I both set thru the session. It's always informative - we also have dinner together that day - and finally come home - It's so strange the way both Gene's and my life took such a change. It's like we become separate people again - I guess that's what is so important about this separation. It enabled us to live alone again - but I miss him!

April 27, 1983

Gene came over a little while today. At times he appears so distant & then there are other times, he seems to be back home again. He has much more to deal with mentally, than me - mostly what he really wants for himself for the rest of his life (It has a lot to do with how I change in his eyes) I'll still remain me, but I'll have to become much more independent for him to be relieved of the strain of trying to make me happy all the time. But he may choose to never come back & I'll have to deal with that, too!

April 28, 1983 ^{#29th}

What a day this has become - Everything started out normal, then I sent Ken down to the game room for something and he yelled up "Mumma you'll never believe this" - He had a foot & a half water all thru the game room into the laundry room - I thought a pipe broke somewhere - but it was rising out of the sewer - I called John Tucker, the plumber, but he wasn't home as yet - so I also called Gene to please come over - he was really sore but he did come - he was very upset also - Ken went up to the Rent all & got something to suck up the water - finally the plumber came & assessed the

problem was in the main sewer line, so Ken called the township & they came over as soon as they could to try to break up the blockage, they feel that it's from our tree roots, but we can't prove otherwise, because the problem ended up at our sewer, so Gene said he wanted the trees removed & the roots killed once & for all. So I called Mr Cerra (our gardener now) & he'll do the job. Another couple hundred dollars, plus a ruined rug in the gym room - Ken cut it up a few days later because the smell was getting thru out the house. Gene & Ken cleaned up the floor in the laundry room which was such a mess. I wrote to the Township manager to forward a letter to their insurance company to see if they'll help us financially, because our homeowners doesn't cover sewage problems. I cried a bit the coming week, being without Gene in the house at this time - but what can I do. He is very interested but he's dealing with his own life first, Convention time is very near. He doesn't allow us to come into his life too much, at this time, it confuses him. "She" is part of his life, "still" and as long as I stay heavy. I'll never attract him back again!

April 30, 1983

I wasn't really in the mood, but I had to get my permanent today. I really don't like it too much - but I guess I don't like my face too much, right now, I look too much the same as last year & before!

May 1 thru May 6th

The week is progressing. My permanent is too curly & close to my head. I hate it, can't wait till Saturday to see Monica, my hair dresser. Gene came over on Friday to give me his deposit slip, didn't have too much to say - it depresses me!

May 7th 1983

Hada frosting done today. It does make me look a little better, but I have to get there, I'm so mad at me - that I can't even control what goes into my mouth - I work very hard at what comes out but not in!

May 8th 1983

Today is Mother's Day. We're having a heavy shower, which I really didn't expect. In doing a little grocery shopping. Then Bob will pick me up & Grandma & I'll take them to see "Joatsie" - first for her - third time for me! Linda is preparing lasagna, salad, fresh bread, cake & coffee.

We'll open our gifts then Ed is bringing the little ones over to share part of the day. Frost is working, she wants to save her day for when she visits her mother - that's OK, as long as I see Ed and the Kids. Gene called me about 4PM to wish me a Happy Mother's Day, last year he gave me a card - I don't understand him at all!

May 9, 1983

Last night, one of the coldest this spring, and our furnace wouldn't go on - I asked Gene to please come over this morning, which he did right after work - he didn't have much to say to me - his personality changes all the time - but he couldn't lite the furnace so I called Schuttheis & they did and also replaced the motor for my air cleaner - another 100 job. Will these bills never end?

May 10, 1983

I didn't diet well at all today, I started out OK - but I called Gene for a few minutes about a problem with ~~our~~ sprinkler system, we talked a few minutes, he was very tired, he doesn't sound too happy, I guess he has his own problems, and it's getting close to the end of his reign, and he has to face other problems for the life - I don't do too

Well when I face mine, I stay quite long in the
"muck and mire" until I really climb out -
meaning I don't do too much about my ever
lasting weight problem, my shoes feel like they're
nailed to the floor & I can't climb that ladder
to my success. Dona wants me to keep a log, daily,
on what I do about my diet, my activities and
if I see or hear from Gene, per day - In two weeks
I'll see her again - then we'll talk about my
realities! It's so darn confusing to me -
only thing that I really understand is that
I must reach my weight goal and soon so I
can feel accomplishment, finally. This dream
has been going on for 25 years!

May 11, 1983

I started out today really well. I decided to
straighten out Ken's room & wash his clothes,
without any promise from him to do anything for me.
He looks so gaunt & tired, trying to work two jobs -
all night & Friday - he's overdoing it - but he never
listens, at least I have today to myself, without
arguments. I really got his room looking rather
neat - all clothes are off the floor. I straightened
out Linda's room, just a bit. She'll do her own soon.
Bob is always neat - a little dusty - but neat! I kept
myself going all day - got a little depressed over

the Guiding Light & I cried for Gene, but I was tired
by 6 PM - wanted to stay in my room - but I did it
again - went down & ate and ate! It seems when
I get tired, I go back into that same routine,
eating, to stay awake! I cried in my bed again,
I'm so disgusted with myself and my marriage,
I can't stand Gene sleeping with another woman, I
remember him telling me, "why would I want another
woman, I can't even satisfy my wife!" I guess he
was looking to see if he was that man again of
yesterday - but the new woman only looks good
because she'll never complain - she's too smart!
Wives feel they have to tell their husband is the
truth but it seems to backfire on them. Am I the
living proof!)

nothing special happening { May 12, 1983
May 13, 1983

May 14, 1983

Today is Saturday - Having breakfast with Linda
and Annie and then my allergy shot & then my hair,
then home. I'm not feeling any good today. I haven't
been seeking my goal too well, overeating too
much, crying too much, disappointed in my marriage
to Gene. It's been such a change for me, that I'm
still suffering depression - I put too much of myself
into my marriage - I have to learn to keep more of the pie.

May 15, 1983

I don't know why grocery shopping gives me such a lift, maybe it's the activity of it, or providing food for the family, or the pride in choosing the right foods, or being able to make the money do - but I love doing it. After unloading all the bags & putting everything away. Glad I went to Lappans for a real late breakfast - It's very dreary today - raining a lot - I haven't heard from Gene in about a week - he lost so much love for him - such a waste - I care for him so much. I hope I can meet someone who'll appreciate me someday - someone who'll like to hug & kiss me and look forward to seeing me everyday. Am glad I haven't gone mentally ill, because I know I kept the family together again, and that keeps me going.

May 16, 1983

I'm starting out today too depressed, I'll have to get over it - I'm looking too negatively into the future. I'll get this weight off Saturday and my future will be brighter. I always feel Gene was happy, but I'll never know. I get the most depressed when I think of him caring for another woman, it makes my heart ache and I feel so rejected! I have a lot of good stuff going for me, I've just held back too long on expanding my life - Mother is always plodding down upon, if they care too much, they're hated, if they care too little, they're selfish - it isn't until your children really grow up that they understand

I've felt that I hampered his independence, but she way he's attached to his girl friend, she doesn't allow him too much freedom either - just because she enjoys sex with her more than me, he thinks he has it made - I wish him happiness - maybe I'll find mine later, with someone else.

May 17, 1983

Champ to Angus, I had a pretty nice morning, we went to Thrift first, then to breakfast at Pappano, Vacked a lot, then to Zayus, where I shopped for some bargains, & I picked some things up for Jessie & Arnie when they come over again. Then home again, The Township Insurance adjuster stopped over, I don't know if we'll get anything for our water soaked rug, then our gardeners cut our grass, then I watched Cwiding put them heated a sundress for Linda, then I made something for Ken, but before Linda came home, I voted with the Davis's. Still nothing heard from Gene, it's almost a week and half since I spoke to him, Theresa is unbelievable, I can't believe he can forget his family so, I know he's busy, but this is ridiculous! No matter how busy I am, my thoughts always go back to my family, my Mum and my sister and always, I think of Gene. I always thought he loved his life with us - but he loves his freedom & sex overall.

May 18, 1983

I didn't do anything very creative today, but I talked to Gene, he called, asked about the yard, etc. I wasn't feeling very cordial to him, I still feel very hurt that he is carrying on his life with help from his "friends", and excluding all of us, that bothers me more than anything I know. I say the same thing all the time - If I succeed at anything, I'd certainly want my family to be a part of that - not virtually strangers - why would he choose that about us? If I asked him that, he'd never give me a really straight answer, because I think a lot of unnatural things governed his life when he made that change. Is it possible that the family unit means very little to the man who wanted family so much? I spend too much of my thoughts in negative ways, I must use that energy in positive ways - I'm losing my leg & going in the wrong direction, much as Gene did, but he doesn't want to fail as State Commander so he blocks his mind to his failure as a husband & father & goes on so he doesn't also fail with JUV. I dwell too much on what has happened & not enough on what could happen, it is such a struggle for me to change bad habits, but it will be my salvation!