

Ft. Salonga Rd.
Northport, N.Y.

April 6, 1951

WINK

Dear Mrs. Marlin,

What a thrill it was getting those books! They arrived only a few days ago - and the moment I picked them out of the box I recognized the titles as best-selling Children's books. I'm sorry I didn't spell your name correctly in my column - I didn't read it quite right from your letter.

I never have paid much attention to the author's names of children's books since I stopped frequenting the children's section of the public library.....otherwise I'd have recognized your name when you wrote to me - because THE COTTAGE ON BANTRY BAY * PEGEEN * etc. are names I see time and again in newspapers and magazine advertising - and I've read so many references to them by critics and reviewers of children's books.

Your books have opened a new world to me - perhaps by now you've seen the column "AN ENCHANTED PLACE" - Christopher Robin - going away - when I looked at your books - (and the children were all standing around cooing and aahing and begging me to start reading at once - and didn't know with which one to begin) I realized that I'm only stepping out of the baby-world - but actually - the world of childhood is just beginning - now that Billy is seven - there will be another five or six years - of a different stage of childhood - and that will be enchanting too - and even something more than enchanting. I recall my own happiness in story books - like the kind you write - they made my childhood a treasure - I just lived in the public library in those days (I was born and raised in Brooklyn - but traveled all over the world from my library port of embarkation).

I hope you will keep on writing many many books - my children as well as yours and millions of others - will be the richer for it.

I meant to write sooner but was putting it off (spending a lot of time in bed these days - nothing really wrong but have anemia that gets bad in Spring and makes me too tired to do anything). Yet today I just had to make it my business to write to you because of the enclosed letter which just came. It will explain itself -- I have already answered it and will go to the post office directly to air-mail it and see that they get their reply as quickly as possible. Now I told them I'm sure your books will be just exactly what they want for radio - (I think they're perfect for radio!) and perhaps in time - you will even do original radio work for them. But perhaps I'm jumping ahead of ourselves!

Everybody's spraying for you - I have letters from readers who loved your letter and they are remembering your intention in their prayers.

Have to stop now or I won't get to the post office or anywhere else today. God love you and all yours!

Sincerely in Christ,

Beggy Wink

P.S. - Where in Ireland did your mother come from? My mother's parents (Timothy & Margaret Boyan) were from Roscommon. I was a "Reilly" but dad's people have been there 3 generations -