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Initials

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Tuesday, May 12, 1964

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And so, my first day of vacation.

I woke early and left Luci sleeping. Went into Lyndon's room and curled up beside him.

How I hated to tell him my little quota of troubles, but it might be a big trouble. And it was half his, so I told him, and we talked until he had to get on with the business of a nation.

Then I went to my room and, half awake, half asleep, rested and thought a while longer.

Then I got up and the first act of the day, was to go to see my foot doctor. Dr. Turchin is one of the biggest reliefs, and the happiest 30 minutes I have ever spend,

Meanwhile, I made a date with Miss Lee for 3 o'clock, called Tony and told him we'd get together as soon as I finished with Miss Lee, And asked Dr. Hurst to join me and Tony a little later.

And then, of course, I went to see about Luci, who had not gone to school that day. Of her own accord, she had planned to go out to school wharm, and talk to Miss Warrie. There was no talk on my part, of pep-up, get back into harness - you've got to keep on for the next three weeks.

At 3 o'clock, I went out to see Miss Lee. She was not there, and about 10 minutes late she came in, panting noticeably from having hurried, and in the next 30 minutes, many things became apparent to me.

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And then, late in the day, I gathered together for my own special treat my brother Tony, whose company is increasingly a solace and a pleasure to me. Odd that one should wait until one is in one's fifties, to really appreciate family. And Dr. Hurst, that dear, understanding man, and we went downstairs to the movie theatre, with a big dish of popcorn. Lynda Bird and Warrie Lynn, Luci declined our invitation. Pretty soon the butler brought down some drinks and we watched movies. First there were reels of Lyndon's senate campaign for 1941, because Mr. Snifwick, or is it Southwick, wanted me to identify people, times, places, for his possible use for putting together a documentary.

They were even better than I remembered, and they probably served to keep me doing what Itm doing now with this little machine.

And then we just saw what couldn't have been of any possible use to Mr. Southwick, but which delighted me and Lynda. Lynda, kicking her feet, in the bathtub, aged three months, or maybe six months, discovering her toes. Later toddling around in the back yard, looking for Easter eggs, or having her second, third, and fourth birthday party. And --Oh, the Halloween parties in the backyard of dear old Dilman - K. K. Connally in a sheet, Lynda Bird a pirate, Luci still in diapers.

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Before I thought everybody would get bored, we quit and went back upstairs. My dear Lyndon, was just ushering Speaker McCormack, and a group of men whom I found later were members of the Rules Committee, out of the Yellow Room, after a conference about legislation.

And no sooner had they gone downstairs, than the elevator disgourged a second load, this time the Ways and Means Committee, and he -- no rest yet for Lyndon, took them on in an effort to speed up whatever the Legislative problems of the day are.

Tony and Dr. Hurst and I, went down into the waning light, into the Rose Garden. Tony loves flowers, and Dr. Hurst loves everything. So we wandered appreciatively around. And then went swimming, I doing my usual 20 rounds. If I could choose from everybody, I think maybe Tony and Dr. Hurst would be my favorite personal companions, especially at a time when I feel burdened with a problem I can't even talk about.

Then back upstairs, where Lyndon told us he was going to the REA meeting, with A.W., of all delightful things, he had come in with the REA group, but refused to stay with us.

And Tony and Dr. Hurst and I sat down for dinner, just the three of us.

Before we were through, Lyndon returned, with A. W., Walter and Congressman Young and Jane. We had coffee together, and when the guests left,

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It is very painful to bring him worries, and this is the kind that increases his determination to get out of this business, because he lays part of the trouble at his own door, for not having been a more attentive, companionable father.

I don't feel that way. I feel that he was cut out for his destiny and doing anything less, would be a waste, and so far, I've been able to handle the troubles that have come along without burdening him too heavily with them.

Some line of poetry that goes like this, or approximately so., "Let the strength of the day be equal to the burdens thereof." It kept running through my head and I thought, how fortunate that Luci fell into this relationship of depression just at the time, when I could take off and attend her, rather than at a moment when I was heading for Atlanta, or for the Arts Committee, or for Cleveland.