

Notes from the Notebooks of Cabin #3

*“you are incarnate in
the world and we live
caught up in you.”*

Teilhard de Chardin

*“The wicked are like the troubled sea
when it can not rest”*

Isaiah 57:20

*“one honeymoon day
one honeymoon night
nothing else to say
nothing else to write”*

Anonymous

Everyone mentions the “waves,” of course,
and the “crying” of the gulls
and the “moon,” through the one small window,
“full,” “half,” or otherwise
provocatively sickled against
a “starry” or “starless” sky,
or as Helen Rusted, of Fond du Lac, put it:

*“the thriving mysteries of life
unfolding in waves of time
spiriting through
the vast existence in space.”*

Many honeymooned or re-honeymooned here,
most are thankful for the change
from whatever to whatever,
everyone goes on almost endlessly
about the peace and quiet.

*“we have been married four days
we love each other very much
didn’t get seasick listening to the waves*

*through faith in the lord
we will be married forever.”*

*“do we sound boring,
we don’t think we are?”*

They had “wieners and cheese for breakfast” or
“crackers and cheese for breakfast lunch and dinner”
or “champagne and meatballs by candlelight”
or “picked blueberries for pancakes
and raspberries in big dishes with cream.”

“Had some nice fresh herring.”
“hot cookies and milk just out of the cold.”

“In this just right cabin,
the carefully watched toast made
on the top of the stove.”

The lake was a lullaby, or not.
They loved or hated the bed
which was not “big enough for three”
according to “Don & the girls,”
which was “noisy but
sure held up,” “Figgy and Ray,”
in which they slept, if at all,
like a “stone” a “cloud,” a lot of “log’s”
a “baby” or “the dead.”

“We found #3 by pure luck
almost got rammed by a semi.”

“The evening of the 19th my wife
got stomach flu
and I got the regular flu
the day after that day.”

“fell off the cliff
and lost my shoe but
it could have been worse.”

“We came here to be alone
married three years already with a little girl.
This Shawnee’s handprint (slightly enlarged)
5 mos. old, 1st time anywhere”

Mrs. Anthony Swanshera of St. Paul
will be back “if I can talk my husband into it,”
and Ginny, Eddie, Lionda, Edvart and Tottsie
are planning to return, in three years,
“God willing.”

“We came to find ourselves once more
to remember that what we need
we have already in each other.”

“We used to come here as children
now we have children
and grandchildren of our own
and we are still coming”

“We are in or ‘70’s
and it makes a good honeymoon spot”

“We loved each other tenderly
and our fondness increased
as we grew old.”

“I sat on the rocks, smoking,
and her reading to me
in the pleasing wild.”

“Cassie found the notebooks
and as she read
years and faces came alive.”

“It has been good
watching this plan unfold,
creating wholeness
in our life.”

Bruce Taylor

note: The quoted material was selected from a series of “guestbooks” dating back to 1937 found in a rental cabin in a small resort on the North Shore of Lake Superior in 1986. People were asked in the original notebook to write whatever they wanted, and provide another when the current one was full.