

September 26th, 1916

Dear Albert,

It has been about two years since I last heard from you. The war is raging and many villages are affected. At the hospital, I am overwhelmed by the number of war wounded who have returned to the village and who do not listen to my instructions! I have even been called to the front to use my skills on the newly wounded. I hope the nurses caring for your regiment are good and that they have good morale. As father always says, if you don't have the morale, you have nothing. So tell me my brother, do you have the morale? I know that France is not a winner and that the war does not seem to be close to ending but we must not give up! God who watches over us from above will watch over us until the end. God willing we will lose the war. Keep your faith my brother, keep your faith in God and in your loved ones. My brother, are you well? Did you celebrate your birthday with wine? We lit a candle for your 21st birthday and put it out halfway through the night. Whenever I see the families bringing their wounded men home from war I always hope to see you limping to me. The farm is doing well, the cows are healthy and giving lots of milk. Our father and Rosalia milk the cows every morning while mother makes the delivery until 12 o'clock. Soon I will probably have to work only on the farm and not at the hospital. At least if you don't come home soon. Every day is grayer, and every time the government tells us that they need 17 year olds our parents hesitate every time. They say they don't want to lose another child. But I know you're not dead, you're stronger than that. You are the oldest son in the family and it is your duty to be strong. Anyway I have to fight for my country and freedom. Just like you do. That's why I decided to go back to the front. I will always remember you, my brother. Your achievements, whether on the farm or in the war. I know you will receive this letter one way or another. I will soon join you so that I too will be remembered! My candle is getting low and I'm going to have to finish this letter so I'll say goodbye to you brother and come back soon.

I love you

Suzanne