CHAPTERS 7 & 8

"The Hooker"

"Maria's Nights"

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You really failed me tonight!
You are the stubbornest piece of bait
I ever tried to fish with! Jesus help us! You
won't cast in the direction I cast you, you won't
try to lure the fish I'm after!

My God, when you are out in the water and there
is a fish, you are out there, and you have to
do the job! I can't do the job for you!
You're the one who is
supposed to attract them
and lure them and get
them to bite --- you're
the bait!
Which showed the
most love? — That you
obey me or you don't
obey me? Because of
some stupid idea about
your wanting to be loyal
to the fisherman, you don't
want to give him the
line and the hook!

That's what every
fisherman has to
take a chance
on, losing the bait! But I think
you need to go after the ones
that are the most lonely and the
most needy. If you are bait,
they have got to try and
swallow you --- only I
have to be there to
protect you and keep
you and remove
you. Arthur we know
God is after and
I'm angling for
him, but you
won't even swim
in his direction!

You try to use
as little bait as
possible! That's no way to
catch men! The bait
conceals the hook!
You're afraid to
use yourself as bait
because you are attached to
the fisherman on the line and
they might get hooked! That's
what it's all about --- to get him
hooked! How is he going to get
hooked if you are not willing to
get swallowed and carry the
hook to him and obey the
fisherman? How?
The bait is out there to entice the fish! You're to go out there angling, procuring, pondering, whatever you like to call it, for fish! Lord help us catch men! Now next time I throw you in, you go down and catch some fish!

I love you sweetheart! Be good bait for Jesus! I'd like you to wear your little fins.

"Follow Me (Jesus said) and I will make you fishers of men." (Mat 4:19)

(Arthur's story:)

They were fascinating! I really liked them. They were at the same time open, frank, truthful and secret, deep and not forthcoming. These two had really made a work in my life. They were different in many ways from the other people, and I had some very happy dances with dear Maria and an interesting chat with David and I was determined to find out more! I was hooked on them. Every facet of my nature was touched on expertly and in a nice innocent way by David.

I invited them to dinner... I was so excited! I couldn't explain it. But that's how it was for me. I was introduced to a really pretty girl named Becky. She had that same warmth in her eyes and exuded love with just a look and a handshake.

David asked me about my beliefs, but religion and a belief in God were something I could not quite handle. I needed to see something in the physical before I could believe.
Anyway, a week later we went out again. . . well it seemed that David could not come with us, so I had dear Maria all to myself! Whew! We talked and talked and loved and loved! What a dream!

How pure she was!

What a night!

How close I felt to dear David! She was an angel! And then only two days later she went away with David, but for the life of me I could not find out where!

Deep down I was very hurt, I missed her a lot! I had never known a love like that! Her last words to me were, "We love you!"

"Don't forget to phone Becky---she'll take care of you!" I wasn't interested, even though I really fancied her when I first met her. I had no address to write to apart from Becky's, so I decided not to bother—I was so damn selfish!

David's words were like soft cajoling, teasing, informative, instructive observations about me, life and God, and I really wanted to know more. He continued about God, and what God was to him; then he said to me the words which were the start of my changed life:

"God is a Spirit!"

The key had turned; God is a Spirit! He is not physical or touchable, but His presence is here with us! No wonder these two had inner peace and outward calm and love! Without knowing, I had been witnessed to about God's love!

At the dance hall, dear David was so happy to see Maria and I enjoying ourselves. She could make love with her eyes—and looking back, so could David! How I wanted to take her to bed! She was the most important person in my life right then, but... she was married!