5910 Latona Ave. N.E. Seattle, 5, Wash. June 12, 1961

First Person Editor The Reader's Digest Pleasantville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find an article which I submit for your consideration. It is a most unusual experience and it is difficult to describe it within the limits of 2500 words. The experience covers a lifetime and has actually been years in the aggregate of time consumed. I have written it as straight forward in manner as I can and trust that you will give it your honest consideration.

Respectfully

C. W. Whipple

I Have Visited in Heaven Many Times

C. W. Whipple

I was eighty-one years old on May 5, 1961. As early as I can remember distinctly, as young as two or three years old, I have had unusual experiences.

The first of these occurred when I was still a very small boy. My mother would fix me up, with a note pinned to my pocket, and send me to play at the house of a neighbor. On one of these occasions, after playing with toys I became sleepy, crawled up on the bed and was soon asleep. In a short time I was playing in a beautiful place, with a number of other children, supervised by pretty guides and nurses. During the playtime the children had cookies to eat and something like fruit juice to drink. After waking up I told about it and they said it certainly had been a nice dream.

These nice, so called dreams, continued at irregular intervals, both when asleep and awake. As I grew older they became a fixture in my pattern of life. At first, while I was small, my family accepted these tales of mine as dreams, then as fiction and made up stories, and finally as pure intentional fabrications. But the trips continued unabated and I continued to tell about them. Recounting them finally brought punishment, and when I was about twelve years old a final whipping from my mother to try to make me tell the truth. I did not change my stories, because they were true, but never again told of my experiences to my mother.

We were Christians and the children attended Sunday School regularly. I still have a quarterly I studied when six or seven years old. As I grew up these peculiar visits began to make sense. I discovered that I was making these trips to Heaven, that the guides and nurses were in reality angels, and the children and people I met were the spirits of people who had once lived here on earth. I discovered this when a little boy who lived in our neighborhood became ill and died, and then later I played with him in Heaven. I began to compare my Bible which told about Heaven with what I was experiencing and discovered many things about them before I was twelve years old.

When I was thirteen years old we moved to a homestead in Oklahoma. While there I broke out the claim of raw prairie and worked it over into a farm, while my father worked around the country at mason work to support the family. I was alone in the field day after day for two years and I spent much of my time investigating and comparing truths and facts as I discovered them on earth and with what I found in Heaven and my Bible. I failed to find discrepancies and obtained a very good knowledge of the contents of my Bible.

After leaving Oklahoma I entered High School and took several sciences including physics, geology, botany and zoology. These were especially helpful to me in my Heavenly investigations after I learned it was the home of the creator, the Holy Spirit and their son, Jesus, the Christ of the Bible. Heaven and everything therein is entirely spiritual in nature. It is located around the earth in concentric areas or globes, one without the

other, and extending millions or billions of miles into time-space. There are seven of these areas in Heaven as far out as I have explored.

The first of these, lying closest around and next to the earth might be called a receiving station, for here the spirit of every human whose material body dies must go; and remain during a period of adjustment of the spirit to life as it will be found in Heaven. Here the babies come and are cared for during their first seven years by Angels, helpers and teachers, and often by parents. During their first seven years they obtain an education about equivalent to earthly high school. Older persons and adults here learn the true form of knowledge and discard the earthly acquired superstitions and false religions acquired upon the earth. No one leaves this first area until that change is completed. I have called this area "Beulah Land" since reading "Pilgrim's Progress".

The second area is in reality a primary training school for the study of the elementary functions of creation, where the spirit of time-space is first transformed into gas, liquid or solid forms of spirit, perceptible only to the senses of spiritual beings; Men, Angels and other spiritual beings. It is one immense school, laboratory and work shop, being of a grade or class we would call a university on earth. Here individuals finish their formal education. Children remain here until about fourteen years of age, when most are adequately equipped for enjoyment of the spiritual life. I call this area "Paradise".

The third area comprises the spiritual forms of primary matter, being in reality a collection of permanent prototypes, in spirit, of all the different primary creations since the world was formed. I have called this "The Radiant Hills and Crystal Gems". There are no exact demarcation borders to these seven regions, but each blends or merges into the next. Schools, laboratories and study districts are scattered all through the first five areas and are filled with millions of youths and adults who are studying spiritual truths, creation, and the operations of the different spiritual functions.

The fourth area is given over to the spiritual forms of vegetable life, from the first elementary life cells to the most beautiful and intricate of plants and flowers. It is such a beautiful district that I have called it "The Conservatory of Beauty". Here in permanent spiritual form are great expanses of all created vegetable matter, from the smallest plant to the mightiest of ferns and trees, vines and orchids. These are not scattered helterskelter but are arranged in beautifully placed landscapes and scenery, which comprises the homes and estates of millions of saints.

The fifth region of Heaven is what we might call a zoo here upon the earth. Here are kept all types of animal life ever created, in the spirit form. Lakes, swamps and rivers contain thousands of forms of animal life, from the most minute to the largest whale. Upon the open prairies and grasslands roam immense herds of elk, deer, buffalo and cattle, all forms that have ever been created. In the woodlands are the smaller animals and the birds, untold millions of them. The music of the birds is ever present everywhere. There are no carnivorous animals and all live together in peace with each other and with man. This I have called the "Zoological Gardens".

The sixth zone or sphere around the earth is the region of the homes of the saints and their places of gathering for worship of the creator, the Holy Spirit and Jesus, their son and our Savior. The regions of study, investigation and institutions of research are within the Zoological Gardens. This area is given over entirely to the estates, homes, farms and their worshiping centers. I hesitate to call these centers "Churches" because they are so different from churches we see here upon the earth. They differ from the smallest, simplest shrine on individual estates and homes, through churches, temples, mosques, tabernacles and cathedrals, to an immense open air gathering place in the form of a saucer, at least five or more miles across, where multi-millions come to worship every day of the year. Here saints gather at regular times for worship. On every seventh day and on special holy days the Holy Spirit, or Jesus, or both may be seen and often heard as they participate in services. I have called this region "The Church of the Savior".

The area beyond this is immense and most of it is unexplored by me. The farther they are away from the earth the larger these regions become, until this seventh is almost incomprehensible. The homes and estates of the saints still continue by the millions. They are beautiful beyond description, for every saint has all the riches and resources of Heaven to use for his life and enjoyment, as he is a true member of the family, a son or daughter of the creator. In this region is found the structures and institutions pertaining particularly to the general welfare, care and government of that portion of the universe concerning man. Here is found the New Jerusalem, the great city lying four square with foundations of precious jewels, gates of pearl and streets like gold as partially described by John. Within this city lie temples and the home of the creator, the Holy Spirit and Jesus. Here is the Great White Throne, the source of the "River of Life" which flows through all seven of the regions of Heaven to every part of the creators kingdom. I have called this region "The Great White Throne".

During the nineteen closing days of the heavenly year corresponding with September 4 to 22, 1932, with the help of several of my relatives in Heaven I recorded forty-four addresses or sermons given at various institutions throughout Heaven. These were delivered during the closing exercises of the year and I made a permanent record of them for future reference. September 9, with my son Kerr, we heard a speech in an auditorium or school for the instruction of adults in Beulah Land by George Fox, the friend, born in 1624, died in 1690 in England, on the general subject of "Confessing Christ". Later in the evening we heard an address, also in Beulah Land on the subject of "Spiritual Guidance", by Joseph, the interpreter, son of Jacob, born 71749 BC, died 71689 BC in Egypt. Some of the others who took part in this series included; Moses, Wycliffe, John the Beloved, Augustine, Elijah, Timothy, Wesley, Joshua, Luke, Knox, Luther, Peter and Samuel.

I will relate a few of the many thousands of experiences that I have had in Heaven during almost eighty years of my life. On January 21, 1904, my first son Kerr was born. But he died at birth and in the early morning was carried in the arms of an angel to Beulah Land. A few hours later, after I had retired to get some sleep, I visited Beulah Land and my son. He was being cared for by angels in a beautiful home. After this I visited him quite often as he grew and advanced through the Beulah Land period of his life and during

the paradise University training. At fourteen he was ready to take up special studies toward becoming an architect, which he had chosen as an occupation. We have been very close companions ever since till the present time. He is now fifty-seven years old.

In the autumn of 1909 while I was on an exploring trip in the Conservatory of Beauty I came to a beautiful orchard, row after row. I plucked and ate of the delicious fruit and wandered through to a large work shop on the side. Here a man was working at a bench. As I approached he turned, and I came face to face with my grandfather Whipple. He was no longer old and gray with only one limb, but young and in the spring time of life. We visited and I accompanied him to his home where I met grandmother and a number of uncles and aunts and cousins, some of who, I had known while living. We spent many happy hours together after this.

During the flu epidemic of 1918-1919, while my family and I were ill I spent many happy hours in Heaven at the home of my son Kerr. During this period my spirit would often slip over into Beulah Land to his home where we spent the time together. I went with him to a worship service in the large bowl of The Church of the Savior. We were close to the orchestral and choral sections and I was able to observe them at close range. The music was wonderful and the participants beautiful beyond description.

On January 21, 1925, my son Kerr was 21 years old. He had gone to worship during the early morning period and took the remainder of the day for a birthday party with other young people. On February 19, which is the birthday of Jesus upon earth, and therefore Christmas in Heaven, I attended the celebration in the Church of the Savior with Kerr in the forenoon service. During the program as I was looking over to my left I thought I saw my Grandma Headrick and some aunts and cousins whom I knew. As soon as the service was over I went to them and met many of my Headrick relatives. I went home with grandma and met and visited with grandpa and many other relatives and friends. They live in a beautiful mansion that Kerr planned and had prepared for them.

While exploring or wandering in the far reaches of the Church of the Savior, up close to the Great White Throne, I came upon an uncompleted foundation. I wondered what it could be and learned by later visits that a mansion was being erected for some saints as their home. On May 5, 1927, I visited the site while work was in progress and discovered that Kerr was the architect in charge of the designing and layout. He directed me to the superintendent in charge of the construction and I met my own father. That evening I had another surprise. Papa brought mama to the building and we had a long visit. They were staying at grandfather Whipple's while their home was being built.

On May 5, 1951, I visited my son Kerr in his Heavenly home in Beulah Land. On this day he took me to my future home in Heaven, and gave me possession of the estate which is to be my permanent home after I have laid aside my physical body. This tract lies in the extreme portion of the Conservatory of Beauty, over toward the Radiant Hills and Crystal Gems. I have now spent ten years in the possession and enjoyment of this estate on any and every occasion which I have desired.

C. W. Whipple