

Letter from Walter Bagot to Lady Anne Bussey (née Cave), 1616: autograph manuscript draft, Papers of the Bagot family of Blithfield, Staffordshire. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.a.146, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

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Good sister having heard by letters from my brother Sir William Cave that it hath pleased God to take to his mercy your kind and worthy husband we could not but send over this bearer with these letters signifying we are partakers in your grief having lost a loving brother and faithful friend a rare Jewel in these times where faith and true affection are seldom kept or used. I hope your wisdom and knowledge of the word of God will sufficiently arm you with patience to endure his Cross laid upon you unto whose blessed will we must all subject ourselves and prepare and make vs ourselves ready for that inevitable hour he hath set down and appointed to Call us. praying in the meantime we may then be ready to enjoy that blessed place prepared for them which are partakers of his heavenly joys and possess the same before us And for your temporal estate ~~we hope~~ the love of my brother unto you together with his long and languishing disease giving him sufficient warning to settle and dispose of ~~his worldly estate~~ the same hath made sufficient provision for you and your daughter And we doubt not but if anything therein should be wanting the kind and natural affection of my Nephew your son will supply the same. The long distance of places together with the want of ability, means, and opportunity to travel do Enforce us to write being more desirous to have seen you. And hereby present unto you our ready desires to perform what and wherein the true affection of a brother and sister may ~~perform~~ be showed to your good and contentment. And

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To my Sister Bussey