

Letter written by soldier Henri Hillaire, 11th cuirassiers, fallen on the field of honor

Source: **La dernière lettre écrite par des soldats français tombés au champ d'honneur 1914-1918**

The trenches at 2100  
25 September 1918

Dear papa,

Dear mama,  
If these few words reach you, it will be that your Riri is no longer.

I am in line, you should read my letter of this morning. We are going to attack; we will leave the trenches at 2:30 in the morning. Just a few hours more and we'll charge the enemy.

My last thought will be for you, my loved ones. I know that if this letter reaches you that it's over for you: joy and gaiety will disappear forever in the small house where you were so well. But courage, from above your Riri will watch and wait for the final reunion that will take place for us.

Know that you were loved and adored; my daily letter should have proven that to you.

Goodbye then, my father; goodbye then my mother, goodbye to all those that I loved.

Your Riri who loves you.