

COPY

July 26, 1955

Mr. Ernest Hemingway
c/o Charles Scribner's Sons
597 5th Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Hemingway:

I am completing a book on political courage--the stories of Senators who risked their careers by speaking out for principles which were extremely unpopular among their constituents. I am most anxious to use in the text a definition of "courage" as "grace under pressure" which I recall was attributed to you. I am planning to open the book by quoting this definition and stating that the book contains the stories of the pressures operating on eight courageous Senators, and the grace with which they endured those pressures.

Unfortunately, I am unable to find the source of this quotation or verify your authorship of it. I wonder if you recall the phrase and would be kind enough to let me know so I might use it in the manner suggested.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy

JFK:gl