

May 8, 1936

My dear Mr. Smith:

Your manuscript has come back from Macmillans. They tell me that they fear it could not be handled as a book. They say, which I think is a fact, that a drama must find its way into book form ^{from} through the stage, or in these latter days the cinema. This is the judgment of an experienced house who at my request gave the manuscript serious consideration.

Of course, another publisher might feel differently about it, might see a way of handling your dramatic picture directly. If I were in your place I would try, as you suggested the other day, with a couple at least of the more venturesome publishers - Macmillans is of course a very conservative house.

If you fail to find a publisher I think I should try the moving picture producer. I can put you in touch with a group interested in moving pictures that would be friendly to the idea at least.

Shall I return the manuscript to you or will you arrange to call for it?

I am sorry that this first attempt has failed but there are not many manuscripts that settle down on a first trial.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Chester A. Smith
Peekskill, New York