

My dear Jack: I trust that if you ever have to publish another book of mine you will not wait to have it printed by two girls. There is no reason why Centaur should not have been in type thirty days after the first line was in type. There was no delay in copy; proof-reading was used especially to prevent excuse for delay, and you know that the book had been held over especially to get the 'Fall market. Because of this you promised to "rush it".

You know as well as I, and I as well as you that no money, no pains, no facilities are made up to a book worth of fiction at least, the advantage of full publications and you

that was my conviction and for that
the book was designed.

You know too that the whole
matter of English publication is
a "fiasco". I would not give one
week's sale in October - here at
home - for all the English mar-
ket will bring in royalty. The
English market is little less than
a swindle, anyhow.

I suppose it makes no difference
what you do with the book now. What-
ever success it has will only serve
to show what it might have
done if given a fair show. You might
as well make a name to swim with
a millstone about his neck as
expect a ~~name~~ to succeed
without the Free Market. And

just as well try to find a market
for kindling - wood in hell as
expect to sell a novel ~~in~~ pub-
lished in ~~the~~ January. Buyers
are starved; dealers are loaded
up with dead stock; business is
depressed; dealers who are not
broke are afraid they will be;
all lines of traffic are dull
and especially the book-trade.

As far as I am concerned,
I am sick. I never wish to see
the book now here it mentioned.
Of course, I was not fresh enough
to think any great success was prob-
able, but I know that a book published
in October will have ~~down~~ as great
a sale as ^{if published} in any month ~~before~~
~~next~~ ~~of~~ the next eleven months.

If I owned the copyright I would forbid Eastman's appearance until next September. Of course, it would be ancient literature then but having lost the horse I would ride the saddle.

To me personally, its non-appearance in the Fall means the practical loss of the winter as I relied upon it to ~~make a few~~ ^{create a dynamic} for a particular lecture and on that account neglected to work other lines. That is a small matter, however. I can't be hurt any more. Of course, it makes a man sick when he has worked like the devil crawling up a slippery grade to find the rope he is depending on after has been fumbled by the other fellows, but I don't

know as it makes way, great things
emerge with the final result. I'm
used to it and don't mind the
whimper. Perhaps, I shall some time
get so that I will even like it.

Yours