

8

**FINCA VIGIA, SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA, CUBA**

May 15 1952

Dear Alberto :

I am sorry to have delayed so writing to you but I could not write until Scribner's released the news of the publication of my new book . You remember I told you that I hoped to have a surprize for you .This is it .

The book will be published by Scribners on September 8th . It has also been selected by the Book of the Month club . LIFE magazine will also publish it . So you see that it will reach between five and six million readers at the same time .

I would like you to have Fernanda Pivano translate it and have Adriana Ivancich do the jacket . As soon as Scribners send you the proofs please ask Fernanda to start the translation . Since it is a short book and every word is of vital and absolute importance it is absolutely necessary that the translation should not be hurried and should be absolutely perfect . Because it is not long Fernanda should be able to have the translation finished so that you can have the book out by October or November .In that way you can publish it in Italian a month later than it is published in English and still not have the translation hurried . If you wish to serialize it in EPOCA in October you may do so before you publish it .

It is not for me to talk ~~and~~ about the book or its quality . You will have the opinions of the judges of the Book of the Month club and Scribner's announcement in their catalogue . I enclose the copy of the announcement that Scribners sent to me . The book was only announced today and I am writing to you on the same day . So please believe ,Alberto , that when there is any necessity to be fast in order that you should have something I use all possible speed .

Three days ago I had a very fine letter from your father and yesterday the Easter number of EPOCA . Will you please thank him very much for his letter and pay him my bests respects . I thought the EPOCA was excellent and I would be proud to write for it whenever I can . I will write your father later to pay my formal respects but I send this letter now with the contract so that you will have it as soon as possible .

Please do not say anything to anyone about the LIFE publication ~~yet~~ yet as it has not been announced .

If, when you read it, you do not wish to serialize the book we can strike that clause out of the contract . I believe you will wish to serialize it .But if you do not I agree to eliminate that clause in the contract .

It should also be clearly understood that the book under no circumstances should be published before October 1952 . ~~Not shall it be~~ Mary sends her best love to you and Virginia and all of the family .

Best always ,Alberto , and give my love to Virginia .

Your friend

*Ernest Hemingway*

( Mister Papa )

- (1) Copy of contract enclosed
- (2) Copy of Scribner's announcement enclosed

*— premiere - estate '53 - pub. - "Across the river and into the trees"*

*Serialized before October 1952. This is important.*

*Mr. Hemingway*