

22 E. 8 St. NYC 10003

March 6, 1978

Dear Mrs. Storting:

You speak of courage. I sometimes wonder how we can recognize - or judge it for what it truly is. Perhaps courage may be described as an inner urge or force - something which carries us on and into paths, experiences hitherto unknown. I think courage may be a quality which enables one to "take on" a formidable "foe"; one which has the odds, usually, in his favor. "Courage" may be also understood as a kind of fool-hardiness which causes or enables one to engage in a "set-to" in which there is little or no chance for that one to come out as a winner.

Guts may be a better word, since guts has to do with a sort of determination, the unique quality of which defies, often defeats, the enemical strongholds of adversity. I think it takes guts to go on believing, trying, holding out - regardless of the out-come. Usually, in such instances and cases, ~~the~~ one rarely if

one actually loses, since he, being what
and who the guts person is, would do what
he has done or believe what he believed
all over again, regardless of the results, whether
plus or minus, in the generally accepted
sense of the term.

I was indeed surprised to hear that Clarence
Bacote was on your committee. He was one of
the first A. U. professors I met when I came to
Atlanta to teach in 1931. I have seen him once
or twice since leaving A. U. during visits back
to Atlanta.

You won't ever understand, I am afraid, the
deep and sincere compassion I felt when you
related to me the circumstances, not always the
happiest, which you and your family face. Now
this is where courage, guts and all the rest are
of the utmost importance to you, as well as to them!
I guess it takes an inner strength, which nature
has given us, in order to be able to cope.

Someday I wish you'd give me a short de-
scription of the course(s) you teach there - just a
line or two. I am very much interested.

Best to you in all things

Sincerely,
Hale Woodruff



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