

30 May 1967

Mr. Robert Ockene  
Bobbs Merrill Co.  
3 West 57 Street  
New York NY 10019

Dear Bob,

I have shown the jacket to several more people who disliked it actively. Two of them, who are in publishing or allied media, felt that it would be a definite handicap to the book. They disliked particularly the "purpled red" of the subtitle (which you have said would be toned down) and the "deep gold" of the top half of the jacket.

Even before hearing these reactions, I was not reconciled to the jacket. As you may realize, personal affection sometimes inhibits me from pressing a point as forcefully as I might with someone in a purely "business" relationship. So I just want to repeat, for the record, that I am unhappy about the jacket, that I do request you to reconsider it, and that I would be entirely ready to pay out of pocket up to the sum of \$500 the costs involved in obtaining a new design satisfactory both to the publisher and the author.

Also for the record, on a related subject, I want to reiterate my request that the galley proof of the book not be sent to Mark Lane. If I had the choice or the veto, I would not consent to having a jacket quotation from him, even though he offered without solicitation to provide one, as in fact he did on February 7, 1967. I acknowledge your argument that such a quote will be helpful to the book's sales. Since I have little or no knowledge of promotion, I do not dispute this. I do consider that sales should not be the determining factor when certain other values are at issue; but since our contractual arrangements do not give me a voice or a veto on such decisions, I merely wish to make a formal expression of my views with respect to this jacket quotation.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher  
302 West 12 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10014