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November 14, 1941.

My dear Miss Manwaring:

The office ruling regarding "Paul's Case" was the result of a great <sup>↑</sup>overuse of "The Sculptor's Funeral" for serial purposes. That story was a very early one, exaggerated in feeling and carelessly executed, and I dislike <sup>^</sup>having it spread about the country so much for young people to imitate.

The three stories in "Obscure Destinies" I have always held back from serial publication simply because <sup>The use of any one of them</sup> ~~they~~ <sup>^</sup>take the heart out of the book. In this instance, however, I am asking Mr. Knopf to make an exception, if he can see fit to do so. Both Mr. Knopf and I have been so bothered by importunate requests to include various stories and books of mine in Omnibuses, First Readers, etc., etc., that we are very chary about breaking our rule of universal refusal.

Very sincerely yours,

Willa Cather

Please excuse this untidy letter. My secretary is now on her vacation, and the substitute is very inadequate,