

2495 Redding Road, Fairfield, Connecticut, March 6, 1964

Dr Kenneth Clark,
Department of Psychology,
City College,
New York City.

Dear Dr Clark:

I am about to ask you a great favor. But first let me introduce myself. I am a writer, and a professor at Yale. Among my novels are All the Kings Men, World Enough and Time, and The Cave. I have also done other things, including, now and then a bit of journalism. And it is a bit of journalism that brings me to the favor.

I am under contract with Look Magazine and Random House, my regular publishers, to do a series of interviews with Negro leaders in various parts of the country. I am not trying to do newspaper interviews. I want, if possible, to get something like a portrait, an impression of a man's way of thinking and feeling, his attitudes on a variety of questions. I wonder if I can persuade you to see me for a couple of hours? I should be enormously grateful.

Except for the period from March 19 to April 3, and the day of April 8, I am free. Or rather, no dates are yet firm in that period, up till May 1. Would you find it possible to see me? I could come in at any time in the day or evening. I know that this is an imposition, but perhaps you can be persuaded to think that some good can come of the project.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert Penn Warren