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Carson J. Robison, the Cowboy Radio Singer,  
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### Letter, 1940 June 12, from F. J. A. Forster to Carson Robison

F. J. A. Forster

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JUNE 12, 1940

MR. CARSON J. ROBISON  
CELLINI BLDG.  
48 W. 48TH ST.  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MY DEAR CARSON:

I AM IN RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 10 RE THE SONG "THE OLD MAN'S STORY". FIRST OF ALL, CARSON, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I APPRECIATE YOUR FEELINGS AS EXPRESSED AS REGARDS MYSELF. FRANKLY, I AM ALWAYS DUBIOUS ABOUT SONGS OF THIS TYPE, BELIEVING MANY OF THEM ARE REHASHES OF PERHAPS ORIGINAL SONGS AND IN MANY CASES, SONGS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, AND AS YOU PERHAPS HAVE NOTED, I HAVE PUBLISHED VERY FEW AND PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE OF THAT FEELING.


AT THE TIME WE GOT TOGETHER THE TEX OWENS FOLIO, I WAS IN KANSAS CITY AND OUR MUTUAL FRIEND, CHARLEY JOHNSON, TOOK DOWN THE NUMBERS AS TEX PLAYED THEM. I WAS CAREFUL AT THAT TIME TO ASK HIM WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE ORIGINAL, AND SO FAR THIS IS THE FIRST COMPLAINT THAT I HAVE HAD.

I DON'T BLAME YOU A BIT, CARSON, FOR FEELING AS YOU DO ABOUT IT, AND I, TOO, THINK THAT IT SHOULD BE IRONED OUT TO THE SATISFACTION OF ALL CONCERNED.

AT THE MOMENT, I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO REACH TEX, BUT I PERHAPS WILL BE HEARING FROM HIM SOON. NOW SO FAR AS THE FOLIO IS CONCERNED, CARSON, I IMAGINE WE HAVE SOLD TO DATE AROUND 6,000 COPIES, AND I DON'T IMAGINE IT'S GOING TO HAVE ANY GREAT SALE. NONE OF THE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN SEPARATE SHEET FORM, AND IN ALL LIKELIHOOD WILL NOT BE.

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT YOU KNOW TEX OWENS, CARSON, BUT HE REALLY IS A NICE CHAP -- GREAT BIG, WHOLESOME WESTERNER, AND I DON'T BELIEVE HE WOULD INTENTIONALLY TRY TO TAKE ANYTHING FROM ANYONE; HOWEVER, THAT'S BESIDE THE STORY. I THINK WE SHOULD GET IT STRAIGHTENED OUT, CARSON, AND IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, LET'S HAVE THEM.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

  
F. J. A. FORSTER

F/A