

Dear Signor Mondadori

It is with real pleasure that I congratulate you on the fiftieth anniversary of your life's work as a publisher. Authors are a difficult lot to deal with and it must be a satisfaction to you to know that through the years you have gained their confidence, their esteem and their gratitude.

We English authors owe you much for having published so many translations of our works & so enabled us to be read by a multitude of Italian readers. Of course in a translation something of the original must inevitably be lost; it is our good fortune that you have done your best to give us translators who are accurate & conscientious.

I hope that for many years you will continue to take an interest in current literature & remain to give us the benefit of your experience, not only to the honour of your distinguished firm, but also to the profit of your authors.

W Somerset Maugham

