

Dear Sybil Ludington,

When you rode through the night on your horse for forty miles at the mere age of 16 on a said impossible quest to rally a broken army, you probably never thought a girl your age would be writing you a letter, much less a letter of gratitude. But here I am, writing this and I just wanted to thank you for what you did.

Because you braved the rain, riding tirelessly for miles upon end, now people like me can read, write, publish books, and even vote. It was due to you and the many others that rode through bullets, rain, heat, fire, and even swarms of bugs for hours or even days, that people all around the world are treated with respect no matter the gender or race.

I don't know how you managed to rally a whole army or how you had the determination to keep going even after you were soaked to the bone with the pouring ice-cold rain, but your story will remain a guiding path and light for centuries to come, reminding girls like me all around the world that no matter how big, no matter how small, you can make a difference by just stepping up when nobody else is brave enough to.

You aren't one of the most well-known, and you aren't one of the most admired and you may not have a giant monument or museum to your name like many others. But nobody can deny that on that night, when you stepped up to face a challenge that you didn't need to take and rallied four hundred men to your call, that you were as brave as any other soldier fighting for their lives and more. You stepped up to do the impossible that nobody thought could work, that everyone had already given up on, and on that fateful night your courage made you the leader they needed the most.

Sincerely, Sophie