What is courage?

The ability to control your fear in a dangerous or difficult situation. (Cambridge dictionary)

Mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty. (Merriam-Webster)

Definition

- Do we need a definition (or word) which specifies a fear is keenly experienced before being overcome or are the more wide ranging definitions only including a danger being recognised adequate?
- To what degree is choice a pre-requisite? Reputably Luther declared 'I can do no other'. Side stepping the question of whether what he did was good, where might virtue lie?
- Where does reason feature - e.g. may we include when a danger is under appreciated or when sheer obstinacy gets us through?
- If there are many sources of fear - e.g. phobias, physical dangers, ridicule, isolation .. - does the type of courage required vary?

Morality

- To what extent may we ascribe the word to those playing with fear e.g. daredevils?
- Can the significantly morally flawed - e.g. megalomaniacs - be courageous?
- Similarly could courage be part of an immoral action e.g. an acrophobic crossing a vertiginous rope bridge in order to exact a brutal revenge? If not, why not?