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If a (commutative unital) ring A is reduced and coincides with its total quotient ring, then A satisfies Property A (that is, A is a McCoy ring) if and only if the inclusion of A in its complete ring of quotients $C(A)$ is a survival extension. The “if” assertion fails if one deletes the hypothesis that A is reduced. This is shown by using the idealization construction to construct a suitable ring A and then identifying its complete ring of quotients (which turns out to be a related idealization). Related characterizations of von Neumann regular rings are also given with the aid of the going-down property GD of ring extensions. For instance, a ring A is von Neumann regular if and only if A is a reduced McCoy ring that coincides with its total quotient ring such that $A \subseteq C(A)$ satisfies GD. (Received June 28, 2012)