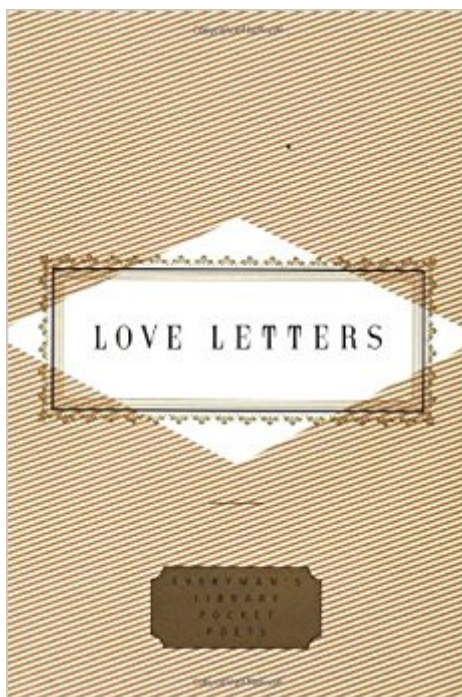


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Love Letters (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets)



Synopsis

Here are 200 irresistible love letters from over the centuries, love letters both historic and fictional, love letters by poets and by princes, love letters enchanting, tragic, comic, superbly selected, beautifully printed, conveniently portable, to have with you wherever and whenever you're in the mood for love.

Book Information

Series: Everyman's Library Pocket Poets

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Everyman's Library (January 23, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679446893

ISBN-13: 978-0679446897

Product Dimensions: 4.4 x 0.7 x 6.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #502,717 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #255 in Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Love Poems #346 in Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Essays & Correspondence > Letters #691 in Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Anthologies

Customer Reviews

Not only has this book been a fantastic source of beautiful quotes to share with my beloved, reading through it and using some of the letters it contains as a model has helped me express my feelings for her more eloquently. Well organized and easy to use as a reference book, this handy little volume has love letters written by a large assortment of authors, poets, celebrities, and historical figures from a wide spectrum of time periods. This brilliant selection of letters runs the gamut of the various emotions present in any romantic relationship and is divided into sections which helps in finding letters most applicable to specific situations. Most anybody will be able to find something that applies to them personally - a nice reminder that it's all been said before, and probably better than you'll ever be able to. I'm sure I'll continue to use this terrific source of inspiration and reflection for many years to come. -the binding ribbon is really nice for marking special letters - an added bonus!

Today we text message. We post messages on our Facebook or MySpace. We email, instant message, or call our beloved. And although it would be a mistake to judge these modes of

communication as being better or worse than the love letter, one cannot help but think, and be awed, that for centuries the only means for two to send words of love was through the letter. Though there is poetry, though there are sonnets, plays, and novels without end expressing romantic love, for some reason the love letter holds a dear precious place in our hearts. Perhaps we remember our first love letter and through that remembrance of times past personalize the experience of reading the letters of another. Perhaps it is the concise passionate intensity of it. So much of one's heart in so short a space. Ink with the passion of one intoxicated by love. Whatever it may be, we are drawn to it time and again. And in that fascination, Everyman's Library has taken passion of lovers and loved from the past centuries, for us to voyeuristically behold. Choosing to embrace all the nuances of love, rather than a single dimension, E.L. presents humorous love (G.K. Chesterton to Frances Plogg), intoxicating love (Keats to Fanny Browne), erotic love (Ann Hamilton and Barbara Villiers to Lord Chesterfield), deeply sad love (Nadia Mandelstam to Osip Mandelstam), and of course all consuming love (Bernard Shaw and Stella Campbell; F. Scott and Zelda). Through these letters, one sees love not as the construct of the imagination of an author, or poet, or playwright. Through these letters one sees love in all its living, breathing beauty and reality. This book does not idealize love. It does not have to. Love, as it exists in reality, is more beautiful, more perfect than any fancy any artist could conjure up. It is perfect not in spite of its flaws and pains and disappointments. It is perfect because of its flaws and pains and disappointments. In this book one reads of the joys and pains, the victories and defeats, the winters and springs of true love. In this book, filled with true love from true lovers, one sees that love is not perfected in books or art; it already exists perfect in life.

I bought this book to use in our wedding - instead of a ring-bearer's pillow. I was captivated, though, when I started reading the letters inside. Some are sweet, some are spicy, and some are sad. But they are all really fun and interesting to read!

Fast delivery, and the book is in wonderful condition. I enjoyed the book to the fullest extent. Very nice collection of love letters.

Best book for a gift.

I bought this because it was cheaper than the longer version that I found after watching Sex and the City movie. I am glad I bought the small version because although it is good for one liners, it is kind of boring after a while to read about someone else's private life without inside knowledge. My

favorite is the letter to Josephine from Napoleon, which made it worth buying the book alone.

There are a few quite good letters here, but many of them appear to have been selected either because the writer was famous or the editor was just desperate to fill the book. Nearly all of them are from before WW2 and most are from before the 20th century. As a result, most of the letters have language that would seem very stilted if used today. But even old age doesn't excuse the writing that in some cases made me cringe.

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