The Letters Of Abelard And Heloise - Penguin Classics

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise is a collection of over 500 letters written between 1120 and 1137 by Peter Abelard (1079-1142) and his lover, Heloise (1101-1164). The letters document their love affair and are considered one of the finest literary compositions of the twelfth century. These letters have been translated into many languages and are still studied today for their insights into medieval society and the nature of love.

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise has been described as "the romantic masterpiece of the middle ages" and "the most famous love story in the history of literature." The letters are filled with passion, longing, and regret, as Abelard and Heloise struggle with their love in the face of societal and religious disapproval.

Download The Letters Of Abelard And Heloise Penguin Classics

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise is not only a love story, but also a historical document that provides insight into the social and religious climate of the twelfth century. The letters are written in Latin, and the translation used by Penguin Classics is by Helen Waddell. Waddell's translation is widely regarded as one of the best available, and is considered to be faithful to the original Latin text.

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise is available online through Penguin Classics, and can be read for free. It is a beautiful and moving story that has stood the test of time, and remains a classic of literature today.
Fans of Philippa Gregory and Elizabeth Chadwick The tale Heloise and Abelard has captivated the attentions of romantics since the twelfth century. Heloise was a woman before her time educated, fierce, and unbound to be herself. When Peter Abelard, a radical philosopher determined to reform the archaic practices of the Church from within, becomes her private tutor, the attraction is overwhelming. Their passionate love affair soon becomes dangerous, as enemies and opportunists hide behind a facade of scholarship and intellect. Through their impassioned writings unfold the story of a romance, forbidden love, marriage, and devastating consequences that followed. These eloquent and intimate “Letters of Abelard and Heloise” express a vast range of emotions from adoration and devotion to repugnance, indignation, and anguish. It is a fascinating insight into religious life in the Middle Ages. Their affair is unstoppable; as Abelard writes to his love, “So intense were the fires of lust which bound you to me that you set those wretched, obscure pleasures, which we blush even to name, above God as above myself...” When their hidden marriage could no longer withstand the challenges in its path, each lover sought refuge in the church—Abelard became a monk and Heloise an abbess. Their correspondence continued as an achieved success in their new careers but continued its struggle with their feelings for one another. “The Letters of Abelard and Heloise” powerfully articulate the wide range of emotions they experienced. So timeless is their love story that—after eight centuries—their passion, their devotion, and their struggle still resonate with readers.

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Peter Abelard 1032-1104

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise are now as famous a pair of tragic lovers as the fictional Romeo and Juliet, and their story (as revealed in “The Letters of Abelard and Heloise”) remains one of the world’s most dramatic and well-loved love affairs. Their shared passion for knowledge, religious faith, and one another sealed their destiny. Abelard was a well-respected, 12th-century Parisian philosopher and teacher, and Heloise was his gifted young student. Through their impassioned writings unfold the story of a romance, forbidden love, marriage, and devastating consequences that followed. These eloquent and intimate “Letters of Abelard and Heloise” express a vast range of emotions from adoration and devotion to repugnance, indignation, and anguish. It is a fascinating insight into religious life in the Middle Ages. Their affair is unstoppable; as Abelard writes to his love, “So intense were the fires of lust which bound you to me that you set those wretched, obscure pleasures, which we blush even to name, above God as above myself...” When their hidden marriage could no longer withstand the challenges in its path, each lover sought refuge in the church—Abelard became a monk and Heloise an abbess. Their correspondence continued as an achieved success in their new careers but continued its struggle with their feelings for one another. “The Letters of Abelard and Heloise” powerfully articulate the wide range of emotions they experienced. So timeless is their love story that—after eight centuries—their passion, their devotion, and their struggle still resonate with readers.

Making Love in the Twelfth Century

Barbara Newman 2016-06-06

Can The Letters of Two Lovers be the previously lost love letters of Abelard and Heloise? Making Love in the Twelfth Century presents a new literary translation of the collection, along with a full commentary and two extended essays that parse its literary and intellectual contexts and chart the course of the doomed affair.

The Love Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Heloise 2010-02-26

Heloise was a French nun, writer, scholar, and abbess, best known for her love affair and correspondence with Peter Abelard (French name: Pierre Abélard). She was the daughter born of the scienaulcinian union of Hesray of Champagne Lady of Montyon, (founder of the Fontevraud Abbey) with the seneschal of France Gilbert of Garlante.

Letters Of Abelard And Heloise

Peter Abelard 2019-07-08

Letters Of Abelard And Heloise: To Which Is Prefixed A Particular Account Of Their Lives, Amours, And Philosophical Doctrines By The Late John Hughes, Esq. Together With The Poem Of Eloisa To Abelard By Mr. Pope. And, (To Which Is Now Added) The Poem Of Abelard To Eloisa By Mrs. Madan. Translated From The Latin By Alexander By Edited By Pierre Bayle

This book is a result of an effort made by one of the leading public and private library groups, the Internet Archive. It's a unique collection containing hundreds of old, rare, and unusual books. Although a few books are missing publications, you can read, print, or download them to your device.

The Love Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Peter Abelard 2012-12-13

By any standard, the tale of Heloise and Abelard is an extraordinary story: brilliant young philosophers seduce brilliant beautiful student, passionate affair ensues, she gets pregnant, and they secretly marry. Her relations feels he has damned her life, and she is thrown out of the church. The letter, which ends after the affair, is of great eloquence and depth of thought and feeling. Through them, the couple works to transform their “earthly love” which had continued to burn in Hesray’s heart into a spiritual bond that turns out to have similarly great passion and transcendence. Although the letters are steeped in religious debates and intrigue of the time, they make the love story appear as a deeply spiritual work and our contribution towards the development of the society as a whole, driven by our beliefs. We are grateful to our readers for putting their faith in us and accepting our imperfections with respect to preservation of the historical context. HAPPY READING!

The Love Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Heloise 2018-07-26

The Love Letters of Abelard and Heloise. Heloise was a French nun, writer, scholar, and abbess, best known for her love affair and correspondence with Peter Abelard. Heloise is accorded an important place in French literary history and in the development of feminist representation. While few of her letters survive, those that do have been considered a foundational “monument” of French literature from the late thirteenth century onwards. Her correspondence, more erudite than it is erotic, is the Latin basis for the bildungsroman and a model of the classical epistolary genre, and which influenced writers as diverse as Madame de Lafayette, Laetitia, Rousseau and Dominique Aury. It is very surprising that the Letters of Abelard and Heloise have not been apotheosized in English, since it is generally allowed, by all who have seen them in other languages, that they are written with the greatest passion of any in this kind which are extant. And it is certain that today’s readers find uncannily familiar. Well written and provocative, this book will interest scholars of premodern literature, especially those who work on Medieval English and French, as well as classical, textual, Marilynn Desmond draws on feminist and queer theory, which places Ovid’s Art and the Wife of Bath at the cutting edge of debates in gender and sexuality.

The Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Heloise 2019-10-24

Héloïse was a French nun, writer, scholar, and abbess, best known for her love affair and correspondence with Peter Abelard. She is the daughter born of the scienaulcinian union of Hesray of Champagne Lady of Montyon and founde of the Fontevraud Abbey with the seneschal of France Gilbert of Garlant.

The Story of My Misfortunes

Peter Abelard 2013-05-23

This classic of medieval literature, a brilliant and daring thinker relates the spellbinding philosophy of his spiritual and physical enlightenment—and the tale of his tragic personal life as well. Peter Abelard paints an absorbing portrait of romantic and scholastic life in twelfth-century Paris, where he recounts the circumstances and consequences of one of his most famous love stories—his doomed romance with Heloise. Considered the founder of the University of Paris, Abelard was instrumental in promoting the use of the dialectical method in Western education. He regarded theology as the "humanization" of knowledge and believed that through reason, people could attain a greater knowledge of God. By "doubting," he declared, "we come to inquire, and by inquiry we arrive at truth." Abelard’s tendency to leave questions open for discussion made him a target for frequent charges of heresy, and all his works were eventually included in the church’s Index of Forbidden Books. Unfortunately, Abelard’s reputation as a philosopher is often overshadowed by his renown as a lover. In addition to his work as a spiritual guide, The Story of My Misfortunes offers the rare opportunity to observe a legendary romance from the point of view of one of its participants.

The Story of the Letters

Peter Abelard 2014-04-01

Drawing on recent scholarship, with essays by a selection of international scholars, this volume throws new light on the literary personas of Peter Abelard (1079-1142), one of the most dazzlingly gifted people of the Middle Ages.

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