

Voltaire In Love: A Passionate Examination of the Enlightenment's Greatest Mind



Voltaire in Love (New York Review Books Classics)

by Nancy Mitford

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 766 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 280 pages



In *Voltaire In Love*, Ian Davidson offers a captivating exploration of the life, loves, and ideas of the Enlightenment's greatest mind. Through meticulously researched and engaging prose, Davidson paints a vivid portrait of Voltaire as a man of passion, intellect, and unwavering dedication to his beliefs.

The book begins with Voltaire's early years, spent in the oppressive atmosphere of Louis XIV's court. Davidson vividly describes Voltaire's struggles against censorship and religious intolerance, and his eventual exile to England. It was there that Voltaire came into contact with the ideas of John Locke and other Enlightenment thinkers. Influenced by their writings, Voltaire became a passionate advocate for freedom of speech, religious tolerance, and the separation of church and state.

Voltaire's commitment to these ideals would lead him into many conflicts, both personal and political. He was imprisoned twice for his writings, and his works were repeatedly banned by the French government. But Voltaire never wavered in his beliefs, and he continued to write and speak out against injustice and oppression until his death in 1778.

Voltaire In Love is not simply a biography of one of the most important figures of the Enlightenment. It is also an exploration of the complex and often contradictory nature of love. Davidson shows how Voltaire's relationships with his mistresses, his friends, and his enemies shaped his life and work. Voltaire was a man of great passion, but he was also capable of great cruelty. He could be both charming and vindictive, loyal and treacherous. But through it all, he remained true to his beliefs. Voltaire's love for truth and justice was the driving force behind his life's work.

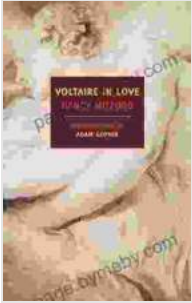
In *Voltaire In Love*, Ian Davidson has crafted a masterful portrait of one of the most enigmatic and fascinating figures of the Enlightenment. This is a must-read for anyone interested in history, philosophy, or the human condition.

Praise for *Voltaire In Love*

"Ian Davidson has written a compelling and thought-provoking biography of one of the most important figures of the Enlightenment. *Voltaire In Love* is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of ideas or the human condition." — **Jonathan Israel, author of *Radical Enlightenment***

"Davidson's book is a brilliant and original exploration of Voltaire's life and work. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the Enlightenment or the history of philosophy." — **Simon Schama, author of *Citizens***

"Voltaire In Love is a fascinating and deeply researched biography of one of the most important figures of the Enlightenment. Davidson's writing is clear and engaging, and he brings Voltaire to life in all his complexity and contradictions." — **Henry Kissinger**

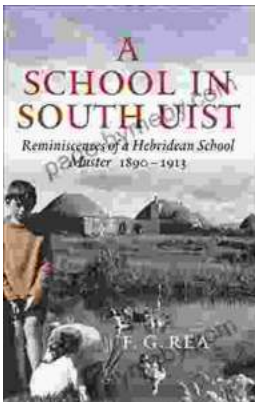


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