



Letters to Sartre

By Simone de Beauvoir



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Simone de Beauvoir and Jean-Paul Sartre formed one of the most famous literary couples of the twentieth century. Their relationship took on the quality of legend and served as a model of openness and honesty for countless men and women. Sartre was revered during his lifetime as a paradigm of the modern *philosophe* and intellectual, but since de Beauvoir's death in 1986, her literary reputation has threatened to eclipse Sartre's. Her work *The Second Sex* is, by any standard, one of the most important and influential books of the twentieth century.

When these private and revealing letters were published in France in 1990, they caused a storm of controversy. Here de Beauvoir tells Sartre everything, tracing the extraordinary complications of their triangular love life. These letters reveal de Beauvoir not only as manipulative and dependent, but also as vulnerable, passionate, jealous, and committed. This reissue of a *New York Times* Notable Book will inspire philosophers, writers, and lovers of literature for decades to come.



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Simone de Beauvoir is the author of *The Second Sex* and the winner of the Prix Goncourt, France's highest honor, for *The Mandarins*.

Quintin Hoare is the director of the Bosnian Institute and has translated numerous works by Sartre, Antonio Gramsci, and other French authors. He lives in the United Kingdom.

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