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*Helene Hanff*

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## **84, Charing Cross Road**

**Helene Hanff : 84, Charing Cross Road** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 84, Charing Cross Road:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Loved the movieBy dannyI bought the book long after I had seen the movie featuring Anne Bancroft. Loved the movie, and I really enjoyed the book. It's the correspondence between Helen Hanff and the Marks Co. bookstore and spans many post World War II years. It's a lovely book to read and perfect for a weekend!3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Terrible edition of a great bookBy CustomerThis is a terrible edition of an excellent book. There are many errors that appear to be the result of sloppy proofreading after OCR, and the formatting is sloppy and inconsistent. I wish I'd sought out a used copy from an earlier printing.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I own an earlier version of the book and it is a great book. But this new version of the book ...By Larry F PuskasI bought this book for a gift. I own an earlier version of the book and it is a great book. But this new version of the book is not printed well. The previous version had each letter on a separate which made it nice to read. The new version had the letters all running together which makes it hard to read. I decided not to give the book as a gift. -- L.P.

It all began with a letter inquiring about second-hand books, written by Helene Hanff in New York, and posted to a bookshop at 84, Charing Cross Road in London. As Helene's sarcastic and witty letters are responded to by the stodgy and proper Frank Doel of 84, Charing Cross Road, a relationship blossoms into a warm and charming long-distance friendship lasting many years.

.com 84, Charing Cross Road is a charming record of bibliophilia, cultural difference, and imaginative sympathy. For 20 years, an outspoken New York writer and a rather more restrained London bookseller carried on an increasingly touching correspondence. In her first letter to Marks Co., Helene Hanff encloses a wish list, but warns, "The phrase 'antiquarian booksellers' scares me somewhat, as I equate 'antique' with expensive." Twenty days later, on October 25, 1949, a correspondent identified only as FPD let Hanff know that works by Hazlitt and Robert Louis Stevenson would be coming under separate cover. When they arrive, Hanff is ecstatic--but unsure she'll ever conquer "bilingual arithmetic." By early December 1949, Hanff is suddenly worried that the six-pound ham she's sent off to augment British rations will arrive in a kosher office. But only when FPD turns out to have an actual name, Frank Doel, does the real fun begin. Two years later, Hanff is outraged that Marks Co. has dared to send an abridged Pepys diary. "i enclose two limp singles, i will make do with this thing till you find me a real Pepys. THEN i will rip up this ersatz book, page by page, AND WRAP THINGS IN IT." Nonetheless, her postscript asks whether they want fresh or powdered eggs for Christmas. Soon they're sharing news of Frank's family and Hanff's career. No doubt their letters would have continued, but in 1969, the firm's secretary informed her that Frank Doel had died. In the collection's penultimate entry, Helene Hanff urges a tourist friend, "If you happen to pass by 84, Charing Cross Road, kiss it for me. I owe it so much." A real-life love story . . . A timeless period piece. Do read it \* WALL STREET JOURNAL \*

Unmitigated delight from cover to cover \* DAILY TELEGRAPH \* A must for anyone who reads - the correspondence between book lover Helen Hanff and Messers Marks Cross of Charing Cross Road has been reissued. \* Daily Express \* A lovely new edition of this classic title \* Good Book Guide \*From the Back CoverIt all began with a letter inquiring about second-hand books, written by Helene Hanff in New York, and posted to a bookshop at 84, Charing Cross Road in London. As Helene's sarcastic and witty letters are responded to by the stodgy and proper Frank Doel of 84, Charing Cross Road, a relationship blossoms into a warm, charming, feisty love affair.