



The Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barret Barrett 1845-1846 Vol I (1899)

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Excerpt from Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barret Barrett, 1845-1846, Vol. 1 of 2

After all, I need not give up the thought of doing that, too, in time; because even now, talking with whoever is worthy, I can give a reason for my faith in one and another excellence, the fresh strange music, the affluent language, the exquisite pathos and true new brave thought; but in this addressing myself to you your own self, and for the first time, my feeling rises altogether. I do, as I say, love these books with all my heart - and I love you too. Do you know I was once not very far from seeing - really seeing you? Mr. Kenyon said to me one morning 'Would you like to see Miss Barrett?' then he went to announce me, - then he returned .. you were too unwell, and now it is years ago, and I feel as at some untoward passage in my travels, as if I had been close, so close, to some world's-wonder in chapel or crypt, only a screen to push and I might have entered, but there was some slight, so it now seems, slight and just sufficient bar to admission, and the half-opened door shut, and I went home my thousands of miles, and the sight was never to be?

I thank you, dear Mr. Browning, from the bottom of my heart. You meant to give me pleasure by your letter - and even if the object had not been answered, I ought still to thank you. But it is thoroughly answered. Such a letter from such a hand!

The Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barret Barrett 1845-1846 Vol I (1899) Details

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Gill says

OK, but I just don't have the time to read it all.

Kari says

I absolutely love!!!! how they understood each other's literary references, and also how they could make up stories for each other that the other would jump right in and finish in an appropriate style. I do fancy that I'm educated, and let's face it, it's hard, (maybe especially these days) to find someone who's read as much as I have and gotten as much out of what they have read. Um, yeah, since I don't even already have someone, Browning may as well be my own model to hope for *, and hey, neither of them expected to find each other, even back then, so it might happen someday for me too :) (*not just hope of education, but also of character--neither of them perfect, but darn it, it's kind of hard to poke too many holes in them. Awesome)

LJ says

Last year, I got this book as a birthday gift from someone whom I deeply admire. It was basically the gift that thrilled me the most, :-). Aside from its literary value, it also symbolizes the affection of the giver- one of my dearest "influences" and motivators. :-)

E.B. Browning is the poet closest to my heart- her literary style greatly inspires my "literary creations". This book will be a treasure, its content priceless, the profoundness of thought, the compassion embedded in each word; one can feel the purity of E.B. Browning's writings.

This book will definitely remain to be one of my most treasured possessions.

Thanks again, Manong J. :-)

Nancy says

Elizabeth Barrett was a genuine celebrity of her time - and also she was as ill and fragile as your ancient Aunt Eleanor. Robert Browning was six years younger, a celebrity in his own right, and as unconcerned about societal conventions as any man born in the Victorian age could be. Their letters to one another, preceding their scandalous elopement, are mesmerizing. He tells her he loves her in his first letter! He writes a shocking letter that she makes him burn! He brings her back to life, when she has pretty much decided death is looking quite appealing - and that really happened.

I can't pick these two volumes up without becoming hypnotized by them - it's like falling off a cliff into endless space. Their poetry will never read the same to you after reading their letters. Elizabeth's "Sonnets

from the Portuguese" brings to life the woman who was at the brink of death, and who was resurrected by (I can't help it - it's true) - well, by the power of true love. Robert's poetry bursts all over the place with the energy of the guy whose mind and heart were so full of life and ideas that he can hardly take the time to make them clear to the reader. They were Real People. And their story is beyond amazing.

Jo Walton says

I wish Volume 2 existed as an e-book!

Lj says

am restraining myself to read fast on this one... for those "hopeless romantics" like me, this one is a must read...

am lucky enough to have the the first edition of this one... my treasured possesion, :-).

Ed Nelson says

She is my great great grand mother so I have to give her full stars.
If I could write like her, I would quit the I.T. industry today.

Kathy Hale says

Don't read every letter but skipped around.

Jahque Sweeney-Hill says

Such a sucker for love! So beautiful

uh8myzen says

The Brownings shared a beautiful and moving romance as evidenced by this moving collection of their correspondence.

Kristi says

Okay, so Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning's letters are the genuine article when it comes to love and romance. Definitely some swoony moments here if you're into that kind of thing. I felt a bit weird reading them, though, like I was invading their privacy. I knocked my rating down a star just because these letters are so dense and full of literary allusions (which, I guess, duh, for two Victorian poets) that occasionally I struggled to push myself through. It does make me want to go on to tackle Barrett Browning's Aurora Leigh.

Fitria Rachmawati says

"How do I love thee" nya Browning so touchy....

Hazel says

Incredible reading, very informative.
