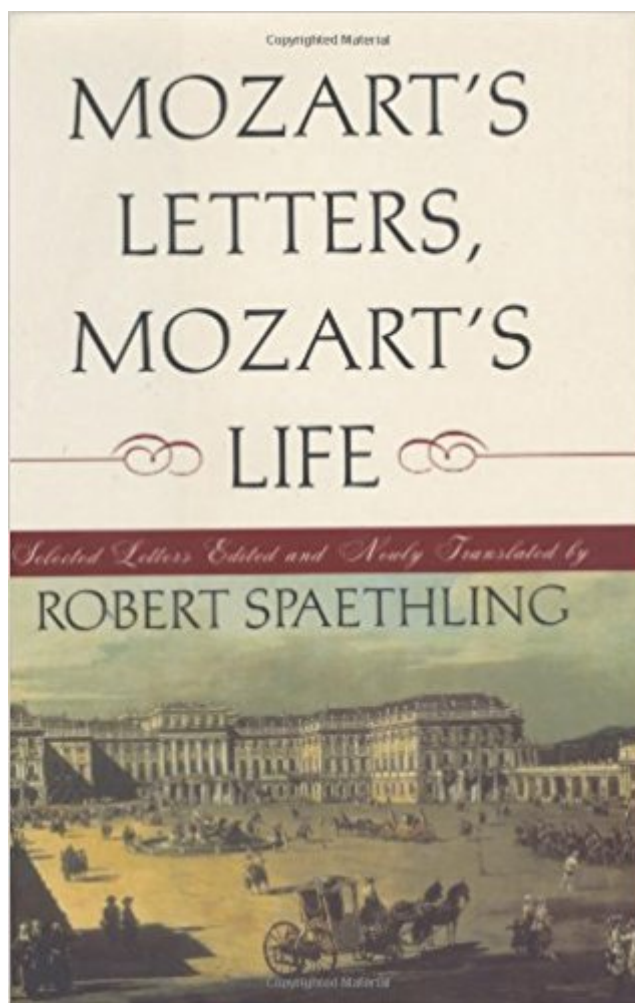


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# Mozart's Letters, Mozart's Life: Selected Letters



## Synopsis

Letters by Mozart in sparkling new translations that capture the flavor of the writing, transmit every nuance, and render every thought faithfully and accurately. What was Mozart really like? Wild? sublime? responsible? fun-loving? bright? foul-mouthed? Reading these letters, we learn in his own words that he was all of these and much more. Here is the composer at his most intimate and unguarded, expressing his feelings about life, love, music, and the world around him. For this collection, Robert Spaethling has carefully chosen letters written by Mozart over a span of almost twenty-two years—from his first journey to Italy as a shy teenager to the final months of his life in Vienna. The letters, together with the accompanying introductions, chronicle the composer's life, personal development, and artistic growth. These new translations into English, the first in more than sixty years, are faithful to the original German even to the point of misspellings, which abound in the early correspondence. No effort has been spared to find language as closely equivalent to Mozart's as any translation can be and to clear up references in the letters to people, places, and events. Mozart's Letters, Mozart's Life makes wonderful reading for anyone who has ever loved a work by the composer, from the deceptively simple *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* to the towering, magnificent *Requiem*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Spaethling writes in the introduction that his goal was to "provide a complete portrait and continuous account of Mozart the musician, Mozart the individual and Mozart the writer," and he has succeeded

most admirably. -- The New York Times Book Review, Peggy Constantine

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

Let's start with the simple fact - I adore Mozart, as a musician and composer and now, after I read this lovely book, as a wonderful human being. I long waited to read Mozart's letters. There are a number of translations out there, some really miss the point. They try to translate his letters "nicely" or "correctly", and cut's off all of those parts that truly brings to life of this genius, brilliant, goodhearted, loving, funny, childish human being. This translation of his letters is great, you can see that Mr. Spaethrling loves Mozart, and really tries to translate every important nuance for us to get to know him properly. I would definitely recommend this book to every fan of Mozart. It's a must have.

This book is wonderful so far. The first night I started it I could not put it down and eventually fell asleep on top of it. I am a great Mozart fan and this book makes me feel like I'm somehow closer to him. It's like listening to his music you can somehow share his feelings and hear things that are not being said. So far this book is sucking me in like the movie does. I love it!!!!!!

Anything about Mozart is interesting, even his intimate domestic life. Well written, scholarly, entertaining. The moment I opened the book I realised that I had purchased it previously when it was first published. That was about ten years ago! Oh well, it will make a nice gift for someone.

I have very much enjoyed this book. So many insights into the life and times of my favorite composer.

This book enabled Mozart come to life for me. The translation was very good. It showed, (in english), how Mozart worked on his grammar and spelling as he got older. Since he was "home educated", he had to work at this. I could not put this book down, reading a few letters every day, I saw how Mozart grew from a boy into a man with a family. He was a really good guy, it's a shame he had to die so young. I would say, to anyone who wants to know more about Mozart, buy this book. You can form your own opinion of him, then you can buy the "expert's" books. After having read this book, I would like to know more about Constanze!

Fascinating book- and in very good condition.

Great book, left me wanting to know what happened to his wife afterwards, brought them to life for me.

I found 'Mozart's Letters, Mozart's Life' a painstakingly detailed overview of the phenomenon called Mozart. Many references underwrote the comments made by the author and the letters were never boring for a second. Mozart's style is lively, his word usage innovative and in between the lines he gives valuable comments how he did it - i.e. write such music. the book provides a clear picture of Mozart's life, the conflicts he was involved in, his struggle for recognition and how the powers that be at the time shrugged him off. It is strange to see how little money he made on his works, against the estimated value of his collected copyrights of probably hundreds of millions of euros, or more.D. Vos

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