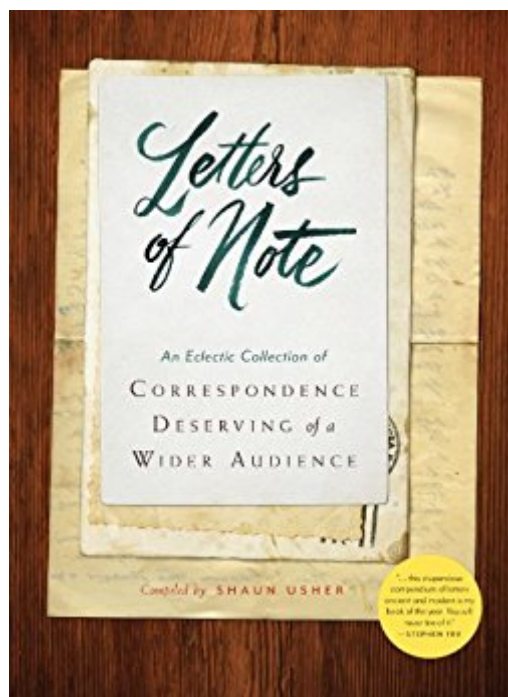




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# Letters Of Note: Volume 1: An Eclectic Collection Of Correspondence Deserving Of A Wider Audience



## Synopsis

This spectacular collection of more than 125 letters offers a never-before-seen glimpse of the events and people of history—the brightest and best, the most notorious, and the endearingly everyday. Entries include a transcript of the letter; a short contextual introduction; and, in 100 cases, a captivating facsimile of the letter itself. The artfulness of Shaun Usher's eclectic arrangement creates a reading experience rich in discovery. Mordant, hilarious, poignant, enlightening—surprise rewards each turn of the page. Colorfully illustrated with photographs, portraits, and relevant artworks, *Letters of Note* is an instant classic.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I bought both *Letters* and *Lists of Note* as a Christmas present for my mother-in-law, and when they arrived I couldn't help myself and began to read. I've been reading eBooks on the main for a while, and everything about these books was enthralling - the library-book smell, the feel of the heavy stock pages, and the gorgeous dust jackets. And the content, so thoughtfully curated... once I started reading, I couldn't stop. Unable to part with them, I have ordered another copy of each to

wrap up and give away, and am keeping these copies for myself. There is something for everyone here, so my recommendation is to do what I did - buy a copy for yourself, and one for someone you love.

Oh, no! Oh, no! I just finished reading Letters of Note, and now I don't know what to do with my life. I have been so immersed the last few days in this extraordinary book that I actually feel quite lost now. The letters Shaun Usher has compiled range from funny to heartbreaking, from silly to wise, from confounding to enlightening. There could have been a thousand letters here and I still would not have tired of reading. I cannot wait for his next compilation to come out. In the meantime, I will peruse his website, Letters of Note, to see if I can find more wonderful letters from personalities famous and obscure. Thank you, Mr. Usher, for giving us such an amazing experience!

Shaun Usher did not select a single letter for this compilation that was not worth my time to read. Even when the letter seemed as if it would be too long (as with Lucy Thurston to her daughter), the time spent reading it was worth every second and more. (Stoics Marcus Aurelius and Seneca had nothing on her). Here are the joys, sufferings, accomplishments, setbacks "and every other human condition and emotion captured in a single collection. Each one is like receiving a letter of one's own, with that same precious quality. Some are funny, others tragic, but not a page was wasted. Usher also wrote brief but pithy, well-written introductions to the writers and circumstances of each letter.

This book is wonderful! I got it as a gift for a friend, and when I started reading it before I gift-wrapped it, I realized that I had to then go immediately buy a copy for myself because it's so interesting. It is full of letters written by all sorts of famous people from many different periods of time. It even includes a copy of the actual original hand written letter, plus a typed version of the letter so it is easier to read, in case you can't read the hand writing very well. Many of the letters also include a back story to provide more information. There is a letter from Fidel Castro written when he was 12 years old, to the president. That one blew me away. When I have a friend come to visit, if they pick this book up from my coffee table, they just can't put it down. I highly recommend this book for a gift, and also for you. It is so much fun to read and very interesting.

Unique concept, presented with excellence. The correspondence is varied, a mix of delightful, heartwarming, thought-provoking, refreshing, startling, appalling. Altogether OUTSTANDING! If you

love the thought of reading quirky communications from famous people, I recommend it as your primary coffee table book to dip into again and again and share with guests. This book runs the gamut from a note from Queen Elizabeth to President Eisenhower giving him her recipe for drop scones to a letter from Jack the Ripper (accompanied by a box containing a small slice of one of his victims) to the chairman of the citizens' vigilance committee looking for the "Whitechapel murderer"--and that's just the first two letters!

Today, I received my copy of "Letters of Note", compiled by Shawn Usher. True to its title, this master piece contained missives that communicated a myriad of emotions, raised pertinent questions and advised the ones in need. If first impressions are truly the best impressions, merely by ripping the package open and holding the book you could feel the beauty of the words that are contained within. The cover design was perfect - crisp, clean and minimalistic. The typography lends a rich grandeur which these letters of note truly deserve and needless to say, it evoked the emotions that come with holding a hard cover. As a reader, I cannot but applaud the efforts of Shawn and his team in putting together this master piece of eclectic correspondence. Every page has been chiseled with utmost craft that sings hymns of reverence about the words that were residing in them. Within a couple of hours, I had lived through the sorrow of a royal queen about to breathe her last, felt my blood go cold reading the letter titled "From Hell" by Jack the Ripper and smiled at the relevance of reading Hunter S Thompson's thoughts. Some of these letters, whose originals have been printed along with are the closest one can get to a time travel portal. A few vertical scrolls of my eye balls and voila!, I was there in the late 1800s, right next to Virginia Woolf as she continued to fight the losing battle with her schizophrenia. Science still has a long way to go, in terms of mimicking the power of human imagination. Upon reading this work, one cannot help but think even though we as humanity have progressed in leaps and bounds in terms of technology and life style, have lost out a lot in the art of truly communicating and asking questions that makes us think long, hard, deep and all other attributes alike. I recommend this piece of art for one who loves to think about anything and everything, a someone who loves history, nature of existence and all things that come with it. In the coming years, we can only hope that the efforts towards unearthing such priceless treasures continue. Until then let us savor these crown jewels "they don't make many like these nowadays." As published by me on

<https://medium.com/@thambinator/letters-of-note-a-review-after-an-initial-indulgence-7a70d7700b30>

This is a wonderful book that I will re-read many times. I have given several of them as gifts to well-read friends of mine, and they've all loved it. Usher did a great job of including a copy the original letter in the authors' handwriting, and then a deciphering of the writing (especially helpful for the writings of those with less than perfect penmanship).

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