

Voltaire In Love - Nancy Mitford

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The inimitable Nancy Mitfords account of Voltaires fifteen-year relationship with the Marquise du Chteletthe renowned mathematician who introduced Isaac Newtons revolutionary new physics to Franceis a spirited romp in the company of two extraordinary individuals as well as an erudite and gossipy guide to French high society during the Enlightenment. Mitfords story is as delicious as it is complicated. The marquise was in love with another mathematician, Maupertuis, while she had an unexpected rival for Voltaires affections in the future Frederick the Great of Prussia (and later in the philosophes own niece). There was, at least, no jealous husband to contend with: the Marquis du Chtelet, Mitford assures us, behaved perfectly. The beau monde of Paris was, however, distraught at the idea of the lovers brilliant conversation going to waste on the windswept hills of Champagne, site of the Chteau de Cirey, where experimental laboratories, a darkroom, and a library of more than twenty-one thousand volumes enabled them to pursue their amours philosophiques. From time to time the threat of impending arrest would send Voltaire scurrying across the border into Holland, but his irrepressible charmand the interventions of powerful friendsalways made it possible for him resume his studies with the cherished marquise.Author: Mitford, Nancy Publisher: NYRB Classics Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Voltaire in Love Pages: 00280 (Encrypted EPUB) On Sale: 2012-11-06 SKU-13/ISBN: 9781590175781 Category: Biography & Autobiography : Philosophers Category: History : Europe - France Category: History : Modern - 18th Century

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