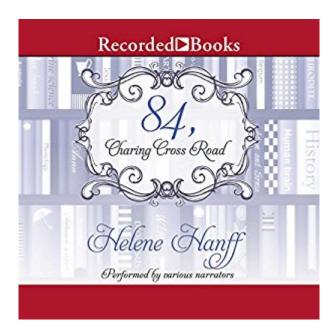


# The book was found

# 84, Charing Cross Road





### **Synopsis**

When Helene Hanff makes an innocent inquiry about the possibility of purchasing hard-to-find books through Marks and Co., Booksellers, she begins a 20-year love affair with Frank Doel, the proper English bookseller who answers her letter and sends along her first order in the fall of 1949. They are two very unlikely correspondents: she a cranky Jewish New Yorker who writes TV scripts and lives in a messy apartment on East 95th Street; he a determinedly courteous middle-class Englishman who sends her beautifully bound and often obscure antiquarian books from the shop he manages on Charing Cross Road in London. The letters, written between 1949 and 1969, capture the period and pay tribute to the special kind of reader who treasures a well-worn classic.

#### **Book Information**

**Audible Audio Edition** 

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Books #48 inà Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Essays & Correspondence > Letters

## **Customer Reviews**

I loved the movie and think the book characters lack the intimacy developed by Anthony Hopkins and Ann Bancroft. Hats off to whoever made the movie. The book suffers by comparison.

I 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!

This 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.

I 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.

Interesting publication of a unique correspondence between individuals during a unique period. Light easy reading!

And I don't know why. It prompted me to read everything else I could find by Hanff and loved them all. She has captured a New York City I wish I had felt at home in, one that I went looking for but never found because I was too late. Hanff was the feisty type of woman I always find amazing, demanding and persnickety but with a heart like gold--very much like true New Yorkers. All of her books make me want to hug them, keep them real close to my heart. Wish I could thank the lady for giving them to me.

84 Charing Cross Road is filled with the love of life and the love of books and is timeless and charming with a tinge of heartbreak. Helene Hanff wanted nice copies of used English books when she began corresponding with a used bookshop in London and she got more books than she could ever have imagined, but she also got several life-long friendships, beginning with the manager of the bookshop on Charing Cross Road, Frank Doel. Hanff was a writer in television, novels, textbooks and articles and well known in her time, in addition to being politically active. Hanff's correspondent was a mild-manner manager in a bookshop, beloved by all who knew him, but easily overlooked with the usual English reserve. Their correspondence, along with several other employees of the shop and extended family of employees covers more than two decades and begins with post-war rationing still in place and ends with screaming fans of the Beatles and the rise of Carnaby street - quite a progression in the England of the twentiety century. These letters are full of life and humor and every human emotion. The book reads quickly, but that is all right because as soon as the last page is turned, eager readers will begin again looking for favorite passages. Highly recommended to all sorts of readers but especially those who love English books and England.

I love this book. I Usually stick to novels, but this little book has a good story that kept me reading to

the end. Also plenty of passages worth underlining for rereading. Very well written.

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